

NORTHERN HILLS TRAILS GROUP MEETING

Date: 11-18-16
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Deadwood City Hall
Attendees: John Kelley Thad Fuller Mike Stahl Kevin Kuchenbecker
Bob Nelson, Jr.

Notes:

- To help better manage our organization, it was decided to have an agenda for each meeting;
 - The Trail Group is a committee of the Northern Hills Recreation Association (NHRA), which is a 501(c)3 organization; this will assist with grants and other funding. Information developed by the Trails Committee will be included on the NHRA web page, which will soon be under new management.
 - Also decided was that membership would be unlimited, a chair & co-chair need to be designated and the organization will be informal, no bylaws will be required. Notes must be taken.
 - Stahl talked to Homestake Mining Company about the Homestake RR Grade Trail:
 - Under a temporary basis, the RR Grade Trail could be extended to the Dog Park in Lead. The Dog Park parking lot may be used as the parking area for this, call it a trailhead. Permanency will be a future discussion.
 - Access would be through the Dog Park, up Old Abe Street to the base of the B&M #2 Headframe and along the RR grade to the Mine Street area.
 - A trail up to the headframe needs to be delineated.
 - A connection around Mine Street also needs to be developed. Right now, one can connect from the B&M grade to the RR Grade Trail via Mine Street and Elkhorn Street in Lead.
 - Homestake was willing to look at a bypass trail segment around the private land when logging resumes in the spring, 2017.
 - Homestake is also willing to pursue a change in ownership for the trail proper next year.
 - Stahl will apply for an Outside of Deadwood Grant, with the initial submission of 6 interpretative signs, 2 trail head signs (Lead & Deadwood) and one restroom vault in Lead. Additionally, social media stations will be part of the trail grant.
 - The restroom vault could be the match needed for the grant. A working number for this is \$7,000-\$8,000 installed. Funds need to be raised.
- Jan Burshek is planning on taking some teachers onto the trail during teacher in-service day. HMC will require a waiver from each participant. Stahl has those.
- Grant opportunities need to be pursued with health organizations—Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Wellmark.
- Improved social media is paramount—Facebook, Twitter, et al.
- Fuller will look into the availability of trail groomers for cross-country skiing.
- Next meeting is Friday, January 6, 2017 10:00 AM, Deadwood City Hall, Century Room. Stahl will develop an agenda.