

HELENA OPEN LANDS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

April 9, 2013

Room 326, City-County Building
5:30 P.M.

Mary Arnold called the meeting to order. A quorum was present: Lois Olsen, Scott Mincemoyer (HCC), Clint Morrison, Dan Wirak, Corey Baker, Brad Langsather, Greta Dige, Andy Baur, Dawn North, Jim Phillips, Kathy Van Hook, Ruth Swenson

MINUTES

The March 12, 2013, minutes were approved as presented. The February minutes were changed to add in native grass seed. The April agenda was changed to add 'trapping' and 'fire' to the discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The guests were moved to the top of the agenda. Brad talked about the Charles Van Hook wetlands and the potential addition of more parcels to the existing wetlands. Kathy noted the addition of fencing to protect the area from vehicles and development of housing and preparation of grants to acquire more lots that are being offered for sale. HOLMAC's support is being requested. **Lois moved and Jane(?) seconded a motion to support the efforts and urge the city commission to do the same [acquiring the lots]. Motion carried unanimously.**

Corey reported he is working on information for the 'Outdoor' section of the Helena "Independent Record." He also noted a trail work night on April 15 on Mount Helena.

Brad reported the MCC had removed the trespassing trail at Daisy Hill and flattened a steep area at the bottom. Work will also be done on the LeGrande connector. MCC will be doing more work on the flume this summer. A contract has been signed between the city and PPLT for this summer's trail work. Andy expressed appreciation for 14 years of working with the city on its open lands. Mary expressed appreciation for all of PPLT's work for the city.

ACTION none

REPORTS

Parks and Recreation Natural Resource Coordinator:

Weeds: Greta reported she has laid out all the areas for the weed contractor to spray. She has inspected for weeds and insects off Gold Rush into Jefferson County. There will be a

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work day in May in that area. She is seeing good numbers on the insects.

Trails: Andy reported that four parcels will be conveyed to the city on April 18.

Cultural Resources: none

Wildlife: none

Forestry: Mary commented that the work on Mount Ascension is looking quite beautiful. Brad commented on a couple of projects he will be working on and explained how some of the insects act when trees are cut.

Greta reported on the calls she received about trapping signs in the McKelvey trail area. There may or may not actually be traps in the area. Brad asked that if anyone sees traps on open land to let him know.

PUBLIC COMMENT: see above

NEXT MEETING DATE: May 14 , 2013

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: election of officers;

Carol Kirkland
Recorder