

VAIL PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT
d/b/a VAIL RECREATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

5:00 P.M.
Thursday, February 25, 2016
Town of Vail, Council Chambers
AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. February 11, 2016
3. Public Input of Items not on the Agenda
4. Request for Funding of-Adopt-A-Ranger-Mr. Pete Seibert
5. Executive Director Input
6. Board Member Input
7. Adjournment

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of the Board of Directors

Vail Park and Recreation District dba Vail Recreation District February 11, 2016

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Vail Recreation District, Town of Vail, Eagle County, Colorado, was held on February 11, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the Vail Town Council Chambers, Town of Vail, Eagle County, Colorado, in accordance with the applicable statutes of the State of Colorado.

1. MEMBERS PRESENT
 - 1.1. Tom Saalfeld, Kim Newbury, Kevin Foley, Bill Suarez, Jeff Wiles
2. MEMBERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED
 - 2.1. None
3. STAFF PRESENT
 - 3.1. Mike Ortiz, April Heredia, Jessie Klehfoth, Scott O'Connell
4. OTHERS PRESENT
 - 4.1. Stephen Connolly, Joe Langereis, Shelley Bellm
5. CONSULTANTS PRESENT
 - 5.1. Eric Weaver, Marchetti & Weaver, LLC
6. CALL TO ORDER
 - 6.1. Director Saalfeld called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
7. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
 - 7.1. By motion duly made and seconded it was RESOLVED to unanimously approve the minutes of the January 14, 2016 meeting.
8. PUBLIC INPUT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
 - 8.1. Mr. Stephen Connolly spoke regarding past concerns that he felt were unresolved.
 - 8.2. Mr. Joe Langereis questioned the Board if there were tennis courts in the Vail area that would be suitable for covering during winter use now that the Cascade courts may be going away.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Vail Recreation District February 11, 2016 Meeting Minutes

- 8.2.1. Director Suarez responded that we are looking into options, but we are not in a position to construct or create new courts or coverings, however the VRD would consider running them.
- 8.3. Ms. Shelley Bellm wanted to thank the VRD, the Board and Mr. Ortiz for providing such a phenomenal gymnastics program.
9. DISCUSSION OF CONCEPTUAL DESIGN BY PHELPS-ATKINSON FOR OLD #18 GREEN AND DRIVING RANGE
- 9.1. Mr. O'Connell reviewed the proposed driving range tee area conceptual design and answered multiple questions from the Board.
- 9.2. Mr. O'Connell then reviewed the proposed old #18 green conceptual design to propose an expansion of the green area into more putting area both for the benefit of players and local educational opportunities. The conceptual design also includes a redesigned area for a sitting space, and the addition of more landscaping to act as a buffer between the area and the parking lot. Mr. O'Connell gave an overview of the designs and answered multiple questions from the Board.
- 9.3. Mr. O'Connell explained that these are just preliminary ideas and the basis for a discussion to begin. For a timeline, he stated that at the earliest, some restoration of the driving range tee will be done in the spring, but will not be able to be completed until the pro shop is removed, so the full timeline is still to be determined. There is no timeline for the old #18 design.
- 9.4. The Board directed Mr. O'Connell to continue with exploration of these concepts and to start work on a budget for these projects.
10. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED FORD PARK PARKING CALENDAR
- 10.1. Mr. Ortiz reviewed the calendar for proposed paid parking dates at Ford Park, stating that the schedule is very similar to last year with six additional days in the middle of the summer being added at the recommendation of the Town of Vail staff.
- 10.1.1. Director Suarez asked about the start time for days when there are Bravo events.
- 10.1.2. Mr. Ortiz confirmed that paid parking would start at 3 p.m.
- 10.1.3. Mr. O'Connell stated that the Town is willing to work with the VRD and understands the impact that paid parking has on the Tennis Center.
- 10.1.4. Director Newbury noted that some of the times had been moved back.
- 10.1.5. Director Suarez asked to have more time to review and present to Town Council, and was concerned about having the six additional managed days.
- 10.1.6. Director Foley iterated that this is managed parking and is a joint effort between many stakeholders.
- 10.1.7. Director Saalfeld asked if Mr. O'Connell would relay Director Suarez's concerns to the town.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Vail Recreation District February 11, 2016 Meeting Minutes

10.1.8. Mr. O'Connell agreed.

11. APPROVAL OF THE 2016 ELECTION RESOLUTION

- 11.1. Mr. Weaver presented the standard election resolution to the Board. The resolution states that an election for the two directors seats will be held as a polling place election in conjunction with Eagle River Water and Sanitation District, and that absentee ballot will need to be requested directly from VRD. Self-nomination forms for interested candidates are also available and due by February 26 to April Heredia who is appointed as the Designated Election Official. The election will be canceled if there are two or fewer nominees. Last Thursday a call for nominations was published in the newspaper.
- 11.2. The Board directed the VRD to run more advertising requesting nominations for the available Board seats.
- 11.3. Mr. Connolly made public comment to ask about the timing of the resolution and the deadlines for nomination filing.
- 11.4. By motion duly made and seconded it was RESOLVED to unanimously approve the election resolution and to appoint Ms. April Heredia as the designated election official.

12. 2015 PRELIMINARY DECEMBER FINANCIALS

- 12.1. Mr. Weaver presented the preliminary December financials and stated that on a preliminary basis the year end results are positive to what was forecasted meaning that the VRD will start off 2016 better than expected.
- 12.2. Director Saalfeld commended the staff and Mr. Weaver for their work.

13. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INPUT

- 13.1. Mr. Ortiz highlighted an article in an upcoming issue of Golf Course Management Magazine, highlighting the Vail Golf Club recertification by the Audubon International Cooperative Golf Course Sanctuary program.
- 13.2. Mr. Ortiz stated that a number of staff attended the Actively Green training that was recently held, and it is the intent of the VRD to become an Actively Green certified organization.
- 13.3. Mr. Ortiz stated that Mr. Ed Wisneski recently passed away and wished to send his condolences to the Wisneski family.
- 13.4. Mr. Ortiz expressed excitement at the work the staff is doing to implement a new VRD-wide registration system to help consolidate logins, registrations and marketing. He commended Mr. Joel Rabinowitz for his project management leadership.
- 13.5. Mr. Ortiz stated that the sports staff is working with Jen Mason to promote the upcoming Vail Uphill Race, and the annual Kreuger Family Shamrock Shuffle is coming up in March.
- 13.6. Mr. Ortiz mentioned that marketing has been working hard on press relations, a

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Vail Recreation District February 11, 2016 Meeting Minutes

new website, and had a great spread recently in the Vail Valley Home Magazine on the new Nordic Center.

- 13.7. Mr. Ortiz commended George and Robin at the Dobson Ice Arena who recently took a pairs team to the national finals where the team took second place. He also expressed excitement about having 114 under-8 kids in our hockey program.
- 13.8. Mr. Ortiz mentioned that Community Programming will be hosting a School's Out Camp over the February break. He also stated that they are working hard with the Youth Foundation on the PwrHrs program.
- 13.9. Mr. Ortiz mentioned that Gymnastics has started a new preschool program and had 16 participants in the first week.
- 13.10. Mr. Ortiz shared that there is framing going on at the golf course clubhouse and the VRD has been promised that the cart barn will be ready by June 1. He also stated that there may be a delay in starting on the parking lot due to cold temperatures and the large snowpack.
 - 13.10.1. Director Foley mentioned that Ford Park may be an option for parking in the spring.

14. BOARD MEMBER INPUT

- 14.1. Director Foley stated that he had received a call questioning if the Vail HillClimb date has been moved and if we can work with Vail Resorts to ensure that it stays on July 4th weekend.
 - 14.1.1. Mr. Ortiz stated that Vail Resorts is concerned with safety due to Epic Discovery and reminded the Board that we use VR staff for medical support during the race. He stated that the date may have to move but conversations with VR are ongoing.
 - 14.1.2. Mr. Foley asked what time Epic Discovery starts.
 - 14.1.3. Mr. Ortiz responded that the gondola will open at 9 a.m., but that it comes down to what the VR staff feels comfortable supporting.
 - 14.1.4. Director Wiles stated that there was no need to hit the panic button yet.
- 14.2. Director Foley questioned when the next rec subcommittee meeting would be.
 - 14.2.1. Mr. Ortiz responded that it will be on Tuesday at 9 a.m. in the Vail Town conference room with Tom and Bill representing the VRD and Dick Cleveland and Greg Moffet from the town council.
- 14.3. Director Suarez stated that we are looking for solutions for indoor tennis, but that we are not in a position to build or purchase land for a facility. VRD would be interested in running a facility were one to come available.
- 14.4. Director Wiles thanked Mr. Ortiz for meeting with Vail Resorts to discuss plans for the races and that he is confident that it will work out somehow.
- 14.5. Director Wiles also stated that he would like the VRD to donate \$5,000 to the Adopt-A-Ranger fundraiser to hire another trail ranger at the Forest Service for the benefit of hiking and biking trail maintenance.
- 14.6. After some discussion, it was agreed to add this to the February 25 meeting

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Vail Recreation District February 11, 2016 Meeting Minutes

agenda and invite a representative from the Vail Valley Mountain Bike Association to the next Board meeting to answer questions.

14.7. Director Saalfeld commended Mrs. Klehfoth for the write-up in the Vail Valley Home magazine.

15. ADJOURNMENT

15.1. Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Vail Recreation District Board of Directors.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessie Klehfoth
Secretary to the Meeting

2015 Annual Report



VVMBA
Vail Valley Mountain Bike Association



www.vvmba.org





Thank You for a Great Year

What a fantastic year for VVMBA and for trail enthusiasts in the Vail Valley! Our community's focus and commitment to soft surface trails has never been stronger and continues to gain momentum. Residents, business owners and governments are increasingly recognizing the power of trails to improve quality of life and drive economic development. Initiatives and ideas abound from Vail to Gypsum with broad public support.

2015 was a year of execution with the completion of the 13 mile West Avon Preserve trail network, opening of the top section of the Berry Creek reroute, a full reroute of the Mesquite Trail and commencement of an ambitious multi-year reroute of Cougar Ridge. Construction of these projects is the culmination of years of relationship-building, planning and approvals.

In 2016 we will continue to execute on projects already underway. The focus however will be on working with local land managers and other local trail advocacy groups to advance valley-wide master planning and institutionalizing a program for existing trail maintenance. These efforts will result in better maintained trails and a clear, prioritized multi-year pipeline of new trails.

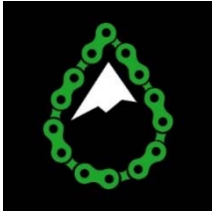
Whether you are a donor, a volunteer or a member we are greatly appreciative of your support and hope you will continue to contribute in 2016 and beyond. Let's keep this movement going and growing on our path to making the Vail Valley a world-class trails community and destination!

-VVMBA Board of Directors-



Top Ten 2015 Accomplishments

1. Over 3,000 volunteer hours contributed.
2. Over 8,000 feet of new trail constructed by volunteers and hired professionals.
3. Over 3,000 feet of unsustainable trail restored.
4. Completed Wyse Way in the West Avon Preserve (WAP) through weekly volunteer work nights. This marked the completion of the WAP trail network – a multiyear effort planned and spearheaded by VVMBA.
5. Finished top section of Berry Creek reroute through weekly volunteer work nights and a full restoration of the old trail made possible by a grant from the National Forest Foundation.
6. Managed a complete reroute of the Mesquite Trail in Singletree with 200+ volunteers from Vail Resorts Epic Promise.
7. Constructed phase one of Cougar Ridge reroute in Minturn in conjunction with Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado.
8. Received grants of over \$30,000 to pass through for specific contractor restoration projects and planning.
9. Trained over twenty new trail crew leaders.
10. Launched website.



Overview

The Vail Valley Mountain Bike Association is the local chapter of the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA).

IMBA is the leading mountain bike advocacy group in the world and represents mountain biker interests on a macro scale, including federal and state initiatives.

VVMBA focuses 100% of its efforts locally in the Vail Valley under the following guiding statements:

Mission

To establish Eagle County, CO as a premier global mountain biking destination.

Vision

A community of diverse participants that vigorously supports the maintenance and construction of sustainable mountain biking and hiking trails throughout Eagle County.

Execution

VVMBA coordinates volunteer trail work, organizes events, trains volunteer trail construction crew leaders and contributes its talents, guidance and time to support local land managers in various soft surface trail initiatives.

As of year-end 2015 VVMBA has 70 dues paying members and many other key participants and contributors.

501(c)3 non-profit.



Board of Directors

VVMBA is 100% volunteer lead and managed with minimal administrative cost.



Jamie Malin



Kat Sedillo



Michelle Wolffe



Mark Luzar



Brian Rodine



Pete Seibert



Andy Gunion



Bill Hoblitzell



Weekly Trail Work Nights



Dedicated VVMBA volunteers gather on a weekly basis to build sustainable single track.

A fun and rewarding program to strengthen community and make tangible contributions to the valley's trails.

In 2015 these volunteers finished the top section of the Berry Creek reroute/restoration in Edwards and Wyse Way in the West Avon Preserve – marking the completion of this 13 mile trail network which was started by VVMBA in 2012.



Large Scale Project Coordination



VVMBA has developed an expertise in planning and executing large-scale volunteer trail work projects.

In 2015 this included managing over 200 Vail Resorts EPIC Promise volunteers for a reroute and restoration of the Mesquite Trail in Singletree.

Additionally, we partnered with VOC and over 80 volunteers on a two-day project to start phase one of the Cougar Ridge Trail in Minturn.



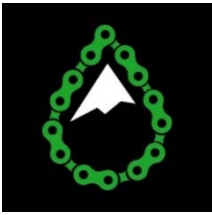
Trail Crew Leader Training



VVMBA organizes and conducts trail crew leader training seminars.

Focus is placed on sustainable trail construction and volunteer safety. Our mantra is “safety, fun and get some work done”.

In 2015 over 20 new local trail crew leaders were trained in conjunction with VOC. These trail crew leaders will be a great resource in the valley for years to come.



Government Relations & Planning



The actual work of maintaining and constructing trails is typically the end result of a long process of assessment, studies, approvals, planning, design and layout.

It often takes years of significant work to take a trail project from conception to completion.

VVMBA works closely with the US Forest Service, local municipalities and other land managers to help establish maintenance programs for existing trails and plans for future trails.

In 2015 these efforts included seating board members on the Vail Valley Trail Connection and Avon's Trail Committee, advising the Town of Vail on future Vail Trail expansion and continuing to solidify a productive relationship with the Forest Service.



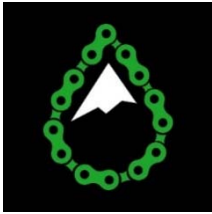
Social Events



In addition to facilitating and advocating for improvements to our community's trails, VVMBA seeks to strengthen the local mountain biking community through select social gatherings.

In 2015 this included a spring open house and a fall film night.

Most trail work events include a social aspect – including the infamous tailgate sessions following weekly trail work nights.



2015 Financial Contributors

Platinum Donations - \$2,500

- Vail Resorts EPIC Promise (double platinum)
 - Anonymous Private Donor
-

Gold Donations - \$1,000

- Slifer, Smith & Frampton (double gold)
-

Silver Donations - \$500

- Powers Family
 - Ryan Solutions
 - The Kind Bikes & Skis
 - East West Partners
-

Bronze Donations - \$250

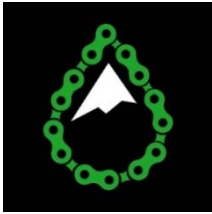
- Lee Rimel

Goods & Services

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| - The Dusty Boot | - E-Town |
| - Garfinkel's | - Bob's Place |
| - Crazy Mountain
Brewery | - Moe's BBQ |
| - Minturn Saloon | - Bonfire Brewery |
| - Colorado Mtn
College | |
-

Other Monetary Donations

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| - Chris Dudar | - 70 dues paying
members |
| - Cecilia
McSwiggan | |
| - Town of Vail | |



2015 Trail Work Volunteers

		2015
		Trail Work
		Hours
Casey	Wyse	113:30:00
Cody	Wyse	89:15:00
Mark	Luzar	70:25:00
Joe	McSwiggan	54:30:00
Tim	O'Donnell	47:40:00
Jamie	Malin	32:50:00
Rob	Hamina	32:10:00
Andy	Gunion	30:50:00
Guy	Sedillo	21:00:00
Michelle	Wolfe	20:55:00
William	Hoblitzel	9:20:00
Sam	Massman	9:05:00
Kat	Sedillo	8:45:00
Katherine	Unknown	8:05:00
Lee	Rimel	7:45:00
Ciro	Zarate	7:15:00
Patrick	Ramsey	5:30:00
Anthony	Ressler	5:00:00
Peter	Unknown	4:50:00

		2015
		Trail Work
		Hours
Chapin	Johnson	4:30:00
Beth	Bush	4:30:00
Kayla	Wolfe	3:30:00
Martha	Millberry	3:30:00
Paul	Amicucci	3:20:00
Rodney	Moliter	3:20:00
Jon	Stevenson	3:15:00
Jim	Daus	3:15:00
Mike	Beach	3:15:00
Tom	Dosch	3:15:00
Ken	Unknown	3:15:00
Matt	Tyler	3:00:00
John	Tyler	2:30:00
Brady	Cook	2:30:00
Beth	Pappas	2:15:00
Ethan	Unknown	2:15:00
Adam	Unknown	2:15:00
Steve	Unknown	2:15:00
Ron	Gruber	2:00:00
Bob	Kippola	0:45:00

* Excludes large volunteer days such as EPIC Promise and VOC.



2015 Trail Crew Leader Volunteers

Casey Wyse

Cody Wyse

Neil Henzler

Michelle Wolffe

Liz Frey

Beth Notis

Michele Kahn

Heather Weissler

Amber Moran

Peter Lindsay

Kat Sedillo

Deb Oakes

Will Cox

Lee Rimel

Joe McSwiggan

Liana Sideli

Guy Sedillo

Dylan Heaney

Lee Hoover

John McDade

Mark Luzar

Chris Rogers

Andy Gunion

Greg Willis

Bob Sonntag

Jason Schetrompf

Rob Hamina

Kevin Roop

Jamie Malin

Bill Hoblitzell



2015 Partners







2016 Objectives

1. Establish a formal trail maintenance (“adopt-a-trail”) program. A key to opening the approval pipeline for additional trails.
2. Fund a coordinator for the adopt-a-trail program.
3. Help to coordinate a valley-wide trails master planning effort - another key to opening the approval pipeline for additional trails.
4. Grow regular volunteer base for weekly trail work nights.
5. Complete Berry Creek reroute & restoration.
6. Complete Phase II of Cougar Ridge reroute & restoration.
7. Assist Avon, Vail, Minturn and other municipalities in planning for expanding their trail networks.
8. Increase visibility through introduction of VVMBA gear.
9. Grow membership and social events program.
10. Increase networking and communication amongst all trail advocacy groups in the valley.



www.vvmba.org



[ABOUT](#) ▾ [OUR WORK](#) ▾ [GET INVOLVED](#) ▾ [RESOURCES](#) ▾ [CALENDAR](#)

[PHOTOS + VIDEOS](#) [CONTACT](#)

Information FAQ on the 2016 Adopt-a-Ranger/Adopt-a-Trail programs

Information FAQ on the 2016 Adopt-a-Ranger/Adopt-a-Trail programs

Contact info:

VVMBA – Bill Hoblitzell 970 471-6216 billhoblitzell@yahoo.com

VVMBA – Andy Gunion 970 748-7585 agunion@ewpartners.com

USFS – Sam Massman smassman@fs.fed.us

What is the VVMBA 2016 Adopt-A-Ranger initiative?

Due to limited personnel and resources in our USFS ranger districts, trail staff is only able to reach a limited mileage of the Forest Service trails each year. We are seeking to fund an additional position that will oversee volunteer work groups to perform regular trail maintenance on heavily-used valley trails. *Regular maintenance* includes drainage clearing, brush clearing, small structure repair, tread condition. Funding this position for 2016 needs a minimum of \$25,000 committed locally by the end of February. An additional \$15-20K will fund a local counterpart who works for VVMBA to mentor under the ranger's position. This work is not mountain-bike specific, it is for all trails and trail users.

What will the additional ranger actually do?

Adopt-A-Ranger

57% Raised

[Click to donate now](#)

gofundme

The USFS staff member will set up long term legal program agreements, purchase tools and equipment for volunteer worker groups, conduct volunteer outreach and work trainings, and mentor the privately-funded Eagle County-based counterpart in the position responsibilities, with the goal of fully moving the job duties into a non-USFS, Eagle County-funded position by 2017 or 2018.

What is the Adopt-A-Trail program?

This is the volunteer-driven work initiative that the new ranger and their Eagle County counterpart will create and run beginning in 2016.

Organizations such as businesses, schools, neighborhood associations, etc. can 'adopt' a local trail and become the responsible party for keeping it in good shape. To become an Adopter, we are looking for a 2 year commitment of at least 3 work days each year, with a minimum of 4-5 people showing for each work day. If you are an individual or small business, we can also pair you with other groups to ensure the minimum work needs can be met.

Once these groups are identified, formed, and assigned to trails, the new ranger and their Eagle County colleague will provide training and help to organize work days. They oversee the first few days and then, depending on group ability, may allow you to operate independently without need of the ranger to join you in the field. The scope of work tasks will be very specifically defined, involving drainage work, tread maintenance, brush clearing, downed-tree cutting etc. Volunteers will not be operating heavy equipment, power tools like chainsaws, or performing tasks like felling standing trees.

This program is designed to operate well-beyond 2016, this is just the pilot year to get it on the ground and running. In the future, the program will be run 99% locally, with limited oversight and input from federal land managers, who must be involved since most trails in Eagle County are on USFS and BLM land. In the future, the program should also extend to county and town-owned trails.

Why do we need this?

VVMBA and many other groups have forged successful partnerships with federal land agencies to maintain and improve existing trails in the county. Additionally, we have concepts for new and improved trails we would like to build to connect communities and provide modern trail

networks closer to our communities. However, the Forest Service has resoundingly communicated that they are unable to handle this workload in a timely fashion, and are not able to accommodate more new projects when they are often unable to keep up with the maintenance needs of the current system.

We need to prove that we can handle the majority of routine maintenance on the many trails we have locally on our own. In the long term, we believe this will free up the limited USFS staff to address the many other issues with wilderness trails, aging bridge structures, and other backlogged tasks in the Holy Cross-Eagle Ranger District.

Our motivation is that by proving we can handle the stewardship of our trail resources locally, we will open the door to add to the system in the long run and build more awesome trail assets like community connectors and stacked loop systems.

Where does my donation go?

The donations are pooled to directly fund the salary and administrative overhead for the USFS seasonal ranger in 2016 who will create and oversee the Adopt-A-Trail program. These donations do not go towards a specific trail or trail project in Eagle County, but will promote maintenance of a large number of trails county-wide.

Is my donation tax deductible?

Yes, VVMB is a 501(c)3 nonprofit and will provide the necessary documentation for tax deductions upon request within two weeks of receipt of your donation.

Will I be publicly recognized?

We would love to recognize everyone who participates in the program and shows support for trails, however if you wish to remain anonymous we certainly respect your choice! VVMB plans to recognize all donors online at vvmba.org, at work sessions and public events tied to the Adopt-A-Trail program, and specific VVMB spring and summer events, and potentially through other means such as a Donor Thank You social event. Additionally, we can create Adopt-A-Trail supporter certificates to be posted in contributing businesses, schools, organizations, etc if interested.

Can I specify which trail I want adopted?

No, not directly. Once the program is created, the staff will match Adopters with trails. If your organization has a specific trail in mind, we encourage you to communicate with Sam Massman at the Forest Service smassman@fs.fed.us to get matched to an eligible trail. We are striving to hit a number of different trails between Vail and Gypsum so that all communities can have a local offering. The more Adopters we get, the more trails we can cover. Some trails may be adopted by more than one group if there is a large distance to cover or the groups are small.

I'm not wealthy, I don't own a large business, or a big organization, does my donation still matter?

Absolutely yes! If we could fund this from a handful of big donors that would sure make it easy, but it is waaaay more important to communicate to our community and town leaders, as well as the Forest Service, that this initiative receives broad support from all kinds of people up and down the valley. We cannot understate the importance of wide grassroots support. Even \$20 makes a difference and if you're willing to pass it along on FB or email to your friends, those Jackson start adding up pretty quickly. Please feel free to give whatever you feel you can manage at <https://www.gofundme.com/adopt-a-ranger>

If we want to make an off-line donation, how do we do it?

You can donate offline by mailing a check payable to Vail Valley Mountain Bike Association at the following address. Please write 'Adopt-A-Ranger' in the comment/note line if you remember. Please specify if you would like to be publicly recognized or wish to remain anonymous. If you would like a VV MBA receipt for tax purposes, please provide the request in writing along with your return address.

Vail Valley Mountain Bike Association

9 Stillwater

Edwards, CO 81632

What will happen if the \$50,000 goal is not reached by Feb 29?

The \$50k goal is comprised of a few different pieces:

- \$25,000 to fund the forest service ranger position. This is the piece that really has the February deadline as the forest service has a fixed staffing schedule for the summer that we have to meet.
 - \$25,000 estimated for an external volunteer coordinator and other program costs (tools, supplies, etc.). We have more time to pull this piece together as it is not subject to the Forest Service's schedule.
- In addition, hopefully we are being conservative with this amount.

If we fall way short of the \$50,000 then we may not be able to fund the external volunteer coordinator. In this case, since we will have funded the dedicated Forest Service ranger position, the Adopt-A-Trail program should still be able to proceed, but might be a scaled-back roll out and will probably require more volunteer work from the VVMBA and others. It will also make transition to future years less seamless (see below). If, for some reason, a funding shortfall causes the program to just fall apart completely then we will have to figure out a suitable solution, but will probably offer donors the option of having their contributions put towards other worthy local trail supporting initiatives or receiving a refund.

Will the seasonal ranger position remain in place after the first year without additional fundraising?

To set up, launch and run this program in its first year, the Forest Service requested funding for a dedicated staff position and an external volunteer coordinator. If the program launch and roll out goes well in 2016, then the dedicated ranger would not be needed in future years and USFS will rely on the Eagle County-based external volunteer coordinator to run and grow the program in coordination with existing USFS staff. So the hope is that in future years we won't have to fund the ranger, but long-term funding will be required for the external volunteer coordinator. The Vail Valley Trails Connection (VVTC) is working on trying to establish a permanent county-wide funding source for soft surface trails. Once in place, the idea is that this funding source would pay for the Adopt-A-Trail volunteer coordinator position among other trail initiatives. The timing of this is currently unknown – lots of politics involved. While we hopefully won't need to fund additional USFS staff just for maintenance in future years, we may want to fund other increased capacities, such as staff who can perform environmental reviews for major reroutes of existing trails and/or new trails.

Does the money go to the Feds and then they fill the position?

Yes, part of it. \$25,000 will go to the White River National Forest Eagle-Holy Cross Ranger District, and they will fill the ranger position.

Because the job will be a federal position, the position must be advertised on usajobs.com for a standard period. We can provide input into the hiring process, but they are not required by any law to follow it.

The balance of the funds will go towards the external volunteer coordinator and other program costs. VVMBA will control this directly – at least for this first year. The goal is that in the long term, VVTC or another greater-Eagle County entity will perform this task.

Is this really going to work?

As with most initiatives of this nature, the path between today and where we ultimately want to be is not a clear straight line. Ultimately, we want to create a well-maintained, valley-wide, community-integrated, sustainable and expanded network of soft surface trails for all user groups. However, after years of working with local USFS staff, it is clear to us that establishing the Adopt-A-Trail program is the required and logical next step in this direction.

Contact Us

Vail Valley Mountain
Bike Association
9 Stillwater
Edwards, Colorado
81632

vailvmba@gmail.com

**Subscribe to our
New letter!**

VAIL RECREATION DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS
February 25, 2016

GOLF MAINTENANCE

- Nordic trails still in great shape. Settled base of 30" at our weather station by 3 green as of today. We are roughly 5% above average snowpack for the Colorado River Basin year to date.
- Scott and Justin attended the Golf Industry Show the week of the 8th, attending seminars on Monday and Tuesday, and the trade show on Wednesday and Thursday. Focused on equipment and services to improve cart paths, lake sediment removal companies, less disruptive drainage installation options, and new yardage accessory options for fairways and tee boxes
- An article will be appearing in an upcoming issue of Golf Course Management magazine, produced by GCSAA, as well as other industry publications, detailing our 2015 recertification in the Audubon International Cooperative Golf Course Sanctuary program. The article, written by the Audubon Steward that toured the course and facilities last June to assess our practices, highlights our environmentally conscious management strategies. Later this spring, I will work with Jessie on an article to be released in the local news publications.
- Several of us plan to visit a couple of the Nordic facilities in our area that host fat tire biking, to assess whether it might be an option for us in the future.
- Just completed 2-day seminar, "Actively Green", put on by Walking Mountains Science and Nature School covering the process on how to get our organization certified as "Actively Green". This distinction is bestowed upon organizations working on, and towards sustainability practices that are environmentally friendly, socially and morally responsible, and have a positive economic benefit to all.

GOLF OPERATIONS

- Staff attended the Colorado PGA "G4 Summit" for a two-day conference in Colorado Springs at The Broadmoor. Topics included: The current state of the golf industry, how to market to Millennial's, as well as introducing our new "Colorado Junior Golf Alliance". This alliance is a one-stop shop for parents to register junior golfers for tournaments and programs throughout the state. Guest speakers included current CBS analyst and retired LPGA Player, Dottie Pepper. The USGA and CGSAA had representatives speaking on behalf of their organizations. The Tuesday conference was a Teaching and Coaching presentation.
- Staff posted the open position of Assistant Golf Professional on the PGA website. This job opening announcement will be posted throughout the Colorado Section. We are looking to fill two PGA Assistants for seasonal positions. We currently have three 6-month PGM Interns committed for the summer. Two interns from UNLV and one from Campbell University.
- Staff has decided on "ForeUp" for our new golf Point of Sale system. We are excited about this company and the platform of the POS System. We will no

longer work with Golf Now and Fore Reservations. All the public golf courses in the Valley are not working with Golf Now going forward. We may also join the "Golf 18" Network as a different platform for a one stop shop of advertised tee times.

- Golf Staff is working with the Cascade Hotel collaborating with their HR Department, as the hotel will be closed this summer, they have several employees looking for summer employment. The Cascade hotel has a job fair on March 9th at the hotel.
- Housing will be a challenge again for our seasonal golf employees. We need to figure out a District wide plan going forward as we would like to continue to have high-qualified staff who can be here seasonally and be able to live in the Vail Valley.

SPORTS REPORT

- Sports staff met with the Forrest Service on our 2016 proposed Trail Running and Mountain Bike series races. They were very positive to all our events, and while not official it looks good for moving the Half Marathon to Camp Hale. We feel this venue gives us an exciting opportunity to open the race to a wider audience, as well as, allowing us to add a 5K and 10K option. We are working with Nova Guides as a post-race venue.
- After meeting with the Forrest Service, we found for the first time in a long while they were very positive to potential new race venues. A focus of staff this summer will be to scout some new venues for a proposal for 2017 and beyond.
- Vail Resorts has approved a revised 10 @10 and 5@10 courses for 8/21 on Vail Mountain and has approved the Hill Climb for July 10th. We are working on crafting the messaging with Vail Resorts to let people know about the change of date for the Hill Climb.
- We continue our training on Max Galaxy, and are doing a lot of the back end data entry in preparation for on-site training the week of March 14th. We are excited to launch this new product at the beginning of April.
- We are timing the Vail Mountain Uphill Race on 2/21st.
- Joel has worked with the Town of Vail and the Event Review Committee to develop a staff parking plan for events at Ford Park during paid parking days.
- The Event Review committee has also requested we fast track getting a fence approved for the street side of the Vail Athletic Field. They feel, it's becoming a bigger safety concern with the in town bus running past there all summer, and balls and people chasing them crossing the street.
- Staff continues to renew existing sponsors and work on some exciting proposals for new sponsorship.
- Meeting with Eagle School District maintenance staff and contractors on trying to solve the problem of balls hitting unprotected mechanical items in the ceiling at Red Sandstone Elementary.
- Countdown continues...10 weeks till our first race.

MARKETING

- Summer planning is in full swing with media buys and graphic collateral creation, including a full media plan to promote the new clubhouse as a meeting and wedding venue, and numerous summer camp guide placements, plus trail running series advertising.
- Press releases and emails were sent out for the upcoming Krueger Family Shamrock Shuffle and a call for nominations to the VRD board.
- The VRD was featured numerous times in the Vail Daily recently including articles on the upcoming Board election and call for nominations, the Shamrock Shuffle, and a front page photo of the AcroYoga program, in addition to daily calendar items. The Nordic Center was mentioned in last week's Vail Daily Weekly in a feature on local Nordic and winter hiking options and Jessie continues her weekly chat on air at KZYR.
- The VRD posted a call for nominations for the upcoming Board election in the legal section of both the Vail Daily and the Eagle Valley Enterprise and has been running paid advertising promoting the call for nominations in the Vail Daily in addition to the article mentioned above. An email was also sent out as well as a Facebook post made promoting the self-nomination process.
- Jessie is working on a brand new VRD website and brand positioning, as well as assisting with the implementation of the new MaxGalaxy registration system.

DOBSON

No report given.

PARKS MAINTENANCE

- Nothing new at the parks department, in the winter mode, setting Nordic, snow shoe, and snow removal.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

Community Programming

- Traffic continues to be busy at Imagination Station. We see 5 to 10 families per day. Paint Your Own Pottery has been particularly busy with many days having 12 or more painters.
- Adult fitness continues as it has all season. We are getting consistently better yoga participation than we have ever had.
- We have series of Parents' Night Out programs through Imagination Station. From parent suggestion, we added a SuperBowl event on Sunday, 2/7. Reservations and attendance were light. We had another event Saturday 2/13 with 20 participants – this was a big success. Our next evening is Friday, March 4.
- Cocktails & Canvas: Chocolate Making took place on Saturday 2/12 with a capacity crowd of 20. Participants had a great time, took home some delicious treats and left us with a pretty good mess.

KidZone

- We will host five days of School's Out Camp over the February break. Thanks to Jerrica for a great schedule. We have strong reservations every day and are full with a wait list two of the days.
- The VRD is proud to coordinate with the Youth Foundation on their Power Hours at RSES. Chad and Dan Weiland worked hard to coordinate Nordic for the children

beginning in January. Chad and Christian Kloser got the kids out on snow the first week of January, and the program was a resounding success. Youth Foundation has approved an additional 7 weeks of Nordic with the RSES PwrHrs children. This program will continue through March and as far into April as snow will allow.

Other

- Chad, Jared, Joel, Julie and Jessie have agreed to move forward with Max Galaxy as a unified database and online registration portal for all VRD programming.
- We have begun to recruit and interview for summer positions. Fortunately, our Pre Kamp Director and Teacher are returning for 2016. These difficult-to-hire positions are already covered!
- We have begun to plan summer programming. We have some new and interesting ideas to produce more revenue in 2016.

Marketing/Photos (Tooting Our Own Horn)

- February Break School's Out Camp fliers went to the local schools and went home in many of the children's folders. Parents Night Out flier was on the back of these fliers.
- We posted Chocolate Making, Parents' Night Out and Superbowl Sunday Funday fliers in our facilities and at our programs.
- A Vail Daily writer and photographer came to Chocolate Making.
- PwrHrs Nordic photos were sent to marketing and to Youth Foundation. Youth Foundation spotlighted RSES Nordic PwrHrs in its February newsletter.

BUILDING MAITENANCE/ F&B

Vail Golf & Nordic Club House Construction

- Cart Barn Framing complete, under slab MEP underway. This is slow process due to the need to thaw the ground prior to install.
- Contractor coordinating with Holy Cross for Sewer / power conflict, recently "pot holed" and determined to be in direct conflict with proposed storm sewer. Holy Cross is working on solution to reroute power, project will start in early April.
- Parking grading plan under review based on challenges with existing elevation and impact to berm
- Design team addressing issues weekly as construction crews identify challenges with plan set.
- Landscaping plan under review for existing and proposed trees
- VRD staff now working with TOV and NV5 for restoration and enhancement budget development.

Vail Golf & Nordic Temporary Structure

- VRD maintaining walkway from parking lot to structures, checking daily for ice and other issues
- Provided G.C. with additional signage to alleviate guests entering construction zone, have had no issues since new signs installed.

Dobson

- Re-visiting and pricing plans for Dobson F&B renovations (VRD moving forward with install of hand sink to rectify code issues associated with F&B operations).

- F&B concessions supervisor to operate Dobson will be posted and we will begin interviewing candidates
- Planning preparation for 2 large events scheduled for Dobson, Burton and Operation Altitude

Youth Services Lions Head

- Small repairs at GP and punch lists at Lionhead including installation fire extinguishers and light repairs.

Tennis / Pickleball

- PEC to review Pickleball concept again on 02/22/16. TOV and VRD rec-subcommittee reviewed and discussed proposal. Added restroom to the plan.

GYMNASTICS

No report given.