

Topic: Recreation Forum meeting

Time: March 16, 3:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Time	Agenda Item	Desired Outcomes
3:00	Join ZOOM and Roll Call Approval of December notes	Set expectations and clear goals for teleconference meeting. Join a little early if possible, so we can troubleshoot any tech issues people may have
3:10	GAOA Update	Jon Meier
3:15	Kittitas County Parks and Recreation District #1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Background• Current strategic goals	John Storch, KPRD1 Commissioner
3:40	TREAD Application	Madison Ford – Kittitas Chamber of Commerce Mat Lyons – TREAD Executive Director
4:10	Land Manager Updates	USFS, DNR, WDFW, State Parks, TNC
4:30	Adjourn	

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/842158553?pwd=a1VwS3dyaUsySkIpc3hhS2cyMDJ4QT09>

Meeting ID: 842 158 553

Password: 848859

One tap mobile

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3/16/2021

Present: Susan Thomas, Ken Austin, Kristin Ashley, Eva Tyler, Karen Behm, Bradley Gasawski, Wayne Mohler, Ted Jackson, Gene Reed, Crystal Smith, Doug Kilgore, Kevin Clements

Land managers: Nicky Pasi, Darcy Batura, Laura Osiadacz, Tristan Spencer, Stephanie Margheim, Pamela McConkey, Nancy Lillquist

Guests and presenters: Mat Lyons, Madison Ford, John Storch, Tim Penelerick, Jason Holmes, Erin Krake, Laurel Baum, Amy Ramsey, Rob Pollard

- Note changes/updates
 - No updates for February notes
- GAOA Update – Jon Meier,
 - Agenda item did not occur
- Kittitas County Parks and Recreation District #1 – John Storch, KPRD1 Commissioner (chair)
 - Contact: kprdpos1@gmail.com
 - Maps and info: <https://www.facebook.com/KCPRD/>
 - Background
 - 4 commissioners (Tim Penelerich, Eric Kehin, Chris Martin)
 - Established by petition, vote, and resolution of KittCo Commissioners – Dec '05
 - Community center – initial focus
 - Then: Evergreen Sno-Park, Rat Pack MTB trail, Levy vote (2x, unsuccessful)
 - Strategic goals
 - 2015-Today: outreach, Towns to Teanway(T2T) project (hired consultant, built first trail), Nordic ski grooming, satisfied levy debt, Evergreen Sno-Park, Rat Pack Trail
 - When they receive funding for a project, it goes specifically to that project
 - 1 commissioner position open for 9 months, apply or reach out if interested
 - Questions
 - Doug Kilgore: Plans to fund future members of board for a proper public election?
 - A: participate in public voting process every 2 years, if someone applies for the position.
 - What authority allows them to appoint themselves?
 - A: follow process through city
 - Eva Tyler: Plans to bring in a vote again to receive public funding?
 - A: Yes, we would like to go back to voters. Want to make sure they've substantiated themselves first to ensure success, including solid messaging
 - Laura Osiadacz: Do you have your eyes set on next projects?
 - A: Planning meeting coming up, but in prelim discussions they discussed plans to mature T2T and Evergreen Sno-Park, possibly year-round access to improve summer-time parking issues, 21-22 winter expand Nordic program, create formal website
 - Nicky Pasi: Who handles ski grooming?

- A: handled on a volunteer basis, equipment available for use on donated basis
 - Bradley Gasawski: is KPDR1.weebly.com an active website?
 - A: an old website made by partner, now cannot access or update
- TREAD Application
 - Madison Ford – Kittitas Chamber of Commerce
 - Contact: madison@kittitascountychamber.com
 - Met w/ tourism departments in Cent. WA w/ similar infrastructure issues
 - states tourism office had them identify areas for improvement and gaps to develop long term destination strategy
 - happened onto same call as Mat Lyons during this event
 - website great for pre-travel information, but needed something with live element to see where people are and are not, no point in creating a site-specific app the user will delete once they are gone for the weekend
 - looked to apps for specific user groups, all other groups had similar trends in their discussion
 - neighboring communities successfully applied TREAD app to their area to create a better user experience, but requires help from locals to work
 - Mat Lyons – TREAD Executive Director



- Contact: lyonsm483@gmail.com, 509 433-8212
 - A lot of funding coming from the government for tourism and economic development, multi-million dollars = app could go statewide
 - TREAD Map – circle of sustainable recreation tourism (download app with QR code, or by searching “TREAD Map” in you app store)
 - Brings rec group and land managers to the same place and work towards sustainable recreation tourism, “cross-pollinate” between user groups
 - Includes advertising local businesses that supports local trails – good for 1% donation program
 - “Back end” w/ admin rights that land managers can use to post information
 - Map works when you don’t have cell coverage, can get lat/long
 - User updates and reports happen real time
 - Spanish and English
 - Trail information like pass needed, trip reports
 - Filter and search trails by activity/interests
 - “News feed” to scroll thru and see new reports
 - New update: traffic and parking lot updates with alternate destination suggestions
 - Embed videos with information about getting to the trail or the trail itself
 - Next steps: if we receive funding, we have green light to move forward in KittCo. Developer already hired more staff. Consulting arm to be developed to help push across state. Needs local organizations behind it feeding the information. Enough interest in area to collaborate and make it happen if we do not receive funding
 - Chelan and Douglas counties have already committed

- Questions
 - Nicky: Can trail conditions be updated even when out of signal?
 - A: yes, updates app as soon as you get back into coverage
 - Susan: Can we cater towards specific messages, like trash issues?
 - A: yes, land managers can put any information they would like to, as specific as they like
 - Bradley Gasawski: When will the app be out of test mode?
 - A: In 2 months the app will roll out in the TRAILS and LAKES REGION (your county) At that time I will need land manager and recreation group contacts who are willing to dive into the app on the back end as administrators in order to clean up and enhance the data.
 - Can the user turn off the notifications?
 - A: notification in the app are completely customizable.
 - Do you have beta users in our area?
 - A: We will not need beta users, we will need backend informers/administrators.
 - Karen Behm: where is all the trail data coming from?
 - A: Trail data comes from every resource available publicly. Then it is detailed by local rec groups and land managers
 - How do you deal with mis-named trail heads?
 - A: land managers control the back end of naming trail heads, should be able to contact local land manager if trail misnamed
 - Kristin Ashley: Is it linked with different recreation sites as well?
 - A: WA tourism alliance, every chamber and county page will have link to app. Promoted by more users using the app as well.
 - Will there be a link to this app on WTA website etc.?
 - A: WA tourism alliance and WA trails alliance, there will also be a state wide marketing campaign
 - Will there be opportunities for volunteer events on the app as well?
 - A: Yes
 - A place to donate to volunteer events and maintaining trails?
 - A: Yes. Every local trail organization will have links to their pages with a donate button that tie directly to their specific bank accounts
 - Wayne Mohler: does it include motorized and non-motorized trails?
 - A: yes, everyone can see it all in one spot.
 - Different user groups have different names for the same place, is that possible in app?
 - A: can assign a place multiple names
- Land Managers Update
 - Forest Service – Rob Pollard
 - Owner of Fortune Creek Huts at summit of Van Epps Pass
 - 3 huts at the top of the pass for winter rec users to stay overnight
 - Includes shuttle services using existing sno-park roads
 - Facilities: beds, stocked kitchen, wood burning stove

- Set up in fall and removed in spring, seasonal
 - Temporary outhouse as well, nothing permanent
 - Safety: must have Avi I course, working to get guides. Satellite communication
- Forest service – Michelle Capp
 - Structure of group could use refresh, please let land managers know what is working and what can be improved
 - FS is engage with local organizations, contracted work for construction of fire rings, bathrooms, bear proof containers, picnic tables
 - Michelle will not be able to participate in the group any longer, commends the group and appreciates everyone *heartfelt moment*
- The Nature Conservancy – Darcy Batura, Tonya Morrey
 - Two upcoming fuels reduction projects happening on the Cle Elum Ridge. Affected trails include: Main Ridge Road, Alliance Road, Rat Pack Up and Downhill, Grotto, Beer Can, Middle Traverse, and Canyon 6 Traverse. We will work with contractors to minimize trail impacts. Look for a deeper update next meeting.
 - Conservation Forester, Herman Flamenco started a few weeks ago, settling in well
 - Community coordinator position opening, hopefully posted by the 29th of this month. ASK: please help us get the word out about this position so we can find an excellent fit
- DNR – Stephane Margheim
 - Starting to get back into rec sites at the snow melts
 - Will need help with putting out information about green-dot roads
- State parks – Pam McConkey
 - 2 weeks away from last day of grooming
 - Sat May 22nd, I-90 corridor sno-park clean up, show up at a park that day to participate
 - Thank you to DNR, FS, and Lake Easton State Park, amazing partnership to open temporary sno-parks, amazing collaborations, positive impact on community
 - Funding applications for winter rec are available on website
- Other notes
 - Deb Essman stepping back from group for while to assist husband with health issues
 - Ellie Belew resigned from group, please read letter of resignation and concern to discuss at next meeting