

NOTES

In Attendance: Eugene Reed (Wenatchee Valley Ridge Runners ATV Club), Eva Tyler (WTA Ambassador), Deb Essman (Field and Stream, KEEN), Wayne Mohler (WSSA), Allie Tripp (WTA), Kathy Young (BCHW), Ellie Belew (Upper county resident/recreation), Doug Kilgore (Upper County resident/recreation); Rob (Manastash Ridge Trails Coalition), Kevin Clements (Ruffed Grouse Society), Michael Johnston (NW Sled Dog Association), Karen Behm (CCWRC), Ninon Wheatley (Rill Adventures), Madison Ford (Kittitas Chamber of Commerce)

Questions compiled from Zoom Chat:

- How did we get to calling this a Partnership instead of a Coalition?
 - During early conversations between the land managers, we thought that ‘partnership’ was more open to eventual collaboration with the public. ‘Coalition’ also implied a structure and application process that we hadn’t developed at that point.
 - It may be worth discussing whether our Rec Forum should be a Rec Coalition!

Purpose statement development:

- See presentation
- Nicky, Susan, Ellie and Kevin to draft some statements and provide to Forum for April meeting

Charter edits:

- Roles:
 - Ellie proposed we have the voting members and participants, so this is open to members of the public participating within these guidelines
 - Kevin asks how new members can be added – if someone misses the first few meetings, how can they then jump in?
 - Eva points out charter vs voting is confusing, if there’s any difference at all
 - Doesn’t want this group to be just a hand of the land managers, wants to make decisions with their input on things that they may not request themselves
 - Karen – if you want to accomplish anything you need consistency, can’t just have a rotating door forever
 - Doug – if we did vote, what would the consequences be. What authority do we have?
 - Kathy – Looking at the TCFAC, we’d mostly be voting on what recommendations to provide to the land managers
 - Wayne – if we are a coalition, we instead move forward as a group on things we agree on
 - Eva – can we throw out voting vs non and meeting attendance, and instead focus on core group development figuring out how to allow other groups in
 - Kathy – A great effort has already been made to engage, and often it’s just the people who show up

- Deb – there’s nothing worse than trying to engage as many people as possible and then have a group come in after years to throw things off the tracks
- All – idea of putting new members to a vote of existing members
- Subcommittees
 - Call them either subcommittees or project committees, confusing to use both!
- Guiding Principles
 - Ellie – request to add ‘ensure landscape connectivity’ as well as connectivity for recreation
 - Kevin – can we use support/promote instead, since we are not land managers and cannot ensure
 - All okay
- Discussion Guidelines:
 - No changes
- Record keeping:
 - Can someone review Nicky’s notes to make sure she’s covering everything before broader distribution?
 - Deb
 - Nicky will start including a review of previous meeting’s notes in agenda
- Decision making
 - Let’s update the language to emphasize the consensus model, toss out Robert’s Rules
 - Modified consensus
 - People can put forward motions and amendments, then work towards consensus until a final decision has been reached
 - Remove all the stuff about voting (make it ‘member’)
 - Don’t have to have a quorum – it can be consensus of people who are in the room at the time
- Meetings
 - Rec Forum will meet Fourth Wednesday – 3:30 – 5:30
 - Who has a conflict?
 - Works for all
 - Anticipate next meeting will also be via Zoom
- Updates from land managers on COVID-19 closures and changes
 - TNC – Darcy Batura
 - Internationally, all TNC offices are closed. Some preserves are closed as well. This presents some significant challenges for managing the lands, especially as we see the public moving outdoors during weekends. TNC is closing public access to TNC-owned-and-managed lands across the state. Due in part to resident camps, signage needs, etc, to both protect the resources and our communities as people move in from other areas.
 - DNR – Larry Leach
 - DNR offices closed to public, though employees are there. Closing of all dispersed camping and campground areas, due to sanitation and overcrowding concerns. Social distancing is an issue in campgrounds where people share the

same facilities. DNR also does not have the resources to acquire materials or staff sites under 'stay at home' orders. Signage to go up Mar 24.

- Anticipate changes may continue statewide, as more people move outdoors.
- DFW – Ross Huffman
 - DFW and State Parks have issued statewide ban on camping. Yakima Co has issued stay at home order. Signs and information will roll out beginning Mar 24. Issues with overuse, inability to keep up with sanitation and water access, running out of supplies. Vault toilets will be locked. May not have staff out as stay at home orders go into effect. Enforcement will still be out, focusing on protection of lands and species.
- USFS – Kim Larned
 - Anticipate language tomorrow from USFS.
 - Kittitas County has issued a stay at home order, USFS trying to figure out how to be responsive to that at the district level. Anticipate they will follow the state land managers' lead.
- BLM – Diane Priebe
 - BLM lands still open, no day use fees at the moment, camping still being charged. Sites being maintained. However, this may change at any time.
- Request of Land Managers to consider how they might ask the Rec Forum to help

Action items

- Some follow ups with potential members to do
- Purpose statement drafts
- Nicky and Susan to implement charter edits