

Stowe Trails Partnership Board Meeting Minutes

November 10th, 2021 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Submitted: Leslie Gauff



Board Attendees:

Erik Timmerman	Lucy Nersesian	Jeff Kauffman
Andrew Volansky	Rob Connerty	Nikolas Coffrin
Leslie Gauff	Mike Waldert	

Quorum present? Yes (8/8)

Other Attendees:

Grady Vigneau	Trails Manager, STP
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Item	Notes
Approve October Board Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October Board Meeting Minutes • Lucy moved to approve the October board meeting minutes • Erik seconded • All in favor • Passed
Update on AmeriCorps hire Lauren Hwang-Finkelman, by Rob C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lauren was dissatisfied with her placement with STP, even prior to Rachel's resignation. Her last day w STP was October 29 • Dustin Bowman of ECO Americorps offered as a solution to Lauren's desire to focus more on native plants, for Lauren to split her time btw STP & SLT 30/70% respectively, but all ultimately agreed that would not be a positive outcome for any involved and not satisfy STP's needs (as Alex Reiber did otherwise previously) • Despite Dustin's recognition that Lauren did not want to pursue full time work with STP, he felt she would have been at a disadvantage as a result of Rachel having left, even though we made it abundantly clear that we had a plan in place even before Rachel's departure, to mentor, guide and onboard Lauren • Enrollment in the program was down from ECO candidates were 135 LY down to 30 TY; and were lower quality • STP will be reimbursed costs • STP board agreed to strive toward keeping relationship with ECO Americorps healthy despite this experience
Trails update; and welcome, Grady Vigneau, new Trail Manager position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike welcomed Grady in his new position as Trail Manager • Grady said he was happy to be in this new and expanded role • Grady will take an 'inventory' of the trails and conditions for future maintenance plan • Grady will get season transition signage up in Cady, i.e. Deer wintering, postholing • Grady will dive into what Alex was doing last year re: winter use/fat biking, "grooming", and other.
Trail Proposals report from: STP Trail Committee	<p>Mike: 2 RFPs went out to bid for improvements for Eagle's Ridge and Haulapalooza; quotes were obtained; trail committee met and voted on recommendation to the board to fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike not concerned to fund from a financial standpoint and said we have a cash reserve we had planned to use

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Received 3 proposals for Eagle's Ridge, all were in reasonable range of one another</i> ● <i>Erik recommended the board accept we accept proposal to fund the Eagle's Ridge proposal</i> ● <i>Jeff seconded</i> ● <i>All in favor</i> ● <i>Passed</i> <p><i>Andrew: 5 proposals for Haulapalooza. 2 were low, 3 were relatively close.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Tom Lepesqueur's wasn't the lowest, but was excellent, within range and committee was unanimous that Tom has the best reputation, even though he might be a little more expensive</i> ● <i>Nik moved to approve Tom Lepesqueur and accept his costs for work on Haulapalooza</i> ● <i>Jeff seconded</i> ● <i>All in favor</i> ● <i>Passed</i> <p><i>Grady, will contact all who provided proposals, and be sure to communicate that we remain interested in all of the trailbuilders for future projects</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>ERSA Grant update: We are still hoping to benefit from. Is in VMBA's hands</i> ● <i>STP did not receive a naming grant from VMBA</i>
Fundraising Update	<p><i>The Fundraising Committee is currently working on Sponsor and Community Supporter appeal. Pre-season appeal letters to go out as soon as possible</i></p>
JEDI committee update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>To reconvene after the new year</i>
Job posting, and applicants and interviews, and benefits package proposal	<p><i>Lucy moved to go into Executive session to discuss; Grady was removed from Zoom</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Andrew seconded</i> ● <i>All in favor</i> ● <i>Passed</i> <p><i>Executive Session ensued</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Lucy moved to go out of Executive session</i> ● <i>Andrew seconded</i> ● <i>All in favor</i> ● <i>Passed</i>
Meeting adjourned	8:00 pm