

CITA Board Meeting – January 5, 2021

Zoom Conference Call

<https://weitz.zoom.us/j/92826631129?pwd=VDITN0JxTEQwZGILT1hkSW5YenpzZz09>

Meeting ID: 928 2663 1129 Passcode: 288039

| Board Member | Present | Guests | Present |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Rob Cook, President | P | Adam Fendrick | P |
| Shae Rossetti, Vice President | P | | |
| Jen Herrera, Secretary | P | | |
| Dave McCloney, Treasurer | P | | |
| Greg Bellville | P | | |
| Jeremy Caron | P | | |
| Ben Coulter | P | | |
| Joel Donaghy | P | | |
| Anthony Herrera | P | | |
| Chris Rhodes | P | | |
| Rob Versteegh | P | | |

P = Present, E = Excused Absent, X = Unexcused Absent

1. North Woods of Copper Creek - Adam Fendrick with PCC

Adam is the park planner at PCC and a fellow mountain biker. He is working on getting a trail builder to look at Copper Creek. PCC has budgeted \$250 for this effort and is very interested in pursuing this opportunity. Adam said the goal is to do something different with this property - Central Iowa does not have many professionally designed and built trails and Adam would like to make this trail system an example.

Shae Rossetti noted that she had reached out to the City of Des Moines to see if they were interested in matching the \$250. Since the trail builder would be hired for a day, there would be the opportunity for the individual to look at other CITA trails and provide feedback. Shae has not heard anything back from the city and asked the board if CITA is interested in providing the funds.

PCC has a verbal commitment from the City of Des Moines that they will update the adjacent parking lot that they own.

Greg Bellville asked if PCC has a trail builder in mind. The \$500 consultant would be Nomad Trails, but PCC would not need to hire them as the builders. Nomad recently did

a bike park in a flood plain in Texas, and also has experience working on trails in Bentonville. Nomad would take a survey of the land and provide an overall plan for the area. This could also include bathrooms or other amenities at the trailhead.

Jeremy Caron suggested some sort of trail to connect Copper Creek and 4 Mile Creek or Grandview. Adam said this is something that PCC has been looking into.

The property will not be officially owned by PCC until next Wednesday at the earliest. If funding is approved, someone could likely be onsite in late January or February.

The board voted unanimously to donate \$250.

2. Action Item Review

- a. Dave McCloney to determine the cause of the financial discrepancy and report at the next meeting.
Dave has not been able to determine the difference between QuickBooks and the bank account. He will continue working on this.
- b. Anthony Herrera to contact Sleepy Hollow about grooming trail there.
Shae reached out to Sleepy Hollow and at this time they are not interested in grooming. Shae said it sounded like COVID was a large concern, and there is a potential to reach back out in the future.
- c. Shae Rossetti to reach out to Rob Versteegh about board membership.
Rob V accepted the invitation and is now on the board.
- d. Rob Cook to reach out to Jeremy Caron about board membership.
Jeremy accepted and is now on the board.
- e. Shae Rossetti to create a social media post on updating the trail status.
- f. Shae Rossetti to create a social media post on 14 jerseys for sale.
Rob C noted that there are approximately 9 left; Shae will put out a second post. Shae noted that she is working with Primal currently for a new order.
- g. Shae Rossetti to update the cold weather trail signage and send the board the new design for review.
Signs at Ewing and Grandview have been posted. Jeremy could install one more at Signs still need to be installed at Center, Sycamore, and Banner. Rob C has signs to give Ron Cooney for Banner. Rob V will install the signs at Sycamore. Joel will install at Center.

3. Snow Dog Initial Review & Lessons Learned

There are several modifications that the groomers would like to see done, including handlebar modifications, handlebar guards, and the light bar modification. Changing gearing is something that could be done later if needed.

Joel noted that he picked up the sled for the snowdog, which should help with ease of grooming.

Once trails are groomed, CITA will not be restricting usage.

Shae said that the Nordic Ski Club has identified specific areas for groomed skiing only. She suggested that CITA replicate this in the future, and these areas can then be restricted to fat bikes only. Jen noted that there has been a lot of positive feedback on grooming the existing trails, so that

Rob V pointed out that what is ideal for fat bikes might not be ideal for everyone - CITA needs to be aware of verbiage.

Jen created a write-up with basic information on the snowdog and groomed trails. She will share this with the rest of the board for feedback and work with Shae to turn this into a website that can be shared.

4. CITA Social Media Policy

a. Policy

b. Generic posts and responses

Lots of conversation. Everyone to

5. Trail Project List 2021

Priority is

1. Copper Creek
2. Grandview, assuming

Maintenance projects:

- Reroute Rollercoaster at Rose Garden
- Evaluate bridges at Center, reinforce as needed
- Evaluate and repair bridge(s) at Banner
- Advanced line leading to boardwalk at Ewing
- Bridge over creek at Ewing needs to have a better build-up
- South end of the trail at Grandview; pipe empties onto trail
- Brake on mower that was in small trailer does not work (Anthony is only person who uses brakes)
- Meet to clean out trailers and inventory tools in early April

For City of Des Moines trails, we have the potential to contact Paul Strome, who could use a skidloader to assist

6. Trail Stewards at Board Meetings

Greg suggested having a single meeting dedicated to trail stewards. Ideal timing might be after ground thaws in the spring and work can start so they are involved in the planning process.

Anthony noted that all trails are already represented except for Banner.

Joel noted that there are multiple people who are doing the work for each location. Joel also said that on occasion the designated trail stewards are not involved with the board at all, which can lead to mixed messaging.

Rob V said that a lot of the guys doing the work are not the type to show up to an official meeting but it might work well to sit down over beers and write down what they need and what they are planning.

Questions to revisit

What needs to be done to engage stewards? - Rob C will reach out to Ron Cooney to see if he needs anything for Banner for the upcoming year.

Risk management - is it worth appointing someone on the board to do steward outreach?

Do we need officially identified stewards and what is their relationship with CITA?

7. Financial Review

There have been \$1,343.22 in donations and \$329.27 in costs in the past month.

The financial address for CITA is Rassy's. Dave McCloney asked for the timeline on the Rassy's move; this is anticipated to be in March. Once the shop moves, the address can be officially changed.

Dave noted that emails are being migrated to treasurer@centraliowatrails.com.

Dave signed CITA up for AmazonSmile. The organization name is Iowa Singletrack Association.

Rob C noted that Cheryl needs to be removed as the owner of the CITA PayPal account. If that does not work, a new PayPal account needs to be created. Rob C and Dave will continue this conversation offline.

Dave asked how the \$250 going towards Nomad Trails should be paid.

8. Other Business

Action Items:

- Dave McCloney to determine the cause of the financial discrepancy and report at the next meeting.
- Shae Rossetti to confirm how PCC should be paid \$250 towards trail Nomad Trails.
- Cold weather signs to be posted.
- Jen Herrera to send out snowdog/grooming info sheet for board to review.

Next meeting: February 2, 2021 at 6:30 PM