

Flagstaff Trails Initiative  
**Core Team Meeting**  
*June 18, 2020 \* 1:00-3:00 pm*

**Participants:** Pat, Debbie, Keith, Robert, Matt, Joe, Anthony, Andi, Lisa

**Action Items:**

- Finalize board meeting date and ensure Core Team participation (**Justin**)
- Send any content to Stephanie to put on website (**Justin**)
- Send Catena proposal to Core Team (**Andi**)
- Give an update on SEE grant status (**Justin**)
- Follow up with Stacey about accessing funds held by United Way (**Justin**)

**Updates**

- Current trail work:
  - Finishing up new 50 mile section of singletrack for the AZ Trail out toward Kaibab NF
  - FS crew soon to be joined by YCC working on the Schultz Creek realignment
  - ACE still working on Hart Trail
  - FBO working on Little Elden realignment, Little Bear, realignment of AZ Trail equestrian connector to Schultz Creek
  - Trail Fairies took care of one unauthorized trail last week (called "Trail Mix" - one mile long, had a big berm and rock moves with an unsustainable design; was becoming an issue with a new cross trail)
- Forest Service:
  - Gathering trail use data with trail counters/cameras
  - MEDL planning: want to have a proposed action plan finished around end of July for public scoping
- FBO:
  - All volunteer events canceled
  - Finishing up the Ft Tuthill Bike Park including distribution of a fun map
- City Open Space
  - Finishing revisions of Open Space management plan, will be going to Council for adoption on July 7
  - Working with Fire Department for thinning project at Picture Canyon this summer
  - Applied for a grant for a cultural survey at McMillan Mesa
  - Getting a new Open Space VISTA, Leila Husain leaving at the end of July;

- Working on communicating about unauthorized trails as there are new trails getting established on Observatory Mesa near Railroad Springs - locals call it “Hot Pockets”; have cameras up right now
  - REI grant - might be an appropriate item to use those funds on
- Subcommittees did not meet in June since the Board hasn’t met yet, will meet next month

## **Board of Directors**

- Members: Brian Grube, Molly Joyce, Robert Wallace, Matt Roberts, Holly Jaleski
- Board can add more board members (up to 11, maintaining an odd number)

## Reflections on the representation

- Good board to start
- Weak on hiker representation and conservation/environmental representation
  - Conservation is especially important with the current influx of tourists coming north
- No motorized representation, also no applications from anyone in that group

## First meeting

- Currently a second doodle out to schedule the first board meeting, but [Core Team is also invited so will loop everyone in](#)
  - Justin suggested having the first meeting at a trailhead in the evening
  - Important to open these meetings up to the public
    - [Need to send the notes and other content to Stephanie to upload to website - first Board meeting, notes since May 2019](#)
- Priorities
  - Need to vote on bylaws
  - First job of the board is to solidify the 501c3 status, then solidify the priorities of FTI with the foundation of the FRTS to then take out to the standing committees
- Right now the best option is June 26th from 4-5:30, but Molly is not available; Core Team penciled it in

## **Roles moving forward**

### Subcommittees

- One to two board members required to be on each committee
- Core Team can also help fill in the sub-committees, as it will be a lot of work for those board members
  - Debbie particularly interested in staying involved in education and stewardship efforts

- FS Agency Advisor role will likely continue (Pat and Brian P)

### Core Team

- Could be similar to an advisory committee; no decision-making power but can help inform decisions
  - Work in tandem with the Board
- Could also just stay active by participating in committees and dissolve the Core Team
- Would need to include Core Team thoughts with strategic planning and solidifying the foundation for the 501c3

### **Grant updates**

#### Catena

- Submitted a request for \$150,000; Humphreys, Mt Elden, Ft. Valley shovel-ready projects, as well as facilitation and support (Justin, SDR), and trail academy
- [Andi will forward this proposal on to the Core Team to look at](#)

#### Others

- FBO is thinking about applying for RTP for trail work
- [SEE grant: don't know if it has been submitted yet \(rolling grant\), follow up with Justin](#)

### **Bank account**

- Funds currently held by United Way; can't legally open a separate bank account until FTI is officially a 501c3
  - Do need to have a discussion with the board about this if the Catena Foundation money comes in soon (as early as August)
  - Can give the money to United Way, but won't be able to access; [need to get clarity from Stacey about this](#)

### **Next steps**

- First board meeting
  - Wait on the next Core Team meeting, but Core Team is invited and encouraged to go to the board meeting
- Outline immediate next steps for the board: 501c3 status, add more board members, strategic discussion about priorities, fate of the Core Team
- Final thoughts
  - Need people on the trails to focus on stewardship and protecting the resources like the bike patrol idea
    - Talking to people on the trails and educate about etiquette

- Trail Academy could directly help with this after graduating
- Have been discussing this type of idea in the Education and Outreach Subcommittee beyond just bikes - Trail Ambassadors