

GMF TRAILS COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

June 30, 2020- Zoom- 6 pm

1. **Meeting called to Order** at 6:07 PM by Chairman Rocco Blasi
2. **Attending-** Rocco Blasi, Dick Bratton, Rebecca Ochkie, Rob Schillinger, Mike Lohman, Richard Brown, Chris Watling. Lisa Townsend, Jan Smith, Claudia Eley, Don Walker, absent. GMF Resident Joe Olds.
3. **Agenda Approval** as amended- M/S Bratton/Watling. Passed 7:0
4. **Approve Minutes** of June 25, 2020- M/S Bratton/Blasi. Passed 6:0 Lohman absent for vote
5. **Public Input - Items not on Agenda-** none
6. **Mt. Dewey Trail update**
 - Blasi was approached by Pikes Peak Courier reporter Pat Hill for a comment about the Mt Dewey Trail closure. GMF Trails Committee Chair Rocco Blasi: "It's unfortunate that the Mount Dewey Trail was closed in this manner, but the Town is working with the landowners to resolve the issue. The GMF Trails Committee stands ready to support this process and hopes the trail reopens soon." Blasi informed Mayor and Town Hall, no response. Article may in the July 1st Courier. https://gazette.com/pikespeakcourier/green-mountain-falls-trustees-vote-to-close-mt-dewey-trail-after-threat-of-lawsuit/article_2eafd188-b7c9-11ea-bcf0-cbe00f985da5.html
 - Expecting Historic Green Mountain Falls Foundation property corners to be marked July 1, 2020. Trails Committee standing by to support efforts.
 - Move to establish the following Motto for the GMF Committee: "Active, Constructive Participation." M/S Bratton/Watling 7:0
 - Move: At a recent Board of Trustees (BoT) Meeting a Trustee labeled the Trail Committee as "fiercely independent". The TC offers instead our legacy and our vision of 'Active, Constructive Participation'. We have consistently cooperated with the BoT, have kept them informed and cost the town no money. Extensive public comment informed the 2019 Comprehensive Plan town priorities as #1 Gazebo and #2 Trails. M/S Blasi/Lohman 7:0
7. **Ordinance No. 2020-03, Amending Chapter 2 Concerning Boards, Committees, and Commissions**
 - Move: This draft Ordinance is advertised as 'administrative housekeeping by the Town Manager. As this ordinance seeks to remove current voting TC members, the TC requests specific legal or insurance clarification that necessitates this proposed change. If there is no concrete legal or insurance reason, the TC advises keeping current Committee structure intact. M/S Brown/Watling 7/0
 - TC Member requested info on how to contact Town Manager/BoT for the next BOT Meeting to provide input. TC members are encouraged to provide Active, Constructive Participation at town meetings. Access: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/greenmountainfalls/bot-agendas-and-minutes> and scroll to meeting date. Click Zoom meeting for public access.

- E-mail Town Manager one day prior to be added for public comment or to comment on specific agenda item: manager@gmfco.us.
- Move: Trails Committee strongly disagrees with proposal for Town Manager to have final Committee agenda approval. We instead offer that the Chair of the Board or Committee understands their focus area to best determine agenda items. M/S Watling/Bratton 7:0

8. Other- Bratton requested further discussion of Public Parking and Restroom Closure
M/S Bratton Blasi 7:0

- The argument against opening Dewey Mountain Trail 4 years ago was there would be too much traffic/parking. We have not had a parking problem. The lots are almost full on weekends for short periods. There remains unused public parking on Olathe Street and on El Paso as well as other places. Parking at Joyland sits empty every day. The parking 'problem' will not be solved until data is collected and 'problem' defined.
- The other argument against Dewey Mountain Trail was/is there would be too much trash. This has not been a problem as attested to by Committee members and local residents who frequent the area.
- Restrooms- There is no excuse for not providing public restroom facilities. Pandemic ('CARES') Funding has provided extensive support to the town. It's well past time to hire cleaning staff and post "Use at your own risk" signs. Other small towns have done this and there has been ample time for the town to address this. Leaving the visiting public to use the streams and woods for bathrooms is a health hazard far exceeding any liability concerns with opening restroom facilities.

9. NEXT MEETING- Tuesday July 9, 2020- Zoom 6 PM

10. Adjournment at 7:40 pm

ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



Chairman Rocco Blasi



Secretary Rebecca Ockie