

# Stowe Trails Partnership Board Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2020 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: SAA Meeting Room



## Board Attendees:

Roger Murphy	Jeff Kauffman	Andrew Volansky
Cyril Brunner	Leslie Gauff	Rob Connerty
Lucy Nersesian	Mike Waldert	Evan Chismark

**Quorum present?** Yes (9/9)

## Other Attendees:

Rachel Fussell	Executive Director, STP
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Item	Notes
Approve January and February Board Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Cyril moves to approve the January and February board meeting minutes</i></li> <li>• <i>Mike seconds</i></li> <li>• <i>All approve</i></li> </ul>
2020 Trail Personnel Hire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Job posting closes Friday 03/13</li> <li>• Interviews to occur next week, we have received 3 applications, expect a fourth</li> <li>• All candidates seem well qualified with unique skill sets</li> <li>• Rachel, Andrew, and Jeff volunteered to be a part of the interview process.</li> <li>• Interview group will provide a recommendation to the board who will vote on that</li> </ul>
Americorps Position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two options                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Eco-Americorps - \$7,500 for a full year full-time position, focus on environmental conservation</li> <li>○ VHCB - Americorps - \$9,100 for a full year full time position.</li> <li>○ Both are very competitive positions, generally master students etc.</li> <li>○ Act 250 - Vermont Trail System changes. BMP's still to be developed and could be influenced by this individual. Would be great to have someone doing some more research on BMP's/impacts of forestry on MTB</li> <li>○ Position would not start until September (FY21 budget primarily)</li> <li>○ Position is not contingent on quantity of trail people we hire.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Approve 2020 Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussed revenue, any concerns whether or not we expect that may drop due to COVID-19. Evan mentioned people appear to be less likely to fly and more driving which may be good news for people coming to Stowe</li> <li>• Lots of uncertainty, will this impact our corporate sponsorships?</li> <li>• Reviewed budget, went line by line to review income/expense</li> <li>• Discussed town of stowe/conservation committee funding. This funding will now go to STP to be utilized for our trail crew resources. In prior years this was a passthrough to our trail resources instead of going to STP.</li> <li>• Discussed community supporters/membership dues accounting changes</li> <li>• Discussed Leaf Blower event planner - Americorps position would hopefully do this, event planner we contacted would be too costly at \$5,000</li> <li>• Discussed merchandise, made some purchases in advance of kickoff party</li> <li>• Discussed trail crew "uniforms" for trail crew, committee, any trail leaders</li> <li>• Have budgeted for projects we know of with limited contingency, any other projects will need additional board approval, and most likely fundraising.</li> <li>• Discussed TrailHub, agreed that Trailforks makes more sense to focus on.</li> <li>• <i>Evan moves to stop using TrailHub/budgeting for it.</i></li> <li>• <i>Mike seconds</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>All approve, Rob/Mike abstained</i></li> <li>• Increased funding for website, plugins/updates, would be nice to have someone who is well versed to ensure things are up and running</li> <li>• Discussed workers comp. May have the opportunity to work with VMBA to get a discount but still need to hear back from VMBA</li> <li>• Discussed sponsored rider, what is STP getting for this sponsorship. Leslie mentioned that prior clinics that are open to the membership had a lot of value. Board agreed that “ride with pro” concept generates a lot of enthusiasm and would be a good thing to do.</li> <li>• Discussed trail crew position, board agreed 30 hours a week was already a lot of trailwork. Board agreed 2 crew @19\$/hr for 6 months</li> <li>• Great work all around on budget! Mike and Rachel deserve kudos.</li> <li>• <i>Cyril moves to approve the FY20 budget</i></li> <li>• <i>Lucy seconds</i></li> <li>• <i>All approve</i></li> </ul>
Trail Committee Description & Discussion for the BOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewed trail committee roles/responsibilities</li> <li>• Jeff says its abundantly sufficient</li> <li>• The biggest change would be that we would only have 3 board members on the trail committee, and there would be a committee chair/potentially co-chairs</li> <li>• Rachel suggested that we bring this committee structure to the trail committee to discuss further and then bring back to the board again.</li> <li>• Andrew suggested that we need more planning, more structure. Everyone agreed.</li> </ul>
Trail Routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group agreed that QR code at access points makes sense, route itself would just have arrow reminiscent to older logos</li> <li>• Evan mentioned that stickers may be challenging/may not last</li> </ul>
Trail Signage 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rachel working with Dave Couch Signs (~\$45 each)</li> <li>• Better signs for trail closures</li> <li>• Andrew mentioned that logos of some sort may be better than words</li> </ul>
Event Calendar Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussed trail volunteer of the year</li> <li>• Everyone show up at 3:30 for annual meeting at golden eagle</li> <li>• Discussed dinner afterwards. Leslie mentioned we should encourage people to go to corporate sponsorships.</li> <li>• MTB summit - March 22, 130-430, @ REI</li> <li>• Season kickoff party April 9th @ The Alchemist, two cans for a membership</li> <li>• Leslie mentioned that we should be prepared to sell corporate sponsorships at the kickoff party and annual meeting</li> <li>• Discussed B3, critical mass ride. June 26-28. Demos and race on June 27</li> <li>• Sunday June 28 group rides at Sushi Yoshi, Stowe Cider after party.</li> </ul>
<b>Meeting adjourned</b>	8:05pm