

# Minutes

## Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) Work Group Meeting

### June 29, 2011

1. A meeting of the REA Work Group was convened at the Red Rock Ranger District Visitor Center, in Sedona, Arizona at 8:30 a.m. Purpose of this meeting was to gather information from the Forest Service on their Red Rock Pass fee proposals and hear public comment. The overall meeting agenda is shown at enclosure 1 and the driving tour agenda is shown at enclosure 2.

2. Attendees:

a. RAC members: Glen Collins, Frances Werner (via phone for meeting only), Norman Perry, Maggie Sacher, and Steve Saway.

b. BLM personnel: Dorothea J. Boothe, Public Affairs Specialist, BLM Office of Communications.

c. Forest Service personnel:

Francisco Valenzuela, Regional Director of Recreation, Heritage & Wilderness, Southwestern Region

Kristin Bail, Deputy Forest Supervisor, Coconino National Forest

Charlotte Minor, Landscape Architect, Coconino National Forest

Heather Provencio, District Ranger, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

Scott Russell, Acting District Ranger, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

Jennifer Burns, Recreation Staff Officer, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

Connie Birkland, Public Affairs Officer, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

Sharon Wallace, Recreation Staff Officer, Tonto National Forest

Kevin Lehto, Assistant Recreation Staff Officer, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

Sarah Tomsy, Presidential Management Fellow, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

3. Action on agenda items:

a. The driving tour was very informative and productive. It enabled the work group to get a better on-the-ground understanding of the recreation fee sites and their geographic locations. See enclosure 3 for details on sites visited and personnel who participated.

b. The business meeting was also very informative and productive. There was a good turnout from the public and a diverse range of passionate views. See enclosure 4 for the meeting notes that include a list of personnel who participated and comments made by Forest Service personnel, members of the public, and members of the work group. A copy of the Forest Service power point presentation is at enclosure 5.

c. Next steps: the work group agreed to continue their discussions and will develop tentative recommendations for the RAC and Forest Service in preparation for the full RAC meeting scheduled for August 10, 2011.

4. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:30 p.m.

5. Minutes submitted by: Steve Saway, REA Work Group Chair

6. Date approved: July 25, 2011

Enclosure 1:

REA Work Group Field Trip and Meeting  
Coconino National Forest  
Red Rock Ranger District  
June 29, 2011

Agenda

Time	Action Item
8:30 a.m.	Meet at Red Rock Ranger District (RRRD) Office/ Introductions, purpose, and agenda overview
8:45 a.m.	Tour of fee sites and fee areas (Heather Provencio, District Ranger and Jennifer Burns, Recreation Staff Officer RRRD) (see enclosure – Jennifer to provide tour details)
11:30 a.m.	Pick up bag lunches/lunch stop at a tour site/ continue tour
1:40 p.m.	Arrive back at RRRD Office/break
2:00 p.m.	Convene REA Work Group business meeting/ Introductions, purpose, and agenda overview
2:10 p.m.	Red Rock Pass Fee Proposal Presentation (Heather Provencio and Jennifer Burns)
3:10 p.m.	REA Work Group questions and answers with RRRD Staff
3:30 p.m.	Public comment period
4:15 p.m.	Break
4:30 p.m.	REA Work Group discussion and tentative recommendations
5:00 p.m.	Recap and summarize next steps
5:15 p.m.	Other REA Work Group business as required
5:30 p.m.	Adjourn

## **Enclosure 2:**

### **RED ROCK RECREATION FEE AREA TOUR – RRAC Working Group - June 29, 2011**

Meet at Red Rock Ranger Station Administrative Building. Due to time constraints and amount of area to tour, this will be a driving tour with limited to no actual on-site time at each stop. FS and RRAC will travel in two FS vans. Interested public can follow in personal vehicles. We will order lunch sandwiches prior to leaving the Station. Lunches will be picked up and delivered to the group by FS.

8:45 a.m. Depart Ranger Station

- Tour sites along State Route 179 – Bell Rock Vista, Courthouse Vista, Little Horse Trailhead.
- Tour sites in Oak Creek Canyon – Halfway, Encinoso, Banjo Bill, Bootlegger and Midgley Bridge picnic areas.
- Tour sites in Sedona area Jordan Trailhead (likely lunch stop), Thunder Mountain Trailhead.
- Tours sites along Dry Creek Road – Dry Creek Trailhead (future site), Boynton, Fay, Bear/Doe, and Aerie trailheads.

1:40 p.m. Arrive back at RRRD Office/break

## Enclosure 3:

# Red Rock Pass Recreation Fee Program Proposals

## RAC Work Group Meeting, June 29, 2011

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### Driving Tour Participants

#### Work Group Members:

**Steve Saway**

**Glen Collins**

**Maggie Sacher**

**Norman Perry**

#### Agency Attendees:

**Dorothea J. Boothe**, Public Affairs Specialist, BLM Office of Communications

**Francisco Valenzuela**, Regional Director of Recreation, Heritage & Wilderness, Southwestern Region

**Kristin Bail**, Deputy Forest Supervisor, Coconino National Forest

**Charlotte Minor**, Landscape Architect, Coconino National Forest

**Heather Provencio**, District Ranger, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

**Scott Russell**, Acting District Ranger, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

**Jennifer Burns**, Recreation Staff Officer, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

**Sharon Wallace**, Recreation Staff Officer, Tonto National Forest

**Kevin Lehto**, Assistant Recreation Staff Officer, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

#### Members of the Public:

**Kitty Benzar**, Western Slope No Fee Coalition

**Cindy Wilmer**, Sedona resident

**James T. Smith**, Sedona resident

**Norris Peterson** – Sedona Westerners Hiking Club, Keep Sedona Beautiful

**Bill Kusner** – Friends of the Forest, Red Rock Scenic Road Committee

### Sites Visited

#### Sites Along State Route 179

Bell Rock Vista

Courthouse Vista

Little Horse Trailhead

Yavapai Vista

Cathedral Rock

#### Sites in Oak Creek Canyon

Huckaby  
Halfway  
Encinosa  
Banjo Bill  
Bootlegger  
Midgley Bridge

**Sedona Area**

Jim Thompson Trailhead (Jordan Road) (Lunch Stop)

**Sites Along Boynton Pass Road**

Aerie  
Doe  
Fay  
Boynton

## Enclosure 4:

# Red Rock Pass Recreation Fee Program Proposals RAC Work Group Meeting, June 29, 2011

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### Work Group Members:

**Steve Saway**

**Glen Collins**

**Maggie Sacher**

**Norman Perry**

**Frances Werner** (via phone)

### Agency Attendees:

**Dorothea J. Boothe**, Public Affairs Specialist, BLM Office of Communications

**Francisco Valenzuela**, Regional Director of Recreation, Heritage & Wilderness, Southwestern Region

**Kristin Bail**, Deputy Forest Supervisor, Coconino National Forest

**Charlotte Minor**, Landscape Architect, Coconino National Forest

**Heather Provencio**, District Ranger, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

**Scott Russell**, Acting District Ranger, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

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**Connie Birkland**, Public Affairs Officer, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

**Sharon Wallace**, Recreation Staff Officer, Tonto National Forest

**Kevin Lehto**, Assistant Recreation Staff Officer, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

**Sarah Tomsy**, Presidential Management Fellow, Red Rock Ranger District, Coconino National Forest

### Meeting Notes

Welcome by Steve Saway – introduced the RAC Work Group members. Emphasized it's a RAC Work Group meeting and gave some background and history on the Arizona Recreation RAC. The role of the RAC Work Group is to review and screen FS and BLM fee proposals and advise the full RAC. Discussed the purpose of today's meeting, the opportunity for public comment, and next steps in the work group and RAC process. Goal today is to listen to the FS proposals, get an on-the-ground understanding of the program and geographic locations of recreation sites, and hear the public's thoughts. Doing a lot of listening today; no time TODAY for making recommendations. Need time in the coming weeks to forge a consensus and what we'll take to the full RAC. The RAC performs an advisory role; the Forest Service will make the ultimate decision. Compliments go to the public for their interest and participation – this is an important part of the process.

Heather Provencio (Red Rock District Ranger) introduced video. Followed video with slide show presentation on Red Rock Fee Program, including background, where we are now (current program), and the two proposals for the fee program (Proposal A's area concept, Proposal B's stand-alone site concept).

### **Questions/Comments from RAC Work Group to FS:**

*Question:* (Frances) Number of visitors to Sedona – how do we track that?

*Answer:* (Jennifer and Charlotte) Visitor Center tracking, road counters, trailhead registers, outfitter and guide counts, etc. Forest as a whole: National Visitor Use Count every 5 years. Utilizes traffic counts, survey users, etc.

*Question:* (Frances) Is goal to use management protocol that tracks with NPS protocol? (i.e. do we want to control the visitors, where they visit, etc.?) Are the “high income” visitors, the ones we “want”? Is there an avoidance of lower-income or minority visitors, because there's a tendency to imply they have higher impact on land or provide less revenue. Are we accomplishing president's goal of minority visitation on public lands? Frances is concerned that she hasn't seen a lot of outreach to encourage low-income, Hispanic communities.

*Answer:* (Jennifer, Heather, and Francisco) Yes we direct visitors, for the purpose of managing levels of visitors to be spread out so we don't have so many people at specific sites that they get frustrated if they can't find parking, etc. As far as cost, we have 31 free sites, so not discouraging use of low-income by charging. We see lots of family groups. Also study of visitor demographics not conducted by us – was an independent study for City of Sedona. We are also concerned nation-wide (and particularly in AZ) about getting minorities in National Forests. We've found economic barriers are not fee-based, they are cost of gas, etc. Another barrier is lack of knowledge – want to do more outreach in multiple languages (like Spanish, for instance). Need to put out the welcome mat.

*Question:* (Maggie) When you say 30 garbage bins, are there recycle bins?

*Answer:* (Jennifer) Yes, each 30 is actually 60, because it's one trash, one recycle receptacle.

Maggie: Commented that we are underestimating geographic extent of economic benefit – also up to Flagstaff, as well as having a statewide benefit. It is important that this forest is managed for recreation use.

*Question:* (Norman) Regarding the sites that aren't going to be developed, what incentive is there for us to keep up management at those if not getting fees?

*Answer:* (Heather and Jennifer) We want to be consistent and manage according to Forest Plan. We also get appropriated dollars. We're also fortunate to have a lot of partners with good ideas, as well as tremendous amount of volunteers. It does take money to keep Volunteer base up. It's no different from other areas that we struggle to maintain, but we try to find a way to manage and

maintain. Struggle is that we're having a hard time accommodating other communities outside of the Verde Valley; Sedona has the highest demands.

## Public Comments:

1. James Bishop: Commenting that this area is the "dream land" (quoting Wallace Stegner). 550k acres are source of education. The area contributes to peoples' lives and partnerships are created thanks to the Forest Service presence. Unanimous support by the board of Sedona Recycles (we're being overwhelmed by trash here). As stewards dedicated to demonstrating responsible recycling, SRI recognizes benefit of pass program and request we renew it – funding is needed to protect this place. Also, a number of big-city refugees moving here, so population and visitor #s continue to grow.
2. Warren Woodward: If I had more time, I'd punch holes in the presentation. Want to address one thing: suggest RAC calculate percentage of support letters for pass program to number of visitors. Says problem is we aren't complying with federal law. First meeting FS had, we requested reading law out loud: US Code 6802 (FLREA). Read prohibitions from law (can't charge fee for any of the following: solely for parking, undesignated parking or picnicking; general access; dispersed areas with no investment; driving/walking/hiking/horseback-riding/boating through without using services; camping at sites w/ minimum services; use of overlooks or scenic vistas. Comments that the law represents his pass, which he pays for on tax day every year and if he gets a ticket he will take it to court.
3. Cindy Wilmer: Local Sedona permanent resident since 2003. Questions lawyers' read on the law, questions that either of our proposals are legal under REA. Current program created under Fee Demo Act (which REA repealed) but our program didn't. Now operating under system that says fees can be charged (unless there is an exception) – should be the exception to charge a fee, not the rule. Studies show low-income people avoid areas with fees (so we're keeping them from our public lands). I'm a single mom, love to take my daughter out to the land. Thinks there shouldn't be fees, there are other ways to manage. Believes there is a conflict of interest (e.g. Chamber of Commerce sells and profits from sale of pass). Also there are accounting investigations over the years that should be looked in to. Also, what about the cost that goes in to maintaining the fee machines (not counted as cost of administration). Not complying with 15 percent limit for administration. Offered copies of local paper (The Noise) with print articles about this that she has written; offered transparent list of sources about where she got her info. Hasn't seen preferred changes since fee program instituted. Prefers undeveloped areas, not just adding amenities in order to justify charging the fee.
4. Bill Kusner: Friends of the Forest Member, and other groups. Keeps track of hours FOF spends on forest: 30k hours per year goes in to helping FS do their job. Reminds that it was suggested in the past that the whole area become a National Park, which would then cost \$30/day to enter. Supports Proposal A.
5. Tammy Kelley: Here to stand up for what she believes in: public land makes our country special, and we can all access it regardless of how much money we have. Recalls early protest of residents AGAINST the fee in the early days. Believes it doesn't feel right to charge for public

lands. Believes residents care for land when they go out to hike. Feels that concessionaires aren't good way to manage (\$.50 goes to FS for every \$9 collected). Believes there are better ways to manage public lands than to charge for access. Believes it's short-sighted to default to fees. Encourages FS to follow the laws. Wants daughter to experience what she did, and sees it slipping away.

6. Tom Graham: Moved here in 2004. \$20 for an entire year is NOT an oppressive charge to anybody. As an individual, you pay a user fee for many things over and above yearly tax. FS budget has been shrinking every year for a number of years. If we had enough money locally to manage for the impact, would have never come up with this program. This is a highly visited area. It's not oppressive, FS suffering from budget cuts, volunteers are trying to help manage, and no one is forcing people to buy it. Support Proposal A. Urge FS to craft a legal solution to the problem, and in our support for A, we assume FS can craft legal document.
7. Norris Peterson: Member of KSB, FOF, and the Westerners (hiking group). All three orgs support the Red Rock Pass. Work the Visitor Center on Sunday mornings. I interact with visitors, and they fall in to a number of categories. Many of them come in and ask what should I do, where should I go? Don't ask, "how should I behave", but part of our interaction is to explain all of those things. For instance, cryptobiotic soil crusts take centuries to redevelop when trampled on. Don't hear public having issue with the \$5 pass (especially when compared to Grand Canyon cost). In fact, say even if they aren't sure they're going to hike, that it goes to a good cause. No money equals no service, so if we don't have income, the area will degrade. Lots of trash. Requests that whatever we do, keep it simple. Difficult to describe to the public where the pass/fee applies. Visitors don't want a complicated system, they want to come and enjoy the area. Example: pavement equals Pass; dirt equals no Pass.
8. Mike Ward: Member of Sedona City Council. 50% of land mass in city belongs to federal government, so we have a symbiotic relationship with the forest. City endorses the Pass (though not one specific proposal). As a former president of FOF, we see the impact of the visitors, and put our money where our mouth is. Also works in the visitor center, and have never had a visitor questioning paying for a pass. Guesses that most residents see the value of the pass. Some residents oppose the pass but that's their right. Also works with Search and Rescue; works closely with Jennifer Burns to sign areas, and has seen number of lost visitors go down as signage put up. A small fee cannot possibly degrade the experience for visitors that expect the service provided.
9. Kitty Benczar: I don't live in Sedona or Arizona. I live in Durango near the beautiful San Juan National Forest. However we're talking about federal land. Want to question the public opinion poll approach. Compliance with the law is determined by judges (not lawyers, not public opinion). Results of public opinion poll, we requested FOIA info on raw numbers. See strong correlation between how comment was collected and what the comment likely was. Face to face, likely to support. Email/letter closer to ½ support. Did my own breakdown – see email with my analysis. In my personal opinion, verbal comments are not credible. Gave an example that someone said they'd rather not pay until after chatting with FS employee, but now they understand it. Feels District Ranger sent people out to garner support, since most letters were coming in against. There is confusion over concessionaire fees as well (where RR Pass, America

the Beautiful, Golden Eagle passes aren't accepted). The public liked the Grand Annual Pass that is now discontinued. Neither Proposal A nor B addresses simplicity. Important to say that 95% of money doesn't actually stay here (doesn't account for money going to vendors or operators of the fee machines). Says much of the money goes to vendors, which is well over 15% required in law. Finally, said a couple paid \$5, which was worth a meal for them and didn't want to pay for hiking. We should all have free access to public lands.

10. Steve Sample: Live in Cave Creek, AZ. Frequent visitor to Sedona. I realize that the lack of management in past wasn't good, but doesn't mean I'm in favor of the pass. Think it's gone too far. I have to squeeze every penny. When I come to Sedona I feel oppressed, and wonder if I'm going to be busted without having a pass. Some groups don't come to Sedona based on that. Don't believe the survey is statistically/scientifically accurate, nor is it independent. Believe it was done to push the program. I just want to come here, park, hike, use a toilet... but I'll bring my own water and haul my own trash, but now I can't even go to the places I love without paying for them. Sees like the "best" areas have been cherry-picked. Maybe the business interests that are benefiting should make a bigger contribution toward management. Want to take advantage of the beauty without paying.
11. James T. Smith: Used to buy an annual pass but then became concerned about over-development of FS (like the wire baskets on trails). FS has campaign against "social trails". One of attributes of Wilderness is to provide opportunities for solitude. Concerned that designating more social trails will detract from that. Also concerned about adding amenities at places that should remain undeveloped and more natural. I think the money is being used to promote tourism. Tourism isn't bad, but that's not the same as protecting natural resources. Should be honest about that. City Council gives Chamber of Commerce \$600K for destination marketing. FS has aligned the red rock pass budget to staff these visitor centers, including a person at Chamber of Commerce. As a hiker, if I buy a pass, I feel I'm basically helping to promote tourism. Has adverse consequences (helicopters and bi-planes destroying peace and solitude). Don't want to contribute to disruption of peace and quiet. Believe some places make sense to charge, such as campgrounds in Oak Creek Canyon and cultural sites. Can't legally charge to park and hike across forest (referenced FLREA subsection D prohibitions).
12. Dorothy O'Brien: Wants to provide a different perspective about the land we all love so much. I'm a past president of the Regional Council. My husband has been here since 1987, retired federal employee, founding member of FOF, long time member of KSB, and has been a steward of the Forest. Let reason prevail: cannot presume to say that \$20/year is too much/too little. However, if you volunteer, there are several ways you can have reduced or no fee. We know that before there was a fee program, before there was such volunteer environment, I heard this area described as a lunarscape – in such poor shape that a lot of concern that we could lose the pristine forests. There's overwhelming support from the people who have the great privilege to live next to the forest and want to preserve it. We know your budgets are slashed. This is a way to deal with very unique area. High visitation requires extraordinary effort from people who can help take care of it. \$20/year is not exorbitant, just find a legal mechanism.
13. Phil Kincheloe: Owns plumbing business, liaison for Verde Valley Cyclists Coalition (VVCC), and forest user. Believes it's small thinking to assume that stewardship will come without money.

Millions of visitors need to be managed. VVCC supports the area concept (proposal A). We all need to participate to preserve our beautiful Red Rock legacy.

## Post-Public Comment

Steve says he's heard clearly that everyone loves the land. We've heard so much, we have a lot of homework to do and thinking to do. Asking Work Group members to make a comment about their initial viewpoints of what they've heard today.

**Glen:** Been an interesting day. Appreciate the day, the trip, and have a better understanding of issues and management problems. Don't know what committee or RAC will do. Both proposals involve the same sites. B proposal includes number of sites that appear to qualify with amenities. Same sites show up in A proposal, but with an area overlay. Visitor Center rep explained how helpful the area concept is for explaining the pass. Appears to me that Proposal A (with areas) are helpful to what you're trying to accomplish and for the most part contain the individual sites that have the amenities required by the act. Reviewing the public response, there doesn't seem to be that much concern over the amount being charged for the pass. Normally these RAC meetings are focused on the amount. Here, not the same. The opposition is focused on the principal of charging at all, and FS is focused on managing the lands. Done a good job of explaining how the area concept helps you do that. The people who oppose this feel pretty strongly about the principals, and you've got to be legal. You've said the FS attorneys have vetted these proposals; we need to know the FS is standing on firm legal ground. We expect modifications will be brought forward to these proposals to the full RAC. Seems that Oak Creek Canyon and RR Scenic road have more traffic concerns than on Boynton Pass. Maybe you should reconsider the Boynton Pass as an area. Thinking about the matter of principal: is there some way the opposing views could get together and make peace? What if you were to issue, at no charge, a "backcountry" permit to park and hike? That is, if the issue is having to pay, what if you had at no cost a permit to park and hike? You might not lose that much money... How would you enforce it? Seems like visitors are happy to pay. What other kinds of things could you do to come to an agreement on how to manage this magnificent resource? When you go to the RAC, make modifications, consider making agreements with opponents.

**Maggie:** I learned a lot today; very informative. This is a struggle, because Sedona may be looked at by our nation. We all take it very seriously. I want to share with the group that last night I was at a planning and zoning committee meeting for Coconino County, and asked their opinion. Most of them have lived in Flagstaff all their lives. It was unanimous: 100% of people in that room said you have to charge fees; and these are folks that are facing planning in their own communities. One person shared a personal story: said years before the pass program, he never would have let his daughter hike those trails alone. Now he buys a pass for each of their cars every year – believes this change is due to more law enforcement, more volunteers, more boots on the ground. I think the FS has tried to fit their needs in to the act. This will be an interesting time for this committee. Also, I'd like to get letters from specific entities – I gave that list to Heather. Also I learned today that there are free days, and that we should advertise them more or perhaps make more free days. (Seconded by Frances).

**Norman:** The preparation you sent out was great. We had someone talk today who has quoted a lot of figures, GAO investigation. Wants clarification on federal rules regarding accounting practices, and are you following them? Also requested clarification on concessionaires (\$9/car load). Am I correct that sites without facilities are going to be charging a day pass? Yes, a few exceptions – because there are a few sites in close proximity. In Proposal A, 32 free sites and 24 fee sites. In Proposal B, 40 free sites and 16 fee sites. In response to the idea of a free backcountry pass, then we'd have to "police" people to make sure they don't use the amenities (don't look at signs, sit at tables, use toilets, etc.)

**Frances:** FS interim implementation guidelines recommends business plans. (Jennifer says no detailed "business plan" because we didn't change the fee, but we DO have a business plan for the original fee program). Also gave a good "editing" advice about not following the term "day use" with night sky viewing. The term "day use" is confusing because people think they need to leave when it gets dark. Also want to know if we've sent out info to a broad group of people, i.e., Phoenix and Tucson metro areas and the Game and Fish Department. (Answer from Connie Birkland, the Public Affairs Officer on the district: yes, and we'll get you a list of who we outreached to.) Frances is concerned that we've only outreached locally, not to the metro areas. You have to contact an individual at these media outlets. (Connie responded that we do have close contacts in Northern Arizona, though we do outreach statewide.)

**Steve:** The outreach seemed to stay local at first, and maybe it's getting more attention now. Think we want to continue that and hear how public feels since it's a regional and national destination. One thing that troubles me is how you reconcile what the law says in Section D - how can we believe they're being honored by Proposals A and B? Maybe Glen's idea for a backcountry permit is a good idea. Seems like pass is intended to manage high-intensity use of urban interface. Seems like the backcountry hikers honor the leave-no-trace land ethic – maybe there's room for compromise there. IF area is impacted by sheer volume of people, then should we look at trail quotas like some of the other forests? That's another tool in the toolbox (like Inyo NF). Maybe that's a way to manage the impacts without the fee. Do feel like we need to see some better public support from all over the country (people used to going to other NFs). In my hiking club, we typically go to places that are really nice, have a lot of visitation, and they don't have a need for a fee. Sees that a lot of folks here visit multiple sites/trails so that's hard to track. Would like to see a proposal that has more compromise, maybe more acceptance or support from those who oppose the fee program. (Connie reminded the RAC group that if you do 16 hours of volunteer hours, you get an annual pass for free. Also Senior Pass is \$10 for a lifetime. A lot of revenue we generate from national annual passes, we keep 85% locally.) Steve remembers seeing in the law simplifying fees (no layering), so would recommend keeping the confusion down by bringing the concessionaire sites into the red rock pass program. Also doesn't see the area concept as strong in the Dry Creek Road/Boynton pass area. Seemed more like stand-alone sites.

As far as future fee sites: believe the law says we need a six month notice of new fee sites to inform public. It's implied with REA that any "new" site needs to have a six month notice for public participation/comment.

Maggie: Question about transit/trolley system: Currently we don't have a shuttle system that drops people off at trailheads, but it's potentially in the future. We're working on that.

Maggie: suggest more public information on the schedule of free days when the pass is not needed.

## **Next Steps/Conclusion**

Work Group has homework to do. Will get together, formulate our recommendations, get you feedback. RAC meeting scheduled for August 9-10 (but there may be a quorum issue). Regardless, we'll plan on an August meeting (and this group will get together before and come to consensus).

**Francisco:** I love the fact that we have a room full of concerned citizens, even though we don't always agree on the right thing to do. Appreciate the RAC's time and effort devoted to this. We have a range of pragmatism, idealism, and a mix of both. We all care about safe public access with minimum impact and obeying the law. We're all engaged in this dilemma, and the RAC is part of helping us with this. I don't believe there are any conspiracies and/or villains here, just diverse opinions. We await the RAC's advice.

Kristin and Heather thanked everyone for their time and input, and passion for this place. Gave us good input to consider as we move forward.