

**NORTHERN HILLS TRAILS GROUP
MEETING**

Date: 3-3-17
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Deadwood City Hall
Attendees: John Kelley Shannon Percy Mike Stahl Kevin Kuchenbecker
 Daren Nattress Aaron Willhite Thad Fuller Tony Ortiz
 Dustin Heupel Chris Huhnerhoch Doug Bechen

Notes:

- Organization—No update
- Old Business
 - Stahl updated the group on the development of the RR Grade Trail
 - Homestake/Barrick has presented a draft easement, comments (which will be given to Homestake):
 - Title and Clause 3: Can the easement replace “hiking and biking” with “non-motorized” to allow horseback travelers?
 - Clause 3: Can electric-assist bicycles be included in permitted uses? This is allowed on the Mickelson Trail and a definitive description can be given.
 - Clause 4: Can motorized vehicles be allowed on the trail for maintenance, under the guidance of the NH Recreational Association?
 - Naming the trail—Would Homestake object using the name “Homestake” in the formal trail name? This was commented on giving Homestake good public visibility.
 - The consensus was to call the Deadwood Trailhead, “The Power House Trailhead”; and the Lead Trailhead, “The B&M Trailhead”.
 - The NH Recreation association did receive a grant from the Outside of Deadwood Grant program in the amount of \$9,225 for trail signage.
- New Business
 - 2017 Plan
 - Homestake RR Grade
 - Huhnerkoch will GPS the centerline of the RR Grade
 - Final connections need to be recommended/investigated:
 - Lead—between Dog Park & B&M Headframe area
 - Lead—behind Sherer’s land at the end of Mine Street
 - Deadwood—from the Dwd water tanks to the Power House Park
 - RR Grade—bypass around the private land—can a connection be made from the Central City spur, about 300-400 feet beyond the existing wye?
 - Would SD GF&P consider adding the RR Grade Trail to the Mickelson Trail group?

- Kuchenbecker recommended that the Trails Group adopt the interpretive sign style used by Deadwood for the interpretive signs that will be placed on the trail, consensus was to do that.
- ATV Trail Program
 - Trails south of Deadwood and White Rocks (a lot of BLM land) have been GPS'd and it is necessary to determine the best trails to be developed in the near future—Nattress & Heupel will work with Willhite to glean out the initial trail recommendation.
 - The initial plan would be to have an ATV trailhead at the Rodeo Grounds in Deadwood.
- Long Term Plans
 - Comments were volunteered that a 1-yr, 5-yr and 10-yr plan be developed that creates direction for the group.
 - All members were encouraged to send their “favorite” area trail to Willhite for inclusion in a comprehensive plan that can be managed.
- Other Business
 - Percy advised the group that a Fat Tire Bike group would like to stage a fat tire event in early 2018, following the holidays. They would need about 30 miles of trail for a solid event.
 - The RR Grade Trail should be considered.
 - Fat tire bikes are allowed on the Mickelson Trail in restricted areas.
 - The US Forest Service does not allow fat tire bikes on any snowmobile trails in the BH Nat'l Forest—too many conflicts and exposures.
- **Next meeting is Friday, March 17, 2017, 10:00 AM, Deadwood City Hall, Century Room.**