

Grants Committee

The Grants Committee develops the organization's grant fundraising programs and post-award implementation management. This committee is currently chaired by a Board Director and includes as many additional directors, paid staff and members of the public as needed to accomplish their stated goals.

It is the responsibility of the Chair to seek out new and recurring grants that SRRTF may qualify for and to recruit as many members as needed to accomplish handle the grants.

The Committee obtains grants from several sources.

We are finding more and more grants need to be for shovel-ready specific projects.

- **First would be Family and Private Foundations.** These are typically yearly, involve very little paperwork, and run in the amount of \$2-\$10K. They are typically for general use, but occasionally we can get special amounts for special projects, for example, Cathedral Trail Work Crew training. ACF is also an example of this which we have accessed several times for specific projects.
- **Second are Corporate Foundations.** These can be recurring or one-off. REI was recurring for several years, but is now on an annual basis. Kahtoola is an example of a one time but hoping to cultivate a relationship for more. These can be either for general or specific use.
- **Third are Quasi-Governmental grants.** National Forest Foundation is an example of this. They have several grant rounds a year, and you must typically finish one before applying for another. We have used several of these in the past, and are usually adept at navigating their application process. It is morphing at the moment to one of more community involvement. More often than not, they require a matching component of 25-50% that can be satisfied either with cash or volunteer hours.
- **Fourth are Governmental Grants.** These can be State, Local, or Federal. They normally require matching components of 25-50% and have onerous paperwork requirements for the applications. Some are reimbursable up-front, some are pay as you go. All have various degrees of periodic and close-out reporting. SRRTF has had the best luck with AZ state grants, which fall into three categories. From time to time City of Sedona has given small amounts, but due to them funding the FS through other means we normally lose out on the applications.

For all of them, the SRRTF Grants Committee acts as matchmaker or Hogwarts sorting hat. We look at available grant sources, ongoing or desired projects, and try to fit together scenarios for the applications that make sense and make for compelling funding requests.

Current activities of the Grants Committee are:

- Looking at a broader base of foundations
- Supporting Trail Assessment and Trail Census Studies
- Routine progress reporting and close-out of awarded grants
- Monitoring changes in grant application processes and award philosophies to retool our asks