Flathead CORE

Attendees: Kyle Gallaher, Lone Pine SP (kyle.gallaher@mt.gov ), Kathy Martin, Hockaday Museum, (education@hockadaymuseum.org) , Sheena Pate, Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council (sheena@crownofthecontinent.net ), Hailey Graf, Flathead Conservation District, (hailey@flatheadcd.org ), Casey Lewis, City of Kalispell, (clewis@kalispell.com ), Monica Elser, Flathead Lake Bio Station, (monica.elser@flbs.umt.edu ), Carolan Coughli, Montana Conservation Corps, (carolan@mtcorps.org ), Susan James, Libby Dam Visitor Center (Susan.J.James@usace.army.mil )

1. Trunk Workshop update – longer is better for presentations- 45 minutes – 1 hour; Susan offered that the [portable energy display](https://fwee.org/?s=energy+display) could be brought down from Libby. At this time, it seems that there is not enough space for that but Laura will check with Derrick at Lone Pine.

Update trunk list – Sheena and Teresa will work on that.

Advertising for 7 available spots – Hailey will get info. to the Beacon and Daily Interlake

Laura will send info with these meeting minutes and agenda link through mailchimp, list for folks to get the word out and fill the last 9 slots. Everyone attending needs to go to

[https://kalnet.io-solutions.com/pir/](https://kalnet.io-solutions.com/pir/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)   and register. If they are having problems doing that, they should call Cherie Stobie at the NW MT Ed. Co-op at 406-752-3302.

2. CORE brochure and display – updates. The list of resource providers needs to be updated for the display. Also, if anyone has updated brochures or handouts that they want to be set out when this display goes to events, get them to Teresa Wenum, teresa.wenum@usda.gov . The Flathead CORE brochure needs to be put on our website for people to download (Laura, Sheena, and Hailey will work on this). The Crown of the Continent Geotourism Council has maps for free if you contact sheena@crownofthecontinent.net . (There is also a digital version). Please let teachers know about them and distribute as you are able.

3. Group should apply for grant from Flathead Conservation District for supplies and equipment to help cover costs of Flathead CORE website. Laura will check on when next bill is due and get with Hailey/website committee to see if we can do this. FCD has grants for supplies and materials and there is no deadline to apply. Lone Pine needs funding help for snowshoes so that could be a source for them.

5. Events –

* FWTTS – summer was great (8 teachers) being able to hear from professionals; the teachers were great, even have a song writer! 2nd session is this weekend; winter is at Izaak Walton, Jan. 24-26. Spring one is at Lone Pine State park for one day. Need to start thinking/advertising dates for 2020-2021.
* Wildfest – MT Wilderness Assoc. organize this as an annual event that moves across the state. The marketing switched from Helena for event and the local chapter led and publicized the hikes. Afternoons were for resource providers and those sessions were not well attended. There were some lessons learned.
* Three workshops completed for the Native Plant Demo Garden. There has been fairly low attendance for the rain garden workshop. New website on the Kalispell city website, <https://kalispell.com/564/Rain-Gardens> . The upcoming weed workshop is coming up in early October and is full. It’s been a big hit! The new demonstration garden has an outdoor classroom area with a few tables. The area around that is planted with wildflowers that are for pollinators. The native trees area is to showcase silvicultural practices. They will add to garden next spring. Hope to have weekly ed. programs with schools and such and to do field trips.
* Birds of Prey Festival – it was a hit – over 800 people!
* FLBS – had home-made submarines on the lake! They let people go inside the 2-person one to see what it was like. They did sampling at different parts of the lake. For the open house, the subs were out of the water so folks could see them.
* Monica is working with a school and artist to do 3-d printing of mussels for use in education since it is illegal to possess real invasive mussels.

6. Round Robin

* MCC – National Public Lands Day – Sept. 28, 2019 –volunteer work day for public with raffle and barbecue. After lunch there will be an Atlatl course for those who volunteer in am.
	+ Spring started girls afterschool club, 6th grade girls, 1xweek for 9 weeks. They got to do an overnight in summer program – mini- youth expedition camping and working. It will be run again this fall for 6th-7th grade girls in Columbia Falls (education/service things and work with Audubon at Owen Sowerwine; help FCD with new garden). They meet for just 2 hours after school 1xweek for the 9 weeks. Looking for women presenters to talk to this group about what they do for their careers/jobs. If you are interested, let Carolan know. MCC works with counselors and teachers to identify girls who could benefit from this program. Lots of team building and community building. Girls Using Their Strenghts (GUTS – strong on inside and outside).
* STEAM alliance in Kalispell, was focused on girls but now is co-ed. They are re-formatting and had first Board meeting last week. They want to support student activities. They are involved with the FVCC event every spring for involving girls in science careers.
	+ Next Science on tap is about archeology in MT, Kelly Dixon. First Tuesday every month. 90 people showed up at last one.
* City of Kalispell Env. Specialist (Casey Lewis) – public outreach and participation. Build relationships and increase capacity. Started rain gardens this summer. Just want to know more about is going on in community. Working with Randy Hohf at Center for Sustainability and Entrepreneurship in Whitefish, on storm water curriculum.
* Rolling Rivers presentations became very popular this spring, so Casey helped with that. Hailey would like to get more help and maybe hiring an assistant.
* Fall field trip season at Lone Pine with 400 students registered and organizing volunteers. Also building winter curriculum. Wrapping up summer and debut of pollinator garden at park before Birds of Prey Festival. There was some discussion about doing a rain garden in association with that and getting it on the map. Kyle is wrapping up her term of service here in 1.5 months.
* Teacher WS at Libby Dam this spring had 21 participants. The Hungy Horse Dam folks were interested but couldn’t get there. They would like to do it again. Susan said the training discusses hydro power and renewable energy and hands-on activities.
* Crown of the Continent Geotoursim is part of an Oct. 10-11 Outdoor Rec. Summit, front country workshop – volunteers, wildlife, community interaction, NGOs, public land managers…the goal is to try to get more problem solving done. Sheena will get to head over to OR in October for presentation on sustainable tourism and being culturally responsible.
* Hockaday – Sept. 26 [– Hear the Whistle Blow –](http://www.hockadaymuseum.org/index.cfm?inc=page&page=749&page_content=Hear%2Dthe%2DWhistle%2DBlow%21%2DArt%2Dof%2Dthe%2DRailway) Art of the Railway, contemporary and historic exhibit. On Friday, Sept. 27 – Craig Thorpe will give a presentation/talk. Also Mary Edna Fraser’s “Gateway to Glacier” will be on exhibit starting Oct. 4, 2019. From her Sperry Chalet Artist in Residence in August 2015, it resulted in fourteen plein air oils on panel and numerous photographs created on location.
* There are once again, “Get Lost in MT” stickers available. Go to visitmt.com
* Amy Sweet, asweet@bigfork.k12.mt.us is teaching a new elective in the middle school, “Lifetime Health and Fitness.” She is envisioning the curriculum to include Aspects of Fitness (motivation, visualization to achieve health and fitness goals), Healthy Eating (diet, nutrition, cooking), Mental Well-Being (mindfulness), and Human & Health Behavior (good decisions based on core values to promote healthy and active living). Before I finalize anything I was hoping to see if you felt like your organization had any interest or availability to contribute to these topics. She is hoping to give the students as many experiences as possible and a variety. Specifically she was hoping for any donations/discounts on class or instructions on activities, equipment, volunteers who can speak on specific topics, or any other services that you think could contribute. This course will be happening three times throughout the school year, so ideally it would be great to have things that can happen more than once; however, the seasonal weather may change the specifics of some of the activities. If you have any interest in supporting through suggestions, discounts, or donations please contact Amy at email above.
* Patti Mason, has offered to donate her many resources from being an educator with Project WET, Learning Tree, Webfoot, Wonders of Wetlands, etc. She will be getting them to Teresa Wenum and Laura for distribution to anyone interested.