

Trail Working Group
Minutes, November 20, 2002

Present: Tony Biegen, Allyson Biskner, Otis Calef,, Jim Childress, Ray Ford, Kerry Kellogg, Kalon Kelley, Rebecca Martin, Chris Orr, Brian Robinson, Jeff Saley, Ray Smith, Kelly Steelman, Rich Tobin, and Sarah Worth

Note—I didn't get the signup back after the last meeting so if I left you off please let me know.

I. Meeting started at 4:15 P.M.

Brian Robinson handed out a handbook called the Front Country Trails Working Group” which highlighted the TWG’s purpose, structure, scope and participants. We reviewed the handbook. There was some discussion about the list of trails and which should be included. Gibraltar was deleted because it is not a front country trail and it was agreed we should add the Arroyo Burro and others as needed.

Brian also introduced a series of “info” sheets including a proposed news release from Rich and a Santa Barbara Mountain Bike trail Volunteer History by Chris Orr.

II. Memorandum of Understanding

Brian introduced a memorandum for participants to review and discuss. The hope was to develop an understanding of what agreements each participant would be willing to follow as a member of the group. There was discussion about how to define the process and what was acceptable and not acceptable.

In general it was decided everyone would make a good faith effort to make the process work and bring issues and concerns to the group rather than acting outside it.

Chuck then asked what the guidelines would be for what would be considered good faith. There was lots of discussion with no resolution other than to affirm we would all do our best.

III. Membership

Ray Smith shared his concern as representative of the Mission Canyon Home Owners Association. “There are more than 1200 home owners who are ready to ‘blow the whistle’ and if they can’t be part of the process they are ready to go to their local officials. This brought up the question again of who should be involved. Should it just be the three main user groups (hikers, equestrian and mtn bike) or others too?

Tony suggested perhaps landowner groups should be involved as well. Chuck supported Ray’s involvement since he lives near the bottom of Tunnel trail and is a good source of information.

Sarah Worth brought up the point that the question might be one of who should be at the table vs. How you should “be” while at the table. Perhaps we should view landowners as resources rather than participants, just like we do those representatives from the FS, City and County.

In the end it was agreed we would invite Ray to be a member.

IV. Minutes

Chuck asked if the Minutes were “public” information and could be sent out to people. We agreed it was and could be passed along.

V. Information

Kerry brought up the point that he was getting a lot of information from people and wondered what to do with it. Ray suggested making having it forwarded to the TWG and making the TWG the official group to which the public would make contact. It was agreed this was a good idea and the press release would have the web, email and mail addresses for people who wanted to send comments, reports or other information to the group.

Chuck asked the LPFA to develop suggestions for what could be on the LPFA website and available to the public. Ray agreed to develop some possibilities for the next meeting.

VI. Press release

Rich went over the press release and various people edited it. A rough draft was created and everyone agreed to send info to Rich to add to it if they thought of anything else, with it being sent out to about a week after.