

Stowe Trails Partnership Board Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2017 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Location: Waterbury Stowe Best Western Plus



Attendees:

Andrew Volansky	Frank Foti	Cyril Brunner
Mike Waldert	Deb Martin	Drew Clymer
Ty MacWalters	Roger Murphy	Erik Timmerman
Lucy Nersesian	Evan Chismark	
Guests:	Dave Crothers	

Item	Notes
Draft Committee Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board meeting 2.0: in light of VMBA discussion at tonight's meeting, holding a second board meeting on Thursday 3/22 at 6 pm to finalize committee structure (later rescheduled to 3/29 so as not to overlap with the WATA season kickoff party).
VT Web Marketing Corporate Sponsor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief discussion re VT Web Marketing in-kind sponsorship. Will revisit at conclusion of web design work.
TrailHUB vs. TrailForks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief discussion re TrailHUB vs. TrailForks: it was decided that STP will renew TrailHUB for one more season (~\$130) and slowly migrate over to TrailForks this year (i.e. 2018 is all in on TrailForks)
Stowe Nordic / MTB Youth Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andrew: Doiron's appear to be moving forward with a youth bike program to take the place of Paul McNeil's program. General consensus that if STP were to undertake a program like this there's likely little need for us to do so under the Stowe Nordic banner. <p><i>Action items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evan to follow up with Jason Doiron or any other involved parent to determine the extent of STP's ability to get involved, then follow up with George Jackman.

Cady Hill Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Update on Mark Foster's progress and loose description of plan moving forward: i.e. assign volunteer crews to initiate the cleanup when the snow melts. <p><i>Action items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Evan to establish a date for the next harvest tour, in conjunction with SLT, foresters, and logger Jed Lipsky</i>
STP Merch Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Board agreed to purchase 2500 STP badge stickers and send ~1000 to VMBA for inclusion in every membership packet.
FTW Bike Raffle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Progress to date discussed: over 800 tickets sold. ● Also discussed need to sell tickets all evening at the Spring Kickoff Party and have a bike on display. <p><i>Action items:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Evan to contact Jake Goss re his FTW bike for the kickoff party. Also contact Justin at Land Air re donating one of the remaining components.</i>
Velmont / Cotton Brook Kiosk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brief discussion of Velomont kiosk and proposed location at Cotton Brook.
STP Bylaws	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bylaw review to be undertaken by Executive Committee, followed by a full board review of the proposed changes.
Maps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussed the plan for 2017 maps: agreed that the best way in the interim is to print on 11x17, sell advertising, but do not sell the maps themselves. Just give away, keep the cost down, and spread far and wide.
Financials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No discussion
STP Internal VMBA / CHF discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussed what VMBA's role is in helping STP recover from the Cady Hill Forest disaster. ● General agreement that there's a need for STP to develop a solution that not only meets our needs but that can also be applied to other chapters in the case of a similar situation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deb: follow the Pete's Greens model (i.e. the Farm Fund for easy loans to help rebuild). ○ Frank: develop a disaster relief fund where 10% of the annual Trail Grant pool goes toward helping chapters recover from this type of event. ○ Dave Crothers: \$50k total for all chapters is relatively small, so any disaster relief funds should go above and beyond that and be kept separate from the grant pool.
STP / VMBA Joint Meeting / discussion re Cady Hill Forest disaster relief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● John Tedesco and Evan led by discussing the purpose of the meeting, EC provided some background on the storm and ensuing damage

- Evan emphasized the desire for STP to work with VMBA to come up with a solution that helps us fix Cady Hill but also establish a system that other chapters can tap into in the future.
 - Discussion of what amounts to a short term solution for STP, as well as a long term model / system for all other VMBA chapters.
 - Suggestions / ideas:
 - Several ideas revolving around lowering the cap, applying add-ons to the cap, etc.
 - Create a new “add on” / check box (at \$5 or \$10) to support disaster relief.
 - Mike Waldert: make it a box that you have to uncheck to not donate (i.e. the box is automatically checked to support the VMBA Disaster relief program at check out)
 - Tom Stuessy: STP should be asking VMBA for way more than \$12k.
 - Tom: take this concept / proposal to the Advisory Council and ask for a chunk of the Trail Grant in the short term. Ultimately they are the deciding body that will have to come up with the best solution both long and short term.
 - Tom: could also raise membership and apply that portion to the annual disaster relief fund.

Action items:

- *Tom and Evan to work together on a one or two page document describing what we're trying to accomplish and present to the advisory council.*