

## Stowe Trails Partnership Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 9, 2022, 6:00-8:00 PM

Location: Talta Lodge

Submitted: Leslie Gauff



### Board Attendees:

|                       |                 |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Leslie Gauff via Zoom | Rachel via Zoom | Andrew Volansky |
| Lucy Nersesian        | Mike Waldert    | Nik Coffrin     |
|                       |                 |                 |

Quorum present? Yes (6/9)

### Other Attendees:

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Carolyn Lawrence, ED | Jeff Barden |
| Taylor Wielage       |             |

| Item                                  | Notes   | To Do |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------|
| Approve October Board Meeting Minutes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <a href="#">October Minutes</a></li><li>- Motion from Lucy to approve, seconded by Andrew</li><li>- All were in favor</li></ul>   |       |
| Finance Update                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mike W.: Membership went down a bit, but Sponsors increased in '22. We budgeted to be at a 4k loss. Leaf Blower revenue (25% of \$11k which is roughly what we made last year), and looking for end-of-year giving to bring in a total of \$10k to cover our deficit</li></ul>  | -     |
| Trails                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Trail Crew Update<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Grady/Mark going to hang the 'no hunting signs' in Adams Camp in time for Nov 12 closure</li></ul></li><li>- WATA/RMT offered to lend their tools/ leafblowers if we need them</li><li>- Approve 2023 RFPs<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- For Cady Hill Refurbishment<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mike moved to send out the RFP for Cady Hill refurbishment; Lucy seconded; all approved</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>- Trapp LAAs update<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Close to getting Sam von Trapp signing the Landowner Agreements for Adams Camp.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 10-year Adams Camp agreement was approved by SLT, VHCB, ToS - just need to Sam to sign.</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul> | -     |

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|             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Carolyn working with Jesse Goldfine to draft language for the 5-year Trapp Family Lodge agreement</li> <li>- New SLT MOU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SLT drafted a new MOU for us to sign which is meant to cover all of the properties which we have trails on, and any in the future trails on SLT conserved properties. SLT wants this agreement to mirror FPR's structure, but we feel that is way too onerous. SLT used the 2016 template but expanded in much more detail, some details of which we have some concern and will continue to review and make any edits and then propose, as we see fit. Carolyn said it's important to have a detailed MOU for both of our organizations, moving forward but needs to be mutually agreeable. SLT holds 35 easements - wanted this MOU to apply to all of them so we don't need to amend the agreement all the time</li> <li>Carolyn has prepared a spreadsheet for the board to put in comments relative to their review of the draft MOU. Mike: SLT's efforts to try and mirror the state process is unrealistic i.e. when was the last trail built on state land i.e. little river?</li> <li>Rachel echoed that we should be very cognizant that FPR's process is way too cumbersome. Rachel further cautioned that it is a lot to ask a small non-profit to work on creating a process of standards, and we don't want to follow their strict standards.</li> <li>Mike felt that the prospect of us building trails on SLT lands is becoming more unrealistic, as it's too complicated/onerous a process. Future prospects should be focused on working with private landowners.</li> <li>Lucy: Since everything has exploded in town, it is likely that there are going to be more processes involved moving forward, some likely more stringent. We don't want to spend countless hours and thousands of dollars to meet the expectations of the agreements that SLT expects. We will review the MOU, make comments and work toward achieving a mutually agreed MOU</li> </ul> </li> <li>- SLT grad student proposal for Adams Camp for an ecological study and complete a trail inventory. Master Recreation Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mike thinks these have already been done, therefore we don't need to pay for the same. Rachel: Tom Jackman did not support a recreation master plan so we don't want to be spending money if the town isn't behind it. Mike suggested reaching out to John Atwood and Cyril to see about a trail inventory</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Tool trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No leads on who took it. VMBA insurance should cover. The deductible is \$1k. RC raised \$870 at their fundraiser for the trailer. The board is grateful for ENR's efforts!</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |  |
| Fundraising | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Golden Eagle</li> </ul>   |  |

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|               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New owners are on board to be supportive and collaborative with STP. They recognize the value of our org. and the trails contiguous to both the GE and Field Guide. They will be sending a check for the \$500 that the previous owners did not send us for their '22 sponsorship</li> <li>- Carolyn networked at the Green Mountain Showdown - Noah from Bicycle express would love to Sponsor either financially or give us a bike to raffle. Some board members cautioned about the time involved in raffling off a bike; better to accept the funds</li> <li>- Ranch Camp did a fundraiser for the trailer (see above)</li> <li>- ENR will be sending a check for Leaf Blower proceeds for \$3,300 (just about the same as last year)</li> <li>- Donor networking event. Carolyn working the Bartletts and Sam Gaines to create a high donor event</li> </ul> |  |
| Outreach      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Annual Meeting at the Bierhall, November 17th 6-8 pm</li> </ul>   |  |
| Miscellaneous | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Insurance coverage for STP. We will explore the savings we may realize by moving all of our insurance coverage under VMBA, but make sure we do not compromise our potential exposure/liabilities by doing so</li> <li>- Haulapalooza - Lucy updated that the signs that were recently put up indicating that Brook Rd. is a private road, and to use Haulapalooza up as well as down, vs going up the road and through the private property of Covered Bridge Condos, were stolen. This appeared in our most recent newsletter as well</li> </ul>   |  |
| Adjourn       | 7:42 p.m.  |  |