

## Regular Meeting Agenda August 18, 2011 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mammoth Lakes Library Ellie Randol Reading Room

- A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by MLTPA CEO/Board President John Wentworth at 4:03 p.m. in the Ellie Randol Reading Room of the Mammoth Lakes Library. Also in attendance were Mammoth Trails Charter Members Hank Garretson (Eastern Sierra Nordic Ski Association), Forrest Cross (Friends of the Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center), Malcolm Clark (Sierra Club), and John Armstrong (Eastside Velo); TOML Recreation Manager Stuart Brown; and MLTPA Community Engagement Director Kim Stravers.
- **B. Additions to Agenda:** Mr. Garretson requested discussion of the Ormat geothermal project in Shady Rest and noted his dissatisfaction with the clear-cutting Ormat has evidently done in the area. Mr. Wentworth noted that the environmental-review process has apparently been delayed. He added that there is little information regarding the progress of the motorized staging area project initiated by the Inyo National Forest (INF) a few months ago.

## C. Organizational Items

 Acceptance of July 21, 2011, Meeting Summary (Kim Stravers) (attachment): By consensus, the Charter Members accepted the summary as presented.

## D. Special Updates

- 1. Lakes Basin Path Opening/Completion: Mr. Wentworth shared that the INF won't allow opening of the Lakes Basin Path from Twin Lakes to Horseshoe Lake until it is 100% complete. He noted also that the INF has informally indicated that any trail under special-use permit must be maintained or it will be dismantled and returned to its natural state; this will become important to the Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML) as negotiations of the lawsuit settlement continue.
- 2. RecStrats (Stuart Brown): Mr. Brown noted that the Recreation Commission adopted the RecStrats final report on August 9. The public-comment period was informative and some changes were made to the final report as a result. Town Council will receive RecStrats for adoption on October 5; this will precede their discussions regarding Measure R funding priorities for the fall 2011 cycle. Due to this scheduling (based on Mayor Bacon's absence for the month of September), the new Measure R Fall 2011 application period will likely be pushed back to October 10

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- through November 4; this will be determined at the September 6 Recreation Commission meeting.
- 3. TOML Budget Process (Stuart Brown): Mr. Brown shared that on August 17, at the regular meeting of the Town Council, councilmembers publicly stated that, in terms of the budget prioritization process, recreation is an essential service to the community and must be funded. Council vetted a total of nine priorities, which may be downloaded from the TOML website. He shared also that the Measure U Steering Committee will meet for the first time on August 19. Finally, Town Council will likely come back to the community in November or December to share the options developed for settlement of the lawsuit and ask for feedback.
- 4. Mammoth Trails Website Activities/Persona Development: Mr. Wentworth reported that work on this project is ongoing and that MLTPA staff is currently developing user-group-submitted experiences into real content for the site. Each experience will be printable on one page, directly from the website. MLTPA will share demo pages as they are developed.
- 5. Summer of Stewardship 2011 (Kim Stravers/Stacy Corless): Mr. Garretson mentioned that Nancy Fiddler, who coaches the junior race team at Tamarack Cross Country Ski Center, will be taking her team out to do a day of trail maintenance this summer. Mr. Wentworth shared that the trail spur connecting the Lakes Basin Path and Panorama Dome is still a potential project for this fall and that MLTPA will check with the INF regarding the planned fuels-reduction program in the area. Mr. Wentworth also noted that the Sherwins Area Recreation Plan Trails Technical Committee (SHARP TTC) has begun work on further development of trails in the Mill City Area, and that INF Trails Specialist Keith Dawley will be hired by MLTPA to complete the "finish work" on SHARP alignments so that they may be taken through the necessary environmental review process(es). He reported also that the Trail System Master Plan Environmental Impact Report is still out for public comment and will remain so until September 2.
  - a. July 30: Coldwater Trailheads (Mammoth Mountaineering Supply/Old New York Deli & Bagel Co.): Ms. Stravers shared that approximately 30 volunteers participated in this event.
  - b. Aug. 13: Inyo Craters (Mammoth Motorcycle Club/Footloose Sports/Java Joint Café/Old New York Deli & Bagel Co.): Ms. Stravers shared that approximately 30 volunteers participated in this event.
  - c. Aug. 27: Lake George Trailheads (High Sierra Equestrian Club/High Sierra Striders/Kittredge Sports/Old New York Deli & Bagel Co.): Ms. Stravers noted that this event is upcoming.

- d. Sept. 11: Convict Lake (TBD/Old New York Deli & Bagel Co./Convict Lake Resort): Ms. Stravers noted that this event is upcoming.
- 6. Mammoth Biathlon Feasibility Study: Mr. Wentworth advised that Morton Trails will be here August 21–27. There will be a briefing on Monday, August 22, in the yurt at Tamarack Cross Country Ski Center from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Morton Trails team will conduct evaluations throughout the week with community support as needed, and a final debrief is scheduled for the following Sunday.
- **E. Announcements and Updates:** Ms. Stravers advised that MLTPA's trail counters have been installed on the Lakes Basin Path and are collecting data.
- **F. Requests for Future Agenda Items:** An update on the Ormat project was requested by the group, which also recommended that photo documentation of actual site impacts be done soon.
- **G. Next Meeting:** Thursday, September 22, 2011, 4–5:30 p.m., MLTPA Offices (42 Davison #6)
- **H. Adjourn:** There being no further business to come before the group, the meeting was adjourned by consensus at 4:43 p.m.