



Mammoth Trails Committee

Minutes of Regular Meeting

February 10, 2022, 3:00 p.m.

437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite Z, Mammoth Lakes

Members Present: Committee Member Bill Sauser, Committee Member John Connolly, Committee Member Finlay Torrance, Committee Member Dan Holler, Committee Member Elise Howell, Committee Member Spencer Ostergaard, Chair Caroline Britton

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Caroline Britton called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes. Chair Britton attended the meeting in person, the rest of the Committee attended via videoconference.

2. ASSEMBLY BILL 361 (AB 361) FINDINGS

2.1 Adopt the resolution making findings to allow the Mammoth Trails Committee to meet virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic declared emergency.

Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML) Town Manager Dan Holler spoke about the background and provisions of Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361).

Moved by Committee Member Dan Holler

Seconded by Committee Member Bill Sauser

Adopt the resolution making findings to allow the Mammoth Trails Committee to meet virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic declared emergency.

For (7): Committee Member Bill Sauser, Committee Member John Connolly, Committee Member Finlay Torrance, Committee Member Dan Holler, Committee Member Elise Howell, Committee Member Spencer Ostergaard, and Chair Caroline Britton

Carried (7 to 0)

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Program Director Kim Anaclerio gave an update on the Eastern Sierra Climate and Communities Resilience Project (a.k.a. The Mammoth Donut Project) meeting this afternoon which was presented by the Inyo National Forest (INF) Forester. Ms. Anaclerio said today's meeting and all past meetings could be viewed at the Eastern Sierra Wildfire Alliance website at www.eswildfirealliance.org. Ms. Anaclerio made the following announcements: The INF would be starting Subpart C Planning and there was a meeting scheduled tonight at 5:30 p.m. and a link to the meeting was available on MLR's website. There would be two Coffee with a Ranger events on Saturday, the first at 10:00 a.m. at Shady Rest Park and the second at 11:00 a.m. at the Sherwins Trailhead. The Measure R and U Grant Application period would be open through the end of February and those interested could apply via the MLR website. MLR was awarded a \$150k grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to sub grant to local arts agencies and the application period would open tomorrow at mammothlakesrecreation.org/nea. MLR was scheduled to host a premiere screening of the movie *Buried: The 1982 Avalanche at Alpine Meadows* at the Main Lodge on March 9th.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Committee Member John Connolly requested an amendment to his Committee Member report in the December 9, 2021 minutes to correct his statement to reflect that he had been spending a lot of time recreating on the user created mountain bike trails not working on them.

Moved by Committee Member John Connolly
Seconded by Committee Member Dan Holler

Approve the Consent Agenda with the requested amendment to the December 9, 2021 minutes.

For (7): Committee Member Bill Sauser, Committee Member John Connolly, Committee Member Finlay Torrance, Committee Member Dan Holler, Committee Member Elise Howell, Committee Member Spencer Ostergaard, and Chair Caroline Britton

Carried (7 to 0)

4.1 Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2021

5. POLICY MATTERS

5.1 Introduction, Discussion and Possible Adoption of Standing Rules for the Mammoth Trails Committee

Chair Caroline Britton announced that Item #5.5 would be taken before Item #5.4.

Chair Britton outlined the information in the Standing Rules of the Mammoth Trails Committee document.

There was discussion between Ms. Britton, Program Director Kim Anaclerio and members of the Committee.

CONSENSUS: There was consensus from the Committee to bring the document back with the requested revisions implemented at the April meeting for approval.

5.2 Discussion and Possible Implementation of the Components and Sequence of Committee Meetings

Chair Caroline Britton outlined the information in the staff report.

TOML Trails Manager Joel Rathje spoke about the process that his team needed to follow throughout the calendar year as it related to the Committee meeting agendas and the desire to have Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access (MLTPA) Specialists, who are part of his team, play a more active role in the meetings. Mr. Rathje introduced MLTPA Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Manager Andrew Mulford, Operations Manager Gretchen Haselbauer and Creative Director & Special Project Manager Kiersten Puusemp.

There was discussion between Mr. Rathje and members of the Committee.

CONSENSUS: There was consensus to bring back a proposed template for the structure of future meetings to the Committee for review at the April meeting.

5.3 Nomination and Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair for Calendar Year 2022

Chair Caroline Britton outlined the information in staff report.

There was discussion among members of the Committee.

Moved by Committee Member Dan Holler

Seconded by Committee Member Spencer Ostergaard

Reappoint Caroline Britton as the Chair and appoint Committee Member John Connolly to the position of Vice Chair of the Mammoth Trails Committee for the Calendar Year 2022.

For (7): Committee Member Bill Sauser, Committee Member John Connolly, Committee Member Finlay Torrance, Committee Member Dan Holler, Committee Member Elise Howell, Committee Member Spencer Ostergaard, and Chair Caroline Britton

Carried (7 to 0)

5.4 Review Fiscal Year 2021/22 Year-to-Date Budget Report and Consider Approval of Third Quarter Budget Reallocations

Chair Caroline Britton and TOML Trails Manager Joel Rathje outlined the information in the Mammoth Lakes Trails System (MLTS) Fiscal Year 2021/22 Year Budget Report with proposed allocations.

Mr. Rathje announced that the Winter Recreation Maps had been distributed to the Welcome Center, Trails Hosts and at a few other locations in Town.

There was discussion between Mr. Rathje and members of the Committee.

Moved by Committee Member Dan Holler

Seconded by Committee Member Bill Sauser

Approve the Mammoth Lakes Trails System (MLTS) Fiscal Year 2021/22 Year Amended Budget as presented.

For (7): Committee Member Bill Sauser, Committee Member John Connolly, Committee Member Finlay Torrance, Committee Member Dan Holler, Committee Member Elise Howell, Committee Member Spencer Ostergaard, and Chair Caroline Britton

Carried (7 to 0)

5.5 Review and Consider Approval of Purchase Proposal for 4' Tidd Tech Snow Grooming Implement

This item was taken out of order.

Chair Caroline Britton outlined the information in the Tidd Tech Snow Grooming Purchase Request.

Trails Manager Joel Rathe gave additional information about the Tidd Tech G2 4' Snow Groomer and spoke about the benefits and improved efficiency it would provide for the Trails Crew.

There was discussion between Mr. Rathje, MLTPA Operations Manager Gretchen Haselbauer and members of the Committee

Moved by Committee Member Elise Howell
Seconded by Chair Caroline Britton

Approve purchase of a Tidd Tech G2 4' Snow Groomer in the amount of \$4,857.00 using Mammoth Lakes Trails System (MLTS) Capital Funds.

For (7): Committee Member Bill Sauser, Committee Member John Connolly, Committee Member Finlay Torrance, Committee Member Dan Holler, Committee Member Elise Howell, Committee Member Spencer Ostergaard, and Chair Caroline Britton

Carried (7 to 0)

6. TRAILS MANAGER REPORT

TOML Trails Manager Joel Rathje outlined the information in the Trails Manager Report.

MLTPA GIS Manager Andrew Mulford presented the information in the MLTS Winter Trails and Trailhead User Data webpages.

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/fc851243786a4a73b3686523c2e555ae>

Mr. Rathje temporarily lost his Internet connection at 4:22 p.m. so the Committee moved on to Item #7 and returned to Mr. Rathje's report at 4:35 p.m.

There was discussion between Mr. Rathje, Mr. Mulford and members of the Committee.

7. EASTERN SIERRA SUSTAINABLE RECREATION COORDINATOR REPORT

Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation (ESSR) Coordinator Matt Paruolo outlined the information in the ESSR Coordinator Report. Mr. Paruolo announced that Mono County had recently posted two positions for seasonal Trail Stewards.

There was discussion between Mr. Paruolo and members of the Committee.

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Committee Member Bill Sauser reported that he attended the first Subpart C meeting and said that he felt it was important for Mammoth Trails Committee members to be involved in it, and that there was a meeting tonight at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Sauser discussed parking issues at Shady Rest Park and Lakes Basin trailheads. He said that the Mammoth Lakes Police Department (MLPD) had been issuing parking tickets at trailheads.

Committee Member Dan Holler reported that the Town was moving forward with the Office of Outdoor Recreation Manager position and said that interviews would take place at the end of next week. Mr. Holler said that they were looking to fill the position soon and discussed the job duties of the position. He also said that the Town would add a support position to that department in the future.

Committee Member Finlay Torrance reported that the Mountain had been more peaceful since the end of December and said that they were currently planning summer projects, including realignment of Chair 16, expansion of the Tube Park, and maintenance of the trails in the Bike Park.

Committee Member Spencer Ostergaard said that he was excited to participate in his first Trails meeting and said that he had met with Program Director Kim Anaclerio and Chair Caroline Britton prior to the meeting to get brought up to speed and had also done some research on the Brown Act.

Committee Member Elise Howell said that she was unable to attend the December meeting, but had met with Trails Manager Joel Rathje and a group of local equestrians to discuss the Sherwins Area project. Ms. Howell said she attended an online webinar through American Trials.org. She said that she was a Tamarack Host and appreciated the Town Hosts, and said that she receives regular comments about the limited parking from users.

Committee Member John Connolly said that he had been working with Mono County staff focusing on fixing maintenance issues such as redoing the Crowley ballfield, adding shade structures in the Crowley Skate Park, doing an overhaul of the multi purpose tennis courts and installing better water bottle filling stations. He also said that it had been busy at all access points along Highway 395.

Chair Caroline Britton said that it had been a pleasure to work with Ms. Anaclerio and that she was doing a good job. Chair Britton said that she was excited for the *Buried* premier on March 9th and said that she was training for PedalPaloosa which would take place in August.

There was discussion among members of the Committee.

9. REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There was discussion among staff and members of the Committee.

The April agenda will include an update on Subpart C, a review of the Standing Rules, a draft presentation of the budget for the Fiscal Year 2022/23 and an update from the mammothtrails.org webmaster.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m. to the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on April 14, 2022.

Angela Plaisted, Assistant Clerk