

Laramie BikeNet Meeting

May 16 2018 7pm in the BikeNet Office

Cindy motions to begin meeting.

First, officer elections were held. The results are as follows: Cindy remains as president, Bill remains as vice president, Mike remains as treasurer and Rico Vercoe was elected as secretary. Congrats Rico, may the secretary business treat you well!

Evan shared some updates on what is going on with the Schoolyard: he is still waiting to hear about the next grant that was applied for. The trail builders are continuing planned trail work and will move on to next phases once grant money is figured out after June 1st. A new volunteer group called Cog plans to work at the Schoolyard and the City will provide risk waivers to volunteers. Eventually signage will be posted with trail names, boundary information, etc on the Schoolyard. In the meantime, trail names are available on Trailforks. (www.trailforks.com)

In the event that you see a motorized vehicle in a prohibited area in the Schoolyard, take a picture if possible and then contact authorities. If the vehicle is east of the drainage ditch, call the Sheriff's office. If the vehicle is west of the ditch, call the non-emergency police dispatch.

The city is working to create non-motorized trail access protection by designating trail heads that block vehicle access near the Schoolyard.

Evan also shared recent numbers from the trail use counter that is located somewhere on the trails. February saw 184 users, March had 426 and April showed 847, however that number is skewed due to a filming project* that brought extra action to the trails. Still, usage numbers are trending upward as the weather improves.

*This film was made by local videographer Mike Vanata and it is possible that it could be used as a promo video for the Albany County Tourism Board, and perhaps even Pinkbike and UW. We will contact Mike to see if he is willing to share his video and stir up some interest in our trails.

Bike Park news: still no word from Todd at the city. However, Ross Cook shall reclaim his helm for this project and hopefully get the ball rolling.

Dan has been working on a survey for BikeNet members past and present, as well as for the community in general, that will address program usage, issues with cycling in town, etc. This survey has been revised and is ready to send out soon.

Cindy updated us on events for youth that are going on/coming up: the Albany County Youth Essay Contest, consisting of a short essay about why kids enjoy bike riding, has had its deadline extended.

The Laramie Youth Cycling Program began this week with 30 participants signed up so far. This is a 5-clinic series that meets on Thursdays at Kiowa Park to go over some bike checks, safety and mountain bike-based skills.

Bike Safety days are coming up at elementary schools, though which ones hasn't quite been finalized yet. These will be on Tuesdays at 3pm and volunteers are needed! Contact Cindy if you would like to help.

Other upcoming activities include:

The Time Trial series will be starting soon, details forthcoming.

As usual, we will host the 4th of July Freedom Has a Birthday Bike Valet, anyone interested in helping can contact Cindy. This is always a very festive event to work at!

BikeNet will donate funds again to cover the costs of kids' insurance fees for the Laramie Mountain Bike Series, which will keep kids' races free for participants. 7220 Racing will host dinner for the July 10th LMBS race as well.

The Senior Olympics are on August 2nd and 3rd. BikeNet will again host the Road Race and Time Trial, and volunteers are needed!

SE WY CX series will be in the fall, but perhaps it will be less expensive to have it under the Laramie Racing umbrella. Also, a new course on the Schoolyard is a possibility. The CX committee will have some decisions to make before the series begins.

Pilot Hill news: donation pledging is now available, including an option to sponsor an acre for \$2000. BikeNet will need to check our funds and decide on a pledge/donation amount. The more pledge agreements are made, the better things look to other investors to make the Pilot Hill Purchase happen. Go to <http://pilothon.org/> for more information or to make a pledge!

Dan made an interesting point about the future of BikeNet and its place in the cycling community: BikeNet often acts as a great incubator for events/community engagement. We'll have to consider how best to serve the needs of members and the community as time goes on and different fundraising projects arise. Rich added that funds could come from sources such as Cycle Wyoming, since BikeNet is not solely functioning in Laramie.

Rich also mentioned that 7220 has its first official practice on August 1st, but they will be doing all kinds of activities over the summer. Contact him at enduro.rv@gmail.com with any questions or if your high school student would like to get involved!

Everyone moved to end the meeting, literally, by getting up and leaving.

Meeting Attendees:

Lindsay Sweley

Rich Vincent

Dan McCoy

Rico Vercoe

Ross Cook

Evan O'Toole

Cindy Dywan

Jay Jurkowitsch