

Friends of Lois Creek AGM
November 20, 2018, 7:00 PM

1. Introduction of Committee members and guest presenters

Don Davies, Blake Rawson, Nina Andermatt, Nigel Kitto, Gregg Campbell

Laura Duncan - Mainstreams, Cailey Chase- Goat Project, Peter McConnachie- KTS rep,

Brett Price- KTS President, Ryan McKenzie- Trail Coordinator, Lisa Cox-Recreation Officer for Recreation Sites and Trails BC

2. New Logo

Don Davies presented a logo design he created.

Steph Spensley and Kristal Bodaly agreed to spearhead this project.

3. Slash Piles

Dave Hale was absent. Blake reported.

-12 slash piles left to burn

-Denis Heigh and Kathryn Crysler hired for interface work in 2015

-Fire Chief would like them burned

-no new money

-not a priority as far as an interface concern. Nigel indicated that there was less money than before

Lisa suggested Wildfire crews could assist in this project

4. Mainstreams (Laura) and 5. Goats (Cailey) See attached notes from Laura Duncan

6. KTS

Brett Price discussed the KTS role with FOLC. To maintain the trail network and support community and wellness. A lifetime membership of \$20 helps establish usage levels which supports

securing grants for trails. Annual passes can be purchased for \$40 or 2 hours of trail work. Ryan McKenzie reported brushing on Daisy trail and trail work on Florence's Gully. Ryan also suggested a "snow dog" groomer would be an idea for winter

7. Trail Maintenance

Blake reported

- 2017/18 winter had over 300 trees down
 - Lots of manpower for clearing was needed. Suggestion was made regarding Chainsaw Courses
 - Lisa is supplying funding for a 6 person course with arrangements made through KTS (Brett)
 - winter signage- walking, snow shoeing, winter biking/ Xc skiing
- Respect signs. Trails will be packed as soon as we have enough to snow

Concerns

- solo users with both headphones, dangerous, shared habitat with wild animals
- Users with external speakers is discouraged
- Motorized use- side by side was on Upper Lois Creek last week. A quad left big ruts in the snow last Nov. Observe and report
- Reports from August of logs/debris piled onto the trail at Legion Ridge
- Last November an unknown person set up a trip wire on a hill close to Blake's Single track/ Loop D Loop
- Cougar kill. Dead ungulate on A Frame. Attracts other scavengers- Grizzlies/ black bears
- dog poop at entrances to 8th and Elko, read a letter from a concerned resident. Elizabeth expressed concern at the Creston Street entrance. A sign and shovel will be put at the entrance.
- Nigel is working on reducing the burdock near the Creston entrance

8. Facebook

- Chelsea will add comments if you email her at chelsea@meadowsweet.ca

9. Vandalism

- Blake reported the letters DTTM carved into the picnic table at the Tea Spot. Has been repaired 3 times already
- wildlife camera was suggested to identify
- Kathy Murphy noted campfires in the gully were a concern

10. Events

- numerous events have taken place in the Lois Creek Trails including the Winter Turkey Trot, Julyfest Run, Five Peaks Run, to name a few. All events are encouraged to make a donation to FOLC

11. Trail Enhancement and Operational Plan 2018/2019

- brushing trails for winter use
- pull the culverts in Florence's Gully /Power Line and put a bridge across
- trail clearing of blow downs and hazards to be ongoing
- maintain winter cross country ski trails/ snowshoe, walk, bike tracks on a regular basis
- communicate to dog owners to remove dog poop
- keep communication channels open with KTS, ask for a FOLC link on the KTS Facebook page
- invasive weed control, hopefully Cailey and Laura (Mainstreams) will be back
- apply for more funds for brushing on City Land
- more hand pulling of weeds on Daisy Trail (Nigel)

Lisa will arrange funding for Basic Chainsaw courses. Four people

signed up for this future course. Brett Price (KTS) will set up the courses.

It is worth noting that we had 30 people out to the AGM. Names and emails were recorded. A FOLC list will be compiled for future communications.

Adjournment

8:45

LAURA'S NOTES

Friends of Lois Cr:

2018

The intent of Mainstreams program was:

- Bring awareness of watersheds to the attention of the public. This would fit into Mainstreams larger goal of bringing awareness to the larger Kimberley watersheds and particularly to the threats facing watersheds and the communities relying on them in a changing climate
- Contribute to the proposed day-lighting of Lois/Kimberley Cr through Coronation Pk
- To that end we proposed:
 - Carrying out a Watershed Assessment of the Lois and Kimberley Cr watersheds – this would contribute to the daylighting of the creek and identify areas in the watershed that need some TLC
 - Organize public walks in Lois Cr highlighting invasive plants
 - Develop a school curriculum on invasive plants focusing on the use of goats as control agents
 - Use goats in a pilot project to help control invasive plants in a portion of the watershed
- A collaboration between the FoLC and Mainstreams was struck where funding for the watershed assessment was applied for through Mainstreams and funding for the goat project was applied for through the FoLC via the Kimberley trail Society
- Mainstreams was unsuccessful in finding funding for the Watershed Assessment but the hydrologist offered to carry the assessment pro bono
- Partial funding for the goat project was successfully obtained by the KTS

The result for 2018 has been:

- The Watershed Assessment has not yet been completed
- Reduced funding meant that signage for the goat project could not be completed
- Reduced funding for the goat project meant proposed compost piles were not completed
- The invasives/goat curriculum will be completed this winter
- Contact with the owner of the private land along the 'flats' adjacent to the Morrison entrance to Lois Cr/old track area up to the beginning of Florence's Gully was finally achieved, resulting in permission for the goats to be housed on the private property and the potential for future goat work on the property
- A sponsored walk into Lois Cr with representatives of the EK Invasive Species Council and Cailey with some goats was carried out
- The goats spent 6 days in the watershed chomping down primarily knapweed in two sessions (early July and late August)

Cailey to speak on the goat project:

- Where they were (Legion Track, Daisy Trail, PowerLine Trail)
- Photos July 10-12, 2018
- Value of using goats
- Results of the grazing, at chosen sites and where goats housed

- Contact with residents, especially Moms and kids

2019 – Laura

Mainstreams proposes:

- Apply for funding to carry out the watershed assessment
- Bring back the goats to cover an expanded area for a total of 5 days
- Pilot the Goat/Invasives curriculum

It would be helpful if the FoLC could provide some bodies to help with:

- Hosting one or two events/walks into the valley
- Building a compost for the weed skeletons
- Input to the signage
- Help with manual weedpulls

FoLC AGM Nov 20, 2018