

Stowe Trails Partnership Board Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2019 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: SAA Conference Room



Board Attendees:

Andrew Volansky	Rob Connerty	
Cyril Brunner	Leslie Gauff	
Lucy Nersesian	Mike Waldert	

Quorum present? Yes (5/8)

Other Attendees:

Rachel Fussell	Executive Director, STP
Erik Timmerman	STP Trail Crew
John Duston	Trapp Family Lodge and WATA
Jeff Kauffman	Local mountain biker and volunteer

Item	Notes
Approve October Board Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mike moves to approve the October board meeting minutes</i> • <i>Andrew seconds</i> • <i>All approve</i>
Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking to get a laminator to make some signs • <i>Rob moves to approve the purchase of a laminator</i> • <i>Mike seconds</i> • <i>All approve</i>
Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachel asked what the process was for professional development • Mike mentioned that we do have funding in the budget • Cyril mentioned that if it is in the budget we do not need an additional vote (mentioning it to the board in a weekly update or board meeting would be nice though). Any spending outside of the budget would need board approval • Rachel to work with Erik on identifying some training for next year's budget
Leaf Blower 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All invoices have been received • Gross \$12,791 (\$6,734 after fees/paying vendors) 2018 was around \$8,200 • Board mentioned that it sure seems like a lot of work for not that much revenue • Most of the survey comments were great, rides were awesome (Lucy got mentioned twice), parking situation could be improved, caffeinated snacks made some kids go crazy, some folks were dropped on the party ride. • Board agreed that regardless of the bottom line number it was worth it as an event • Discussed getting someone on the board that could do events, or perhaps hiring someone. • Rachel to look into finding someone and look into other Stowe events (Stowe derby) Kelly (https://kcl8o2.com/about-us/) • Discussed blue cross blue shield grant for food for the event
Sponsorship Committee Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee met on Monday 11/11 • Discussed redoing the annual report (Lucy mentioned the pressure is on) • Rachel working on a giving Tuesday e-newsletter website

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● End of season appeal , in discussions with FOTW (go from giving tuesday to New Years), VMBA also doing an annual fund ● Met with Kristen Sharpless and talked to NOFA Vermont to see if they are using donor databases. Little Green Light is the software SLT uses ● We use a google docs currently ● Board is comfortable with exploring a tool like this ● Rachel to explore options and provide a proposal to the board before the next board meeting
Trails Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Erik has been unable to find trails this week ● Update sent out last week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cheddar was quite damaged around the Bobcat area. Dirt was still soft and fresh when rain poured across the trail. New trail sections were damaged the most ○ A couple of damaged spots on Shredder should be repaired (should just be rerouted). We will need to go back in spring. ○ Cheddar is done so Josh from Boulder to send an invoice shortly ○ Sam would like the trail to come out closer to Hardy Haul if possible ○ Cyril mentioned that we should definitely go out to RFP for any rework on Cheddar/Shredder ○ Mike mentioned that we should be careful with our internal trail resources and make sure they are focused on maintenance not on making sure our trail builders are ● AC partner meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See weekly update notes ● Sterling Connector <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Good progress on contacting landowners ● Strava Metro <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spoke with Brian (worked at Strava) ○ Existing software is being used for cities. Wouldn't work to get all of Vermont's trails. Works well for small geographic areas. ○ Discussed using TrailForks but unfortunately its a very small sample size (200 or so individual users at Cady versus the counter which sees ~30k at Cady)
E-Bike Stance from STP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Town of Stowe's Lawyer (Robert Fletcher) sent a letter to SLT stating that we would be liable to not allow e-bikes. Per 23 VSA Class 1 e-bikes are non-motorized and should be allowed anywhere a bicycle is. ● Rachel discussed a letter that was put in the Stowe Reporter with Elizabeth ● Cyril asked whether or not we need to take a stance? Why not just put forth the concerns (maintenance impacts etc.) ● Jeff mentioned that it would be good to not just show the concerns but all of the perspectives. ● Jeff mentioned that he had a discussion with Brian Huber (can't ride a regular bike due to leukemia). Will send contact info to Rachel as Brian seemed like a good candidate for the committee. ● Vermont adaptive was interested in working with us. Could be a great opportunity to learn and apply for specific adaptive grants. ● E-bike committee to work through the winter to put forth some pros/cons. Jeff to send Rachel emails.
2020 Trail Proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● See excel that lists out trail proposals and associated dollars ● Agreed that we should identify a total amount that we are comfortable with spending on trails and maintenance versus specific line items with dollar amounts. We can manage to a budget and keep the priorities listed as Rachel had described.
Meeting adjourned	8:06pm