

Laramie BikeNet September 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting: 7pm in the basement of Wyoming Union.

We began with an introduction of officers and an update on club finances from Treasurer Mike. Our finances are currently \$14,727.64 total, including \$8,924.00 earmarked for the Bike Park. 7220 Racing has \$5,968.43, Laramie Mountain Bike Series has \$5,228.77 and Roland Cycling has \$53.17.

Nancy S. gave an update about a meeting she attended regarding plans to improve Grand Ave. including adding bicycle crossing. There is no solid time line on these improvements yet, but WYDot is working on this early-stage project.

Evan O. talked about his work to have trails built on state land east of town. The County Commissioners have agreed to be the lessee for the Special Use Permit. This is great as the county is held not-liable under the Recreation Safety Act. He is still working on the agreement between the county and BikeNet to make sure we don't have any liability on the club. At some point we may have to look into a different insurance policy, one which will cover trail building. Also, Evan would like to seek grant money to help fund this project in the future. The application requires a \$250 application fee, as well as the first year's "rent." Evan suggested \$1280 per year on the application, which is \$2/acre. As of now, there is no money set aside for this project. Once the application is accepted, we will start looking into grants to cover the cost of the yearly rental, as well as whatever it's going to cost to hire a trail designer and builders. Evan asked that the club fronts the initial \$1530 to be repaid once we start hitting the grant process. It was agreed that BikeNet would be able to front those initial costs.

Luke T. let us know how the Charette held a few weeks ago went. It was a discussion regarding what non-motorized user groups want on the Pole Mountain trails, how to keep the trails sustainable, improving signage, possibly connecting with trails in the Blair area, and trail conditions. Luke plans to make a more formal report in the coming weeks. From the charette there are hopes that a group of interested trail users ("Friends of Pole Mountain") will come together with the Forest Service to keep communication open among all trail users, though this goal is a difficult and lofty one. Dan M. commented that the Forest Service would like to include motorized trail users in this ("Friends of Pole Mountain") group, despite the fact that this could be difficult to do. Melanie A. suggested we start working on organizing this ("Friends of Pole Mountain") group of trail users as soon as possible and Evan O. will be the BikeNet contact for this group. Other organizations, including Wyoming Pathways and the UW Outdoor Club, are interested in being part of this group as well.

Miguel R. and Bill G. are working on this season's Cyclocross. It looks like the events will take place in LaPrele Park in Laramie. The Laramie events will be at noon on October 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, with three other Sunday events happening in Cheyenne, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Miguel is looking into insurance and a budget, and hopes to get \$500 from BikeNet for Cyclocross. There are also Tuesday night CX events in Fort Collins which Miguel plans to attend and if anyone else is interested in going with him, or has any cyclocross questions/ideas, feel free to contact him at [wyomig@gmail.com](mailto:wyomig@gmail.com)

Cindy D. shared 7220 Racing news. The high school team has been holding Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday practices. They recently had a race in Frisco, CO where 6 team members finished. Their results can be found here:  
<http://www.coloradomt.org/events/results/> The team has an upcoming race this Sunday in Leadville and we wish them luck!

Dan M. will be taking over work on funding the Bike Park. He spoke with Cycle Wyoming, who then donated \$5000 toward this project. While there is \$8924.00 right now, Dan suggested we look for grants for the biggest portion of funding. There are many grants available, we just need people to help write for them. Todd Freezer from the City is very interested in helping move this project forward and he is a great contact to have on our side. It is also possible that we can build 2 bike parks, one near the rec center/high school and a smaller one near the skate park. If you have grant writing experience, or are just very excited to help with this fine endeavor, contact Dan at [danomccoy@gmail.com](mailto:danomccoy@gmail.com)

Cindy D. mentioned that the Wyoming Senior Games are to be held in Laramie for the next 2 summers and suggested BikeNet host the cycling events. Evan O. has been looking into what would be involved with the mountain bike race, such as location and extra emergency medical needs. There will also be a road race with varying distances. The Senior Games have occurred in August in the past, so it is likely that is when they will be this year. BikeNet could also piggyback our existing events (such as the Dad Dog) with the Senior Games races to keep things simple.

The Dad Dog is going to be held in 2017, with Curtis M. acting as race director again. A date is not yet set, as it depends on what is decided with the Senior Games.

We discussed having another Membership Drive party this year. We agreed that hosting this party is best in colder months as we get better attendance. A planning committee has been formed and if anyone else would like to assist to ensure maximum fun and success, email Lindsay S. at [lindsaylu@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaylu@gmail.com)

Curtis M. gave a Time Trial series report. The TT got going in March, and is still happening. The 8 mile event is on Thursday evenings, at 5:45pm on Soldier Springs Road. Curtis said that there has been a good turnout this year, and hopes it will continue to be well attended this fall.

Evan O. said that this summer's Laramie Mountain Bike Series went very well. All 6 thrilling races started from the new Happy Jack Trail Head location without issue, and the Forest Service was very accommodating with the changes. Each race had about 170 participants and there were no major injuries this year. A fun time was had by all, including the volunteers.

There was a Rogers Canyon cleanup during the summer. It went well, a small group of volunteers picked up trash and the canyon contained less litter for at least a little while.

BikeNet set up a bike valet at Freedom Has a Birthday again this year on July 4<sup>th</sup>. We were in a new location, near the band shell, and we saw a huge increase in use compared to past years. We also received about \$40 in donations.

Miguel R. let us know how the BikeNet soccer team fared over the season. They won their tier of competition and had a lovely community-building experience, and got the word out about BikeNet.

Cindy D. expressed concern that the Bike Summit may need to change format due to a trend of low attendance. Perhaps we can combine the Bike Summit with something like the Charette, a sort of Trail Users Summit. This event would be another good one to have in winter months in hopes of increasing attendance, especially if we have an indoor bike track/party combined with having a cycling-related forum. Richard Vercoe volunteered to help with planning this event. Anyone else wanting to volunteer for this should contact Cindy at [cyclingcindy@gmail.com](mailto:cyclingcindy@gmail.com).

Dewey G. plans on having several fat bike races this winter, including the donut-laden Chubby Chaser. He hopes that these races are bigger and better than ever. More information on these events will be coming.

Evan O. mentioned that the MBNA will pay people to snowshoe upon and tamp down multi-use trails after snowstorms this winter. If this sounds like something you'd like to do, Evan can put you in touch with Van from MBNA. Shoot Evan a message: [evano21@gmail.com](mailto:evano21@gmail.com)

John H. would like to get better maps of the winter multi-use trails, or perhaps better signage on trail, so he and other teachers from the school district can take elementary students snowshoeing as part of their PE classes. Several meeting attendees agreed with John, saying that route-finding can be difficult in the winter and extra seasonal marking would be a big help. Discussion was started about working with MBNA and the FS to put up seasonal signage.

We mentioned the Laramie Duathlon and wondered if it is happening this year. Lindsay S. has been in touch with the UW Triathlon club, who has put the Duathlon on in the past, but no one knows what is going on this year. Lindsay will continue to look into this and inform everyone if she finds anything.

Dan M. reported that a group of UW students has been filling out an application to have Laramie designated as a Bike Friendly Community. The students have spoken with the UW Police Department, city planners, and various other members of the community and asked over 150 questions for this application. There is a short questionnaire that can provide valuable feedback for this application found here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LaramieBFC> This survey closes on September 15<sup>th</sup>, so please add your input soon.

Dewey G. has formed a Facebook group where anyone can post a group ride. Any group ride can be shared, from a 100 mile road ride or a short cruiser jaunt around town. Feel free to join this Facebook group here : <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1007049616060041/>

Cindy D. motioned to adjourn this meeting.  
Meeting Attendees:

Nancy Sindelair  
Miguel Rosales  
Seth Sweley  
Richard Vercoe  
John Hennings  
Jacob Carnes  
Rob Baker  
Luke Todd  
Evan O'Toole  
Melanie Arnett  
Curtis McCann  
Dewey Gallegos  
Niesey Heckart  
Allory Diess  
Jason Gonzales  
Dan McCoy  
Bill Gorman  
Marilyn Krysl  
Lindsay Sweley  
Cindy Dywan