

Board Meeting 09/07/20

Matt's Barn, West Windsor,VT 6pm

Attendees

Erik Schutz, Matt Kantola, Colin Eggelton, Wendi Reuter-Lorenz, Aaron Day, Stan Spencer, Ben Bardwell, Jim Lyall, Michael Bell **Absent:** Isaac Robison, Rob Knight, Felicity Knight

AGENDA

What we have accomplished so far this year:

1. We are now ATA used to be STAB
2. We have a paid trail crew
3. New Website!
4. Pinkbike is generating 800 hits a month
5. Effective social media campaign
6. Thursday Night Rides
7. Picnic tables
8. Trail names simplified
9. State Park relationship
 - a. Trail Section leaders communicate trail conditions effectively!
10. Weathersfield Town Forest - deadfall clear and CC presentation
11. Demo Bike Day
12. Flow Trail
13. Logo
14. Stickers
15. T-Shirts
16. Winter Trails days
17. Trail Days!
18. Connector
19. Budget 2020
20. COVID-19

Last Meeting Follow-up

1. Approve Meeting minutes from August 2020 member meeting. Colin proposed approval, Aaron second carried.
2. Join Catamount Trail Association & Upper Valley Trails Alliance
 - CTA- Stan talked with Greg Maino about the benefits of joining

CTA. First, they cover trail work year round (Hiking, Skiing, MTB) on all kinds of trails, where VMBA only covers summer MTB work. There is NO cost for establishing a chapter of CTA and NO chapter fee. Like VMBA, they do a chapter split, and the current dual season chapters have summer and winter memberships. (RASTA-summer V RASTA-winter; Grateful Treads V Grateful Shreds in Montgomery, VT).

- Erik suggested hikers and skiers join CTA for a split, and MTB goes to VMBA. We need to further discuss with CTAs Exec Dir to work out details.(Erik, Stan, Mike Bell)
 - UVTA- Erik suggested that we join and pay the \$250 fee for access to their trailfinder system and their youth trail crew programs.
3. Insurance Policies - Trail Liability - check coverages;
Erik keeps pressing VMBA for details on coverage, and we need to continue to discover what our coverage is and our “double coverage”. VMBA covers VT youth cycling-only. We need
4. Trail Videos/Social Media-
Erik has been looking at pinkbike links to other networks and has seen some really good videos that promote areas. Erik suggested that we get a link to our own youtube channel, and that we begin filling it with content. We must be sure to include hiking trails too. Erik suggested starting at trailheads and showing a route...building from there.

New Business

- Budget Check up- Our budget is somewhat on course, our memberships are very close to normal and we are over \$3000 in donations but not quite at our goal of \$6000, BUT considering Covid, we are doing very well. Event Fee collections are ZERO understandably and we are over \$300 in shwag.

Expenses for trail building labor is \$8,563, and we had budgeted \$22,876. Some Materials cost are embedded in labor, but there are expenses coming up for the connector bridges. Overall, we are doing well considering Covid and the loss of all the events. Matt has been asked to contact the bank and link the savings account to the checking account so we can verify both.

- A0 Picnic, this Sunday at 11am. Erik will respond that half of us will attend.
- Downhill Trail @Ascutney Trails

We had two walkabouts with the builders and reviewed ideas and asked for proposals. An act 250 permit will have to be generated . Discussion about which trail company to choose, and why.

- Sinuosity - Top of area is good for technical and enduro. Lower half is good for more flow trails. Cost estimate for design would be \$2000. Total build estimate; None provided.

- Powderhorn- Cost estimate for design is \$2500. Total build estimate; \$25,000 to \$40,000

Motion to design the trails for \$2500 or less Motion by Colin, second by Ben, Carried.

with POWDERHORN/Sinuosity per discussion, by show of hands vote- Powderhorn wins by all 7 board members present. Motion to verify by Matt, Second by Colin, carried.

- Grants- Erik would like to post a job description/request for grant writer.
- Stickers- Erik is almost out of small stickers and would like to reorder about \$500 more. Motion to allow spending, by Stan, Aaron Second, carried.

Committee Reports

- Trail Committee
 1. Weathersfield TF update
 2. Connector trail- waiting for stamped drawing of the bridges so we can proceed to build. Trail day on the bridge site this Saturday.

Lots of work on Southern Belle and Ridgeback.

Colin said Jake is concerned that a new neighbor has stated that they intend to ride on the singletrack trails. We may need to get involved as this issue develops.

- Winter Trail Committee
 1. Mowing Progress- Stan completed cloudspin/5th & Crosscut before a mechanical and will finish the rest this week. Motion to pay for Stan's damage, carried
 2. Old ox is clear to the top of the triple. Millers Mile (old triple line).
- Website/Brand Marketing Committee- Erik is working with Felicity and Mike to develop a marketing plan.
- Event Committee -
 1. SVTHS Race, OCT 14th 3:pm,
Good morning,

I spoke with the SB chair.....he is OK with proceeding provided standard Covid protocols are adhered to (social distance, masks etc.). He said it sounds like a great event and is very supportive. No need for drivers to be confined to their cars but they need to mind protocols as well. Since there are 70 participants there is no need for a town application so please use AO's "gathering application" - just send it back to me at your convenience.

Regards,

Glenn B. Seward
Executive Director
Ascutney Outdoors

“Course lap needs to include about 15minutes of climbing.” Stan would like to see the climb interrupted by a recovery then climb again... less direct up and direct down where possible.
Race Name? “MT Ascutney HS MTB Classic”,
Budget/Expenses? We need a porta-potty(matt) and an Ambulance(Ambulance/EMT).
Insurance? VMBA...(Stan/Erik/Ben).
Income? Percent of race series fee? No vendors of any sort.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Hire Accountant - 501c3 Non-Profit application

Erik is applying for a new EIN# so we can begin to receive funds from sources.

2. Matt is still interested in having a cookout at the top of Buck Dancer/Cloud Climber. 11 to 1pm with donations accepted on Saturday the 26th.

Adjourned 20:30

NEXT MEETING AGENDA

October 1, 2020