

HELENA OPEN LANDS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

NOTES

April 13, 2010

Chair Mary Arnold called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

The March 9, 2010, notes were reviewed and approved.

REPORTS

Parks & Recreation Natural Resource Coordinator:

There was extensive discussion on the title of the work plan. It was agreed it would be titled using the 2010-11 biennial heading while retaining the 2009 list of accomplishments. Brad said it was time to seek grants to pave the parking lot at Mount Helena and construct a permanent restroom. He would also seek a grant to improve the Donaldson barn with a concrete floor to attach picnic tables and constructing a trail. He reported Prickly Pear Land Trust wants to do some more trail work on Bompert Hill. He is still working on getting the National Conservation Corps team to Helena to work on a pine-beetle project. The governor enthusiastically supports the program. Another firewood project is scheduled for April 24. He also discussed ongoing projects. He proposed placing beetle traps on the east side of Mount Helena. Brad met with the archers who have now proposed some changes to the improvements at the archery range.

Weeds: Greta reported she was awarded the Noxious Weed Trust Fund grant for \$10,051 for the projects that were thinned over the winter and the archery range. June 21 at 5:30 is proposed for the weed social. She predicts a tough weed year based on early growth signs. Weed mapping will be the main goal for the season. She has had a couple of people call to adopt a trail. Global Youth Service Day volunteers will do clean-up work on Meatloaf Hill. The weed sub-committee will meet at Greta's April 20.

Trails: see above comment. There was extensive discussion about access on Nob Hill.

Cultural Resources: Dawn commented about the rock piles that are being placed on the Davis Gulch trail.

Wildlife: Melissa reported the Urban Wildlife Advisory Committee discussed the police department potentially conducting a deer survey in the fall.

Forestry: no report

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MEMBER COMMENT: Dawn reiterated the weed pull on June 21. Brad reported the CTI employee was no longer working, so he is by himself other than occasional assistance from parks maintenance. Greta noted the proposed weed ordinance will also beetle-killed trees on private property. Mary noted the work plan will go the city commission May 3. Trash for Trees is April 24.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

NEXT MEETING DATE: May 11, 2010

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: commission direction for work plan

Carol Kirkland
Recorder