

BikeNet Annual Meeting February 22, 2006

In Attendance:

Robert Mackin, Paul Strom, Nancy Boyer, Penni Reed, Tom Weeks, Greg McCall, Brad McCall, Dee Schafnitz, Rob Hunter, Chris Schmechel, Don Jore, Ron Tussing, Michele Johnson, Bruce Larsen, Kim Prill, Sean Owens, Jay Marschall, Sarah Keller, Joe Kane, Doug Habermann, Don Bottrell, Zoe Smith, Ed Thurner, Joy Thurner, Darlene Tussing

Welcome:

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.

Suzanne McKiernan recapped the state of affairs for BikeNet during 2005. On behalf of the board Suzanne recognized Dave Kelley and Joe Kane for their tireless energy and dedication to BikeNet. Dave Kelley was instrumental in getting us set up as a 501(c)(3) and Joe Kane has unselfishly orchestrated Ales for Trails for 5 years.

Approval of the 2005 Annual Minutes:

Kim Prill moved to accept the 2005 Annual minutes with the following corrections: changing the spelling of Bruce Larsen's last name and adding Doug Habermann to the names on the attendance. Tom Weeks seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Financial Report:

Ed Thurner gave the financial report. Sponsorship for Ales for Trails (AFT) was up this year. AFT 2005 had profits of \$18,990.97, however due to an outstanding brewer bill of \$2,098 AFT netted \$16,892.97. Additionally, \$3,056.05 was spent on trail amenities and \$5,377 was received in unsolicited contributions. As of December 31, 2005 BikeNet's account balances were:

<u>Account:</u>	<u>Balance:</u>
1 st Interstate Bank	\$39,695.03
BikeNet Endowment	261.82
Billings & Yellowstone Tr. Endow.	19,250.26
1 st Interstate COD	50,000.00
Total Assets:	\$109,207.11

Ales for Trails 2005:

Zoe Smith gave the report on Ales for Trails. The event followed much of the same format as previous years. The price of admission was raised to \$20 and Tiny's catered the food. From its inception AFT has raised approximately \$72,000. Zoe stressed the importance of keeping this event going because it is a critical funding source for matching CTEP dollars in trail building.

Community Recognition and Thanks: The board was eager to recognize three citizens who have made substantial contributions to the trail network. They include:

- >Brad and Greg McCall (McCall Development) who built a scenic trail along the back of their commercial development at their own expense.
- >Don Botrell (Trans Tech Center) who provided the matching dollars for the trail that meanders through the Trans Tech Center.
- >Clint Stovall who was the contractor for the Swords Park Trail. Clint meticulously restored and revitalized the land outside of the trail corridor, going beyond what was asked of him.

Election of 2006 Board of Director Nominees:

A **motion** to accept the slate of Board of Directors as presented was made by Bruce Larsen. Tom Weeks seconded the motion and it was unanimously **approved**. The 2006 slate is as follows:

Jim Downs	Jeff Essmann	Don Forbes	Doug Habermann	Rob Hunter
Bruce Larsen	Jay Marschall	Brad McCall	Mick Ohnstad	Kim Prill
Penni Reed	Zoe Smith	Tom Weeks	Dennis Stedman	Chris Schmechel
Neil Stessman	Ed Thurner	Deric Weiss		

Guest Speaker: Rob Hunter

BikeNet presidential nominee, Rob Hunter, introduced himself to the board. As a business owner of two businesses he relies on a team approach in accomplishing objectives. Rob would like to hold a half day workshop to determine if BikeNet is structured appropriately to best fulfill our goals. Rob's believes that the success of BikeNet will be in its ability to find common ground when building trails in different neighborhoods.

Update on Current Projects:

Darlene Tussing gave a presentation regarding The State of Trails for Billings. The Heritage Trail Plan has been modified to remove specific lines and greenways except for where trails already exist or where potential trails go along right of ways. Future trails are now indicated on the map using stylized arrows indicating the general area of a potential trail.

Swords Park Trail is perhaps the signature piece for the Heritage Trail network. Phase 1 was completed this summer. With additional funding the trail will continue east connecting to Boot Hill, Alkali Creek, and the west side of 27th street.

Construction should resume this summer on the Stewart Park Trail from Central to the trail piece constructed along Famous Daves as well as Phase 2 of the Trans Tech Trail and Phase 2 of the Big Ditch Trail.

The city has asked BikeNet for a financial contribution of \$25,000 as part of a local match for CTEP funding to be used for the construction of a portion of trail along the Bannister Drain. This trail will link the three trail segments that were built by developers, connecting Famous Dave's Trail with the McCall Trail and then connecting to the Veeder/McCrae Trail.

The Heart and Sole Run will be supporting the Heritage Trail with some of the proceeds from their run. They believe that this community recreational resource will be beneficial to there patients.

Other Business:

As part of "Celebrate Billings" on March 10th Dan Burden will be conducting a workshop promoting livable communities. Dan has an extensive career developing and promoting alternative transportation and sustainable communities. The workshop will be open to city staff, city administration and city council member from 9-12pm and then open to the public from 1-4pm. More details will be forthcoming regarding this workshop.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.