

MERA NON-MOTORIZED ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTES
January 27, 2010

- Introductions
- Guest- Tim Collingwood, horseback rider
- There were no Public Comments
- Gene wanted to add to last meeting's Minutes that two tournaments could be held on the same weekend.
- New Business
 - Trail plans introduced by Bart, starting with bikes. Lance asked Bart for types of trails that he proposed. Bart handed out a map showing non-motorized trails. Lance asked Bart what the average rider on MERA is. Bart explained the average rider is a cross-country type rider.
 - Hikers- Bob Morgan requested that the archery range road be ADA accessible. Also would like access for horse & buggy on existing non-motorized roads.
 - Horses- Tim Collingwood thought the parking area needs work, but likes everything else. He sees no erosion on trails & has been riding MERA for 30 years. Would like to see no closures during wet season.
 - X-country skiing- Bart would like to see designated ski routes.
 - Scott W. asked about paintball on MERA. There was no information available.
 - Lance discussed the map showing existing & proposed horse & bike trails.
 - Bart described the importance of the BMX track & free ride area for local kids & felt it was a top priority for development.
 - Kurt explained that the TAC should monitor the use before building too much trail & structural developments to ensure that people will actually use it.
 - Ian suggested spreading the free ride area out across the property & was concerned about too much activity around the Owsley staging area.
 - Kurt handed out the USFS/MERA map and described the existing conditions on lands north of MERA.
 - Lance explained that logging needs to be a factor in planning.
 - Leonard thought the trails looked too busy for wildlife.
 - Bart explained that more trails bring in more people.

- Steve asked Ian what OPRD wants out of this park. Ian explained that what the County proposed in the proposal for acquisition was appropriate.
- Leonard thought that seasonal use would be appropriate mitigation.
- Kurt suggested monitoring recreational use will be important to determine how dense a trail system should be built.
- Bart will bring in handouts for next meeting discussing sustainability.
- Steve wants one map with all trails. Discussion regarding having a quality system and adding more if needed later.
- Steve suggested addressing winter use.
- The committee discussed addressing type of signs. Bart will bring in examples.
- Next Meeting- Thursday February 18th