Meeting Notes Special meeting March 12, 2021 Middle Park Broads

In attendance: Sarah Bransom, Joyce Clair, Sharry Erzinger, Sally Sharp, Pat Welch, Travis Wright, Melanie Zwick

I missed the first 5 or so min as I was waiting for the meeting on the old zoom info. So please fill in.

**Proposed Forest Service Land Exchange**

Sharry will make a spreadsheet of contacts and include those who wrote letters of support to the Forest Service.

Travis outlined his phone call with P. Hesch which was the impetus for calling this meeting. The main points of concern are:

1. Hesch stated that the FS has done exchanges with property on the Nat’l Register of Historic Places. It is not known what those places were.
2. Hesch focused only on direct impacts. No cumulative or wider area consideration.
3. Hesch used certainty language inferring this will take place.
4. Hesch said the FS obtaining the private land is in the best interest of the community.
5. Hesch said there would be no public meetings because of the letters solicited by the developer. There would be a 30 day public comment period.
6. After Andy Miller’s article in the WP Times (not as widely read as the Sky Hi) Hesch said there were no other letters. (It had been kept mostly secret till then)
7. Hesch said there could be interpretive signs and a 50 ft set back from the *center* of the road in regard to the cultural and archeological resources.
8. Hesch confirmed a rough time line by indicating that she thought they were done with the Feasibility Analysis but now they are on pause for 2-3 weeks because the FS received resistance from the Southern Utes and Colorado Preservation, Inc. Hesch stated they did not expect any resistance.

Travis contacted SHPO and will have a meeting with them (Holly Norton), the S. Utes and their lawyers next Thur.

Monday, Travis and Dr. Jason LaBelle will be presenting to CSU extension people all over the state regarding the archeology of Rollins Pass. Two weeks later there will be a presentation on the flora and fauna.

The Historical Association has requested to become a consulting party to the FS for this proposed land exchange.

It was suggested Broads contact Hesch’s boss.

There was discussion and suggested edits regarding the draft press release Sarah has written. Sarah will provide another draft. Broads will send the letter after Travis’ SHPO meeting.

A zoom meeting of the Broads membership (others welcome) to help make this exchange more public will be March 23 at 6 pm. Travis will give his power point presentation.

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Sarah suggested we have a briefing on Section 106 so we know what the FS is supposed to do. It was noted that is appears that the FS is not presently following these procedures.

Sarah solicited comments for revisions of the strategy list.

Middle Park Broads next regular meeting is scheduled for March 25 at 4 pm.

There is much work to do. Sarah needs everyone to pitch in. Let’s get the word out!!

Submitted by Melanie Zwick