

# Annual Meeting 06/13/20

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## Ascutney State Park-12 noon (12:20 start)

### Attendees

ATA Members and STAB members

Erik Schutz, Ben Bardwell, Matt Kantola (absent), Colin Egelton, Wendi Reuter-Lorenz(absent), Aaron Day, Stan Spencer, Jim Lyall, Steve Giroux (absent), Michael Bell, Jake Margeulis, Barbara Rhoad, Nancy Meyer, Rob Knight, Herb Ogden, John Collins, Vanessa Willson, Ken Hatch, Andrea Ambrose, Arthur Gates, Natalie Star

### STAB/ATA Updates and Status

1. Ascutney State Park
  - a. Status from Ethan Phelps- Eric explained how the state is representing the park during covid and the future with personnel changes. ATA will help in this management and we are going to review the agreement between us for future improvement. Rob Knight explained the VYCC process which is cancelled for this year.
  - b. Hiking Trails - Trail Tracker- Stan  
Jim explained status of Bicentennial Trail and our involvement and it's future movement.
  - c. Connector Trail- Jim updated everyone regarding it's opening status. We are 95% complete except two 36' bridges and reroutes that need approval. During covid, organizing on site meetings has been a challenge. Mike Bell is helping and Tom Knight will be donating his engineering assistance.
2. Website/Social Media
  - a. Ascutney Trails Website and social media presence- Hopefully the expanded site will be up sometime in July
  - b. VMBA- Erik explained the relationship with VMBA and all they do for us. He also explained how the membership works.
  - c. Barbara Rhode gave Stan the remaining 350 guidebooks that we can sell for fundraising. (Need to decide if we are going to offer it online too!)
3. Budget/Account Balance
  - a. Paid Trail Staff- Consists of Jim Lyall and Mike Bell. Plan on spending 54,000 on planned projects this year, and hope to bring in \$25,000. Covid obviously will disrupt some of this budget, but Barbara will help by infusing the old ATA funds (\$5000).
  - b. Trail Materials

## **ATA Board of Directors - Elections**

Nominations proposed, Second by Herb Ogden, Carried unanimously!

1. 2 year position - Erik
2. 1 year position- Stan
3. 2 year position- Ben
4. 1 year position- Matt
5. 2 year position-Aa
6. 1 year position- colin
7. 2 year position- Isaa
8. 1 year position- Rob Knight
9. 2 year position- Wendy

## **Officers Elections-**

Stan Proposed slate of officers- Aaron nominated, Isaac Second, BOD carried unanimously.

President- Erik Schutz  
Vice President- Ben Bardwell  
Secretary- Stan Spencer  
Treasurer- Matt Kantola

## **Open Discussion**

-Andrea // asked about the relationship between ATA, STAB, and AO. Erik explained the merge of ATA with STAB and the formation of a new and stronger ATA.

-Herb Ogdon thanked STAB for all our efforts

-Andrea asked about the annual picnic, but we clearly need to work around the virus and plan our traditional events carefully moving forward, but we unanimously agree to continue events as soon as possible.

Barbara Rhoad asked to have the dues structure explained and details were provided by Erik, Ben, and Mike Bell.

Herb Ogden asked Erik to explain the dues process of including/ reaching out to the Hiking side.

Erik explained the history of the connector trail and potential names. More to come as trails near completion.

## **Close Meeting**

Adjourned- 13:14 Thank You!!