

Trail Working Group
Minutes, April 8, 2002

Present: Chuck Anderson, Tony Biegen, Otis Calef, Jim Childress, Ray Ford, Claude Garciacelay, Kalon Kelley, Peggy Martin, Chris Orr, Brian Robinson, Jeff Saley, Sharon Sprouse, Ray Smith and Rich Tobin.

I. Meeting was called to order at 4:15 P.M.

II. Proposal from Brian to split into two groups one for planning the survey and one to develop alternatives. Some discussion came from the group about the process.

Kalon questioned the value of the survey. He was more interested in developing a decision-making process or a procedure for negotiating consensus. He proposed dividing up into groups with each group developing a proposal and then negotiating with the other groups to reach a consensus.

There was considerable discussion regarding alternatives vs. a survey. Which should come first?

A proposal was made to develop alternatives and bring these to the agencies so they can determine what additional information would be needed before actually doing a survey.

In summary, it was agreed we should move forward with the development of a list of alternatives we can share with the group and develop a series of “perception questions” to gather information about what the trail users are thinking on the Tunnel Trail.

Chuck added that we should all read an article by Richard Cunningham in a recent issue of Mountain Bike Action (April 2003) as it said a lot about the issues we are dealing with.

Chuck—“There is a breed of rider out there nobody wants. We can regulate them away or we can provide them with alternatives.”

III. Meeting was adjourned at 5:30PM.

III. Perception Index

Brian handed out a simplified version of the Perception Index developed in an earlier meeting and asked each of us to fill it out as an exercise to determine which trail would be good to use as a case study.

Looking at what we filled out it appeared there was a perception of conflict on most of the trails with Tunnel receiving a slightly (though not significantly) higher score for perceived conflict.

IV. Trail Survey Discussion

Based on the results of the study and the mandate we were given by the agencies, quite a bit of time was taken to discuss which trail should be used for the study. Eventually it was decided we should perform our study on the Tunnel Trail.

V. Subcommittee Meeting

A sub-committee was created to begin developing information for the study. Tony, Kerry, Brian, Ray F, Ray S and Chuck volunteered to be on the sub-committee.

The meeting of this group was held on Tuesday January 28 at the Tynan offices. Brian led off with an initial statement about what we needed to get done in the next few weeks before our next full committee meeting and assigned chores:

- 1) Develop questions--elicit survey questions (Chuck & Tony)
- 2) Research data--see what existing data is out there (Ray & Brian)
- 3) Resource availability—find out what resources are available to help support the study (Kerry)

VII. Range of Solutions

It was agreed the group should begin to develop a range of potential solutions for discussion. Ray suggested that everyone could send their suggestions to the listserv so everyone would get a copy and Ray volunteered to put them together for the next meeting.

VIII. Adjourn

We adjourned about 6PM.