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**Minutes**

**Girdwood Trails Management Plan Subcommittee**

**First Meeting - June 5, 2018**

**Girdwood Community Center**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order @ 6pm by Barbara Crews.

Julie Raymond-Yakoubian, Barbara Crews, Carolyn Brodin, Debra Croghan , Nick Georgelos were present.

**Introductions**

This was the first meeting of the Trails Plan Sub-Committee. The people attending had expressed interest in helping to modify the Girdwood Trails Management Plan for the 2019 version.

**Old Business:**

There was no old business as this was the first meeting of the sub-committee.

**New Business:**

* Barbara Crews was elected to chair this sub-committee.

A secretary position was not established, but Debra Croghan offered to take minutes for this first meeting.

* Discuss current strengths and weaknesses of the Trails Plan:

Julie Raymond-Yakoubian would like the Plan’s introduction expanded with greater discussion of the community’s values as relates to trails and the natural environment. She would like to see a more explicit discussion in the Plan of the values and qualities that the community would like to see in its trail system and which are associated with our current trails and environment. She feels that these values need to be a part of the discussion about any new trails or related developments so that it can be determined how the new trails fit in to an overall vision for the Girdwood Valley. Julie has submitted a letter outlining her concerns in detail.

Barbara Crews would like to define a clear process by which new trails are proposed and approved by the Trails Committee. The first version of the Trails Management Plan came out at the same time that the GNSC and the GMBA proposed building new trails. There is no clear outline in the Plan to help these organizations to proceed with their trail proposals. Nick Georgelos agreed that the lack of a flow chart made it difficult for the GMBA to plan their trail. He would like to see a more abbreviated process than what the GNSC is currently undergoing with their proposed new trail.

There was a discussion of potential elements that a trail proposal may need to include:

* + Map
  + Trail uses
  + Draft specs and construction plans
  + Management plan
  + TMO (and when does TMO happen?)
  + Cumulative effects (take into consideration other trails and developments)
  + Does the trail match community values associated with area where it is proposed?

Efficient – of course. Always ‘moving forward’? No – that implies that any proposal can be approved/is a good one, if we just move it through the steps.

Other points of discussion included:

* Cumulative impacts of trails in the valley need to be considered when there are new proposed projects
* Barb to talk to Carolyn about ‘undeveloped area’ language
* Not every trail needs maintenance. Primitive trails can be left alone.
* Wish list: group decision was to get rid of it. Was created piece-meal, not everyone contributed, etc.

Barbara Crews would also like to see some reorganization of the arrangement of various sections of the Plan. She has typed up a detailed list of suggested edits.

* Decide on next steps

Barbara will work on creating a flow chart for new trails.

Julie will work on reworking the Plan Introduction to include a greater discussion of community values.

* Next meeting to be held at 6pm prior to the next Trails Committee Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm