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**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING
of
THE ARIZONA STATE COMMITTEE ON TRAILS (ASCOT)
of
THE ARIZONA STATE PARKS BOARD**

The Arizona State Committee On Trails (ASCOT) held a meeting open to the public on **Saturday, June 20, 2015** starting at **10:00am** located at **Mormon Lake Lodge, 1991 Mormon Lake Road West Side Mormon Lake, AZ 86038**. Attendance to this meeting will be available via telephone by calling 1.877.820.7831 and entering the participant passcode 522515.

AGENDA

(The Chair reserves the right to set the order of the agenda.)

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Members: Angela Villa, Craig Stevens, Bill Gibson, Rick Kesselman, Jan Hancock, Bernadine McCollum, Claire Miller, Nick Lund, Matt Nelson, Bill Gibson, and Linda Slay.

Staff: Cassie Castellanos, Dawn Collins, Mickey Rogers, Brianne Fisher

Public member: Matt Roberts from Arizona Conservation Experience (ACE)

C. ASCOT ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the April 11, 2015 Meeting

Claire Miller moves to accept the minutes, Bernadine seconds. Unanimous approval.

2. Consider Approving the Recommended Options for the Available RTP Education Funds

Matt Nelson gives a brief overview on the proposed recommendations for spending the RTP money. He mentions the following: two scholarships for Wilderness First Responder trainings in Northern and Southern Arizona, Buffelgrass Mitigation Training in Central Phoenix, Sawyer Trainings in Northern and Southern as well, and personal protection equipment to offer organizations to help enhance safety.

This does not include the \$5,000 in funds that are also available because it was previously decided to save for APT implementation.

Matt moves to approve the recommended options for the available RTP education fund, Villa seconds. Unanimous approval.

3. Consider Approving the Progress on the Arizona Premier Trails System

Implementation

Rick Kesselman explains each attachment including the letter, criteria, final nomination forms, and nomination review committee criteria. He mentions they are behind on the web development and still need to work out the process and cost with current PIO staff.

Lund makes a wording suggestion on the letter. Dawn mentions missing Historic Part II.
Slay also mentions a few edits she has. Kesselman will implement all edits.

ASCOT discussed the composition of the nominating committee. Lund clarifies that review committee would make recommendations to full of ASCOT.

Kesselman moves to approve the nominating criteria with an amendment to the composition of having 3 members of ASCOT as part of the committee in replace of the “trails partner”. In addition, include wording to ensure understanding of the approval process. Bernadine seconds. Unanimous approval.

Kesselman mentions the need for POS to start promoting the APT and

ASCOT discussed the proposed timeline for launching the APTS but expresses concern over the ASP website. It is unanimously decided that the website be fully ready and acceptable PRIOR to launching the program to ensure success.

Kesselman, Miller, and McCollum will be the members that make up the ASCOT members on the review committee.

Agenda item for September meeting to decide other members for APTS nominating committee. Members bring recommendations.

4. The ASCOT Chair Will Select a Nominating Committee

Chair Lund asks for any members to volunteer to sit on the Nominating Committee to review new member applications.

Doug Von Guisig, Lund, Patrick Kell, Claire Miller, and Craig Stevens are the members whose terms are up. The members who have only served one term are encouraged to re-apply for a second term. There are all together 6 vacancies.

Chair Lund appoints Villa, Hancock, and Slay to serve on the nominating committee and present their recommendations to ASCOT at their next meeting.

E. REPORTS May be Verbal and Reports Provided at the Meeting

1. Public Outreach Subcommittee Update

Slay, Chair of POS, gives a report about the subcommittees recent activities including: Trail of the Month, communication/press release with land managers, Hancock’s partnership efforts, Arizona Premier Trails System outreach and presentation, teaming with motorized trail committee,

Kesselman expresses concern over the timing of publication and outreach efforts. He does not want confusion between Trail of the Month and APTS.

2. Recreational Trails Program Update

Rogers, Grant Coordinator, gives a report to members about the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). Rogers reports that the RTP has money from 2008 that has not been fully spent and have been working with ADOT to get a list for projects with money left over so we can de-obligate this extra money and re-obligate it for funding projects.

Executive Director Black visited the Department Of Transportation to see if we could get the obligation authority increased from the current amount of \$1.455 million to the full amount of \$1.9 million.

3. Non-motorized Grant Application Changes

Rogers reports that ASP grants staff has the goal by January 1st to transition all application online in an electronic form. Members of the committee will be involved in order to help make suggestions and better the process. Great aspects of this will be the ability to track projects; members will have access to the system to see progress reports.

4. International Trails Symposium

Hancock reports about the International Trails Symposium (ITS) that took place in Portland. She comments about the various workshops, attendees, and overall success of the event. Hancock also spends some time discussing the importance of trails to help healing of our military veterans. Warrior Hikes, Ride to Recovery, and Riding My Way back are all current programs that are working on this mission.

Nelson asks if there is a plan for further printing and distribution of the maps that ASP provided at the ITS? Rogers responds that Executive Director Black would like the maps updated before more distribution.

F. DISCUSSION

1. ASCOT UPDATES

ASCOT members report on the recent activities they have been involved with throughout the state.

Castellanos reminds members about the upcoming Wilderness First Responder scholarships ASP is sending out.

ASCOT discusses and gains clarification on POS's "Trail of the Month" kick-start.

Stevens asks about the map handed out at ITS and expresses concern over the "Top Trails" section. Collins apologizes about the disconnect of the web, map, and its accuracy.

Roberts from ACE briefly reports on some progress on projects that received RTP money.

G. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETINGS AND CALL FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

September 18/19 – **ASP Staff check availability of Kartchner and Doodle Poll.**

H. ADJOURNMENT – 12:45pm