Delta Community Trail Plan Efforts – Meeting Notes

 Thursday, February 28, 2013 @ 5:30 p.m.

Meeting held at Community Center – Seniors Room

**ATTENDEES:** Ellie Mason, Carol Dunlap-Austin, Mindy Eggleston, Whit Aillaud, Sondra Winters, Irene Mead, Greg Gerry, Wendy Gerry, Ellie Schneider, Heather Stossmeister, Ellen Clark, Bruce Swaim, Rose Winters, Mike Stephens, Colin Barnard, Flower Cole, Amy Stephens, Tanner Stephens, Judy Hicks, Pete Hallgren

**AGENDA:**

* Review of Agenda
* Feedback of RTCA Presentation
* Action Plan
* Organization of Trail Planners
* Resolutions
* Prospective Projects
* GVEA Grant
* Adjournment

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT:** 5:30 PM

**REVIEW/FEEDBACK OF RTCA COMMUNITY KICK-OFF PRESENTATION (Ellen):**

* Overall consensus of RTCA presentation was positive. The group agreed that there was a lot of great information to absorb; it was asked if they could return for a recap meeting, but the grant has been utilized. RTCA is, however, available via email and phone
* Open house style meeting appreciated
* Ability to keep on task, went smoothly
* Presenters had good connection with audience
* It was good that they were not local, understood all perspectives and encouraged feedback from everyone

**ACTION PLAN (Mindy):**

* Trail Plan document from RTCA to be made available (10 page document)
* Outreach Plan from RTCA with potentials/input to be made available (10 page document)
* Beginning stages of forming our Organization Structure
* Choosing our First Project
* Build up support with community w/ communication and input (collecting information)
* Fundraising
* Consider 501c3
* GVEA grant meeting with Dave Gardner: April 1, 2013

**ORGANIZATION OF TRAIL PLANNERS (Carol):**

* Identify – Leadership, Organization Structure, Committees, Work Groups - to be decided on at 3/7/13 meeting
	+ Study Action Plan for ideas
	+ How often to meet
* Decision-making by Organization
	+ Articles in paper and regular communication is sufficient opportunity for community input/feedback
	+ Solicitation of feedback from community and invitation to meetings with input is our rationale to decision-making by the group
* Communication (updated regularly)
	+ Website
	+ Facebook
	+ Newspaper
	+ Posted meeting notes
* Boundaries and Scope of projects

**RESOLUTIONS (Ellie):**

* DOT roadwork/easements
* List bike paths
* Identify support from bigger entities (local businesses, Chamber of Commerce, businesses, fair, conservation, forestry) with Mission Statement in place
* Mission Statement being drafted
* Approach people and ask for support

**PROSPECTIVE PROJECTS (Judy):**

Map of area/trails (Soil and Conservation and Forestry to assist)

Volunteers to map trails via GPS recommended

Coordinate efforts to avoid duplication

Ideas on Current Map:

* Rika’s Roadhouse – trailhead facility with info.
* Bluff Canyon – improvements in parking/surface area
* River walk from town to Jarvis Creek
* Behind hockey rink – connects to pipeline with variety of user groups
* Cross-country trail
* Fairgrounds – sledding hill, recreational, centrally located
* Ag land on Harris Road – ski park
* Water trail at Clearwater Lake
* Trails off Alaska Highway to Clearwater down to Triple H (historic trail)
* Bike path to Fort Greely
* Sustainable hiking trail at Donnelly Dome – variety of users, military support
* Pogo Mine Road/Railroad
	+ Easement
	+ Pay attention to meetings for when Pogo Mine closes, reclaim road and designate as a trail

Additional Ideas:

* Irene recommended Old Richardson Highway trail she is working with Maureen @ Parks
* Greg recommended boardwalk at Clearwater Lake boat landing for bird viewing.
	+ Bruce says that area should be adopted by State Parks, & use them as a resource for this project
* Ellen suggested Rainbow Lake trail
	+ Find out rules for ice bridge
* Ellie mentioned easy access with old fire road
* Bruce stated that if Fort Greely goes to Biomass, opportunity for trails – piggyback partnering
* Tanner Stephens, boyscout, recommended bike paths in community
* Mental Health Trust behind DOT

**GVEA GRANT (Mindy):**

* Meeting with Dave Gardner on April 1, 2013
* Need Scope and Mission Statement in place
* Agreed to use grant on title searches

**OTHER:**

Work with Alaska Trails (they take 10% but they know how to handle this type of a agreement)

Meeting adjourned: 7:00 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Thursday, March 7, 2013 @ 5:30 p.m.

Meeting to be held at Community Center – Seniors Room

Notes taken by: Wendy Gerry

February 28, 2013