

## **NEMBA Trails Committee Meeting Minutes**

**7:30 - 9:40pm, Thursday, June 21, 2012**

**In Attendance: Jana Johnson, Chris Joosen, John Barley, Rob Adair, Nancy Cavalieri, Chris Krug, Paula Churchill, Peter Minnich, Daren Morreau, Jason Hotchkiss**

**Project updates** -What has been done in the last month :

- ❖ Signs and posts done on entire Moat trail system on WMNF, we have one more sign to put up...Red Ridge Link/White Horse junction; and need to assess the junction of Railroad Connector and FR 379A.
- ❖ Stony Ridge Link to be Carroll Reed Trail) relocation is flagged and laid out except for top. Final review and and layout will be confirmed with FS in the next 2 weeks and clearing the cooridor can begin in preparation for the July work day.
- ❖ Lower Nan cleaned on Sunday, June 3 and then again last night (Weds, June 20th), Jeff Allen worked on water drainage above the bog bridges on Sunday, June 17th
- ❖ 2 Tuesdays and a weekend day were spent on Red Tail, clipped out roots and defined the trail, filled washouts
- ❖ Drainage issues on Side Hill (Power line end) and top of Pillar to Pond wedone on Tuesday June 19th

**Super Steward updates** from West and East sides, and Kanc - how's this working?

- ❖ West Side: Rob heard from Chris and Joe Klementovich, Mark Jenks was injured but Paula reported on Tent Boulder. This is a new system and we need to occasionally remind and prompt the individual trail stewards to report. It was suggested that an automated email go out to stewards on the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month as a reminder. Paula can set it up.
- ❖ East Side: Chris K does not know the level of commitment on the part of the East siders. Chris clipped Sticks and Stones. It was not determined if Erik Nelson is the steward for the Red Tail. , Chris Joosen will follow up with Erik to double check if he wants responsibility for the Red Tail Trail.

**Upcoming projects and events to plan**

- ❖ July and August workdays –July 28-29 was designated the for Stony Ridge Link and we need to get it OK'd before then . Jana will review and walk it with those interested on Weds the 27<sup>th</sup> at noon (meet at top of the Stony Ridge Link). A TNT may be able to brush it out/define it a bit so that the July 28-29 crew can work quickly. Discussion about where to host the July event - at Echo lake or Rob's house. To hold event at Echo Lake we have to do some work in the park. The Boundary line trail needs clearing and it was suggested that part of the July 28-29 crew work on clearing and re-establishing that trail. Rob will touch base with the Park??–maybe put a crew at Echo Lake for that. Paula volunteered to help with that. Working on that trail would meet the criteria for holding an event at Echo Lake.

- ❖ What about the event itself? Jean Lee was in charge of advertising, but the PR committee has not been very active. Tony does the food. An old copy of the poster with the dates changed was sent to Rob but it needs updating. Rob will update the dates and make contact with the PR committee to get this out.
- ❖ There was some good discussion about who we are trying to reach and how we reach them – this would be a good conversation to have with the PR committee. Jana will put this on the agenda for the next meeting and invite the PR committee to attend. August Workday- brush crew on Red Tail and maybe trail work and reroutes. A bit more planning is needed and will be discussed at the next trails committee meeting.
- ❖ Mangle the two downhills - the Railroad Connector - that connect the Railroad Grade to the fire road (FR 379A)—the original one (closest to the top) is steep, gravelly and washed out. The newer one (further East) is the better one—more sustainable and on FS land not private. Do we close the old one? We need to get the FS “OK” to designate the newer one as the official trail. Will it be hard to try to close off the old one because it has been used for so long? In anticipation of using the easterly trail, the sign was already put in there.
  - Website listing of brushing and handsaw work – is this currently functioning? If not, assign someone to this task
- ❖ The intersection of the Railroad Connector where it crosses FR 379A needs to be assessed once the decision from the FS has been made

#### **Website and Forms:**

- ❖ Trail Inventory Spreadsheet- it is being populated with some current and some unused trails. We added a field for the person entering the data to identify themselves, so we can clarify some trails. We need a basic map of the East side to see what trails we are actually talking about (not for publication). If anyone has shapefiles of this area, send to Paula
- ❖ Trail Work Form and Trail Work Summary. We reviewed Trail Work Report Form and decide to make it more streamlined for quick and easy entry to encourage cataloguing work. For work on the FS trails, Jana will send link to FS work form so that it can be officially completed and sent to the FS. There is a link on the Website for the Trail Work Reporting Form

**Discuss Landowner Liaison Committee** – is now the right time to initiate this and what are our current priorities/needs/concerns? (Shelved until next meeting)

**Lower Nana maintenance** – Lower Nana is already adopted by hiker and the Forest Service told him we had mtn bikers interested. This is a new steward and he wants to work on the drainage himself at the moment. *Is there any rule that someone else can go out and do maintenance if they are not the adopter?* If you are not a signed up trail adopter—contact Jana or Bailey at the Forest Service before doing any work. There is a relo going in at the rivers edge where it is eroding—it is flagged and maybe we could work with the adopter to get that done—it’s only about 200 feet.

- ❖ What about the upper Nan? That is a big project. The club may not be willing to officially adopt it, but if we would like to schedule a work crew/ride day, then we should let the FS know. Jana later followed up that the Upper Nana is adopted, after all and apologizes for the confusion.
- ❖ We should keep the FS posted on Lower Nan if it is not being done (especially wet spots). If you want to work on upper Nan, contact Bailey

**Review Mission Statement for website-** What is the goal? Landowners? New riders? Is this a mission statement, a philosophy, a sales pitch for new members or something for landowners? Lots of good discussion—trails with more features to attract younger riders, what is sustainability and how do we craft a statement that encompasses all mountain bikers without alienating any one age group/riding preference. This is a larger discussion that could not be done justice to at this meeting – continue this discussion at next meeting.

A mission statement is a short single sentence. Do we need to rewrite a mission statement, use what we have for “About Us” and create a photo album showing what some of our trails look like? Links to fun-how do we hook the 16-21 year old rider. Should this be the realm of the PR committee? The executive committee? If you feel the mission statement needs something more, send your ideas to Chris J so he can incorporate them prior to sending out to our entire membership. We will review the final statement at the July meeting.

It was decided that the message would be crafted and sent to all member for a thumbs up or down- we will not ask the membership at large to rewrite or heavily edit it.

Do we also need to get a newsletter (electronic) out to the membership about who we are and what’s up?

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM

Next Meeting: July 16 at 7pm – 9pm; Location: to be determined . . .