## Stowe Trails Partnership Board Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2019 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Location: SAA Conference Room



## **Board Attendees:**

Drew Clymer	Leslie Gauff	Lucy Nersesian
Mike Waldert	Andrew Volansky	Roger Murphy
Rob Connerty	Cyril Brunner	Evan Chismark
Erik Timmerman		

## **Quorum present?** Yes

## **Other Attendees:**

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Rachel Fussell	Executive Director, STP	

Item	Notes
RJ from VT Huts- Sterling Valley Hut	<ul> <li>Discussed plans for new sterling hut (higher up on upper gorge loop)</li> <li>STP to provide written support of the project</li> <li>Rachel will send out an update when dates for selectboard meeting have been confirmed, the hope is that we will have as many folks as possible show up</li> </ul>
Election of Rob Connerty to the board	<ul> <li>Motion put forth by Drew to elect Rob Connerty to the board.</li> <li>Seconded by Andrew</li> <li>All in Favor</li> </ul>
Approval of October and Strategic Meeting Minutes	<ul> <li>Motion put forth by Mike to approve the October board meeting and strategic planning meeting minutes</li> <li>Seconded by Drew</li> <li>All in Favor</li> </ul>
VMBA 2019 Membership Changes	<ul> <li>High level - membership costs are increasing \$5-\$10, cap is increasing to \$13,000</li> <li>Chapters will each vote on the changes at the next advisory committee meeting</li> <li>Motion put forth by Cyril to approve the membership changes put forth by VMBA</li> <li>Seconded by Evan</li> <li>All in Favor except for Drew</li> <li>Rachel will send out a notification on advisory committee meetings and when they occur. Evan mentioned that he would highly recommend attending</li> </ul>

VMBA Chapter Sponsorship Program	<ul> <li>High level - VMBA charges 10% or \$250 to provide sponsors with additional benefits (social media posts, access to newsletter)</li> <li>Concerns that VMBA may cannibalize existing STP corporate sponsors</li> <li>Need to ensure that STP corporate sponsorship benefits are both conveyed and valuable</li> <li>Rachel is meeting with Rosy (FOTW) and Dana (WATA) to discuss further</li> <li>This was sent out to chapters in a newsletter and may be out of STP's control however there exists an opportunity to work with VMBA to ensure that corporate sponsors do not bypass STP</li> </ul>
Trailer	<ul> <li>Cost to wrap around \$4,000 (\$2,000 for wrap and \$2,000) for design</li> <li>Some conversations around doing this cheaper ourselves</li> </ul>
Maps	<ul> <li>Choice between tear off maps or working with Wendy</li> <li>If we were to work with wendy we would need around 22 shops that would buy maps (seems unlikely)</li> <li>Motion put forth by Roger to explore tearoff maps</li> <li>Seconded by Mike</li> <li>All in Favor</li> <li>Lucy and Rachel to follow up with printing options</li> <li>Mike mentioned that there may be some solutions that involve shops printing the maps themselves which would mitigate the ~\$500 cost to print the maps</li> </ul>
Sponsorship of Dylan Conte	<ul> <li>Motion put forth by Roger to sponsor Dylan at the requested \$500 amount</li> <li>Seconded by Drew</li> <li>All in Favor</li> </ul>
Fat Biking	<ul> <li>Discussion around fat biking in Cady Hill</li> <li>Issue raised due to Ryan Thibault (MTBVT) putting out updates on facebook and email on whether or not trails are open/closed</li> <li>Current management plan clearly states no mountain biking in the winter.</li> <li>Danger is that discussing with the Act 250 may put us at risk for summer impacts</li> <li>Rachel mentioned that WATA is currently working on a pilot program with the state (Little River) but hopes to move fat biking to Perry Hill, where there is more need.</li> <li>Need to make sure to involve the SLT</li> <li>Tom Jackman will be attending the next board meeting where we will discuss further</li> </ul>
Work Plan Check In	<ul> <li>Rachel reviewed current status of January actions in work plan</li> <li>Trail Committee to meet shortly to discuss maintenance plan for upcoming year and discuss trails</li> <li>Legacy Trail Steward - in progress for trails that are at risk (landowner/state). Connector and The Wall were both mentioned</li> <li>Pumptrack - Continued discussions with Stowe Youth Cycling who may be pursuing themselves.</li> <li>Sponsorship Party - January 23rd from 6-8PM downstairs at the SAA</li> <li>Leslie to create google docs for things to bring</li> <li>Brief discussion of whether or not to give a trail sign to Deb at this meeting but something more low key is what she requested. However it was agreed</li> </ul>

	<ul> <li>that we should get a sign made</li> <li>Trail survey (google forms) to be sent out to BOD for review</li> <li>Lamoille Area Grant in progress for new signage</li> </ul>
Election of New President	<ul> <li>Motion put forth by Cyril to elect Roger as President of the Board</li> <li>Seconded by Evan (hard second)</li> <li>All in Favor</li> <li>Drew will stay on as a board member until the March Board Meeting (March board meeting will be his last)</li> </ul>
Election of New Treasurer	<ul> <li>Rachel has reached out to a couple of individuals for treasurer. Both seem like good candidates but would need to be a member of the board of directors first</li> <li>Evan mentioned that he believes given the organization's size that we should have a professional in this role</li> <li>Mike mentioned that he is interested in the position however given his current life situation he is unsure whether or not he can step up into that role. In addition he would like to see a separation between bookkeeper and treasurer he is not as familiar with those aspects.</li> <li>Rough vote ensued but board decided to push off discussion until next month</li> </ul>
Election of New Secretary	<ul> <li>Motion put forth by Drew to elect Cyril as Secretary of the Board</li> <li>Seconded by Roger (hard second)</li> <li>All in Favor</li> </ul>
Meeting adjourned	8:16 p.m.