

# HELENA OPEN LANDS MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

February 11, 2014

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

Chair Lois Olsen called the meeting to order. A quorum was present: Brad Langsather, Dan Wirak, Jane Kollmeyer, Corey Baker, Jim Phillips, Clint Morrison, Greta Dige

**MINUTES:** The January 14, 2014, minutes were approved as presented.

**DISCUSSION:** There was discussion of the group doing its survey starting with the northwestern corner of open lands above Whyte's property to the top of the Mount Helena ridge. Brad will send out a map, so people know what he is referring to. Corey noted the adopt-a-trail information is online. He asked that the group actually note on a map the situations they encounter on their survey.

Greta reviewed the areas that have been treated for weed control on a color-coded map. She explained how the city weed crew operates. She noted there are 134 bio-control sites on city property and reviewed some of the locations. She explained how she evaluates sites for potential control. She reviewed how she handles weed complaints. There was discussion that she probably should not be the Weed Committee chair because her work duties take up all of her time. Lois offered to serve. There was discussion about requests Corey has received about residents contributing toward hiring a weed contractor or using bio-control. The group discussed the potential for cooperative agreements among the different government land owners. Corey suggested that Carroll College science classes might be helpful in collecting data for the group.

### REPORTS

**Natural Resource Coordinator:** Brad noted he had not heard anything further on the encroachment issue; he will follow up for more information on the city's position on the problem. The work plan open house will be in April. He reviewed his handout of the draft work plan and talked about its various aspects.

**Funding:** There was discussion of Doodle scheduling a committee meeting.

**Trails:** Dan reminded people to circle on the map whatever problems they see during their trail surveys. The information will then be transferred to one large map. Brad noted he needed

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letters of support for the RAC grant for the permanent restroom on Mount Helena.

**Volunteer:** Jim reported he is still working on getting supplies for the volunteers and dates to train them.

**Weeds:** It was moved and seconded that Lois chair the Weed Committee. Motion carried.

**Forestry:** none

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** none

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** March 11, 2014

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** northwest quadrant update; 2014 work plan;

Carol Kirkland  
Recorder