

MINUTES
PWV ANNUAL MEETING
October 21, 2021 – 6:00-6:30 p.m.
Conference Call due to Covid-19 concerns

ATTENDANCE

25 people attended the 2021 PWV Annual Meeting, held via Zoom

A. OPENING:

Mike Corbin welcomed everyone in attendance. He noted that this is the third time the annual meeting has been held before a regular Board meeting, and that it works well.

B. RECAP:

- Mike Corbin said that we had about as good of a year as possible considering Covid and the fire. We got a lot of people out in the field and got a lot done. The season started with many trails still closed, but many were reopened by season's end.
- Mike shared several statistics from the year:
 - 684 Patrols completed, 3348 trees removed, 17,223 volunteer hours logged.
 - 120 miles of trails were damaged by the fire. 16 work days were held (2 of those being in October), 226 public volunteers. 60 miles of trails were cleared, 11 miles of drainage work, 50 PWV members participated.
- Mike explained that this season we had low spending from our budget.
 - We raised \$47,000 with the GoFundMe Campaign.
 - ABC made a donation of \$15,000.
 - As a result, we have quite a bit of money to spend on Trail Restoration over the next few years.
 - Spring Training and the Year End Event were both underbudget compared to previous years.
 - Mike noted that the Year End Event was well done and thanked Bruce Williams. Mike enjoyed the event because it allowed for the opportunity to visit with many members who he does not see regularly during the year.
- Our exposure through media relations this past year is new and unprecedented for our organization. We were featured at least 31 times in print, tv, and radio media through channels including ABC, CBS, Fox, KUNC, the CSU station, and the Coloradoan. Jeff Randa has been managing the media outreach and Mike noted that he's doing a great job.
- New Recruit Training was different this year.
 - We brought in 50 new members (10 of which were non-patrolling).
 - We had a successful training program despite the challenges. There was no Kick Off Night, Spring Training was limited to just one day, and the AGL's did all of the training (with help from the trainers on the Training Trail). Everyone did an excellent job.
- Bruce Williams emphasized how the work that PWV did this year directly contributed to many of the damaged trails being reopened for public use. This is an important achievement Bruce wanted to underscore, and he thanked Mike Corbin for his efforts managing the restoration.

C. NEXT YEAR:

- Bruce Williams explained that we do not yet have detailed plans for next year. This will be addressed by the Board over the next few months. We still have the cloud of uncertainty due to Covid, so even as we plan, things may change.
- Ideally we would have a full patrolling season with the majority of the trails open for use. We are cautiously optimistic that this is possible.
- Restoration work will continue in the burn scar area, in addition to regular maintenance that needs to be done. There's still quite a bit of damage that needs to be repaired, though we don't know if we'll be able to do as much next year as we did this year.
- We do hope to have a full recruiting season, targeting at least another 50 new recruits. Our capacity to recruit and train is limited by a number of factors, including how many we can fit at Spring Training.
 - As Mike Corbin mentioned, this past year Kick of Night was replaced with direct training by the AGL's, which seemed to be a successful change. Bruce agreed that based on his own experience, the recruits seemed better prepared on the Training Trail than groups in the past have been, which is something we want to repeat. However, we do want to get back to the traditional multi-day Spring Training to allow for more socialization between recruits and the existing members.
 - Bruce noted that recertification hasn't been done in two years now, so it is being discussed how this can be done next year so we can meet our requirements.
- Bruce commented on the media and how the amount of exposure we received is a major change from years prior. The benefits of this are that we get a lot of public support which translates to people who volunteer for public work days. It also translates to more funding. This is a powerful tool that we must consciously exercise.
 - It's important that what we're doing in the media aligns with our activity set. It's good that we had more funding than spending this year, but we have to be conscious of making sure that we show our donors that we can put their funds to good use.
- Bruce explained that the upcoming year will include Strategic Planning. We have moved from a permanent Strategic Planning committee to an Ad Hoc committee, which has begun its work and will begin to share with the Board in the coming months. The committee is looking for a simple, streamlined process, so we can easily evaluate what has changed, how we can be more successful in the future, and identify small tweaks to improve what we do. We're not looking for a major overhaul, just small meaningful changes.

D. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Q: Alan Meyer asked how much of the GoFundMe and ABC donations are restricted to trail work and restoration vs. general funds. Mike explained that all of the funds are restricted, and he plans to spend the funds over two to three years.

E. CLOSING:

There were no further questions. Mike Corbin thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting adjourned at 6:21pm.

Sean Orner, Secretary