

Stowe Trails Partnership Board Meeting Minutes
 Wednesday, September 14, 2022, 6:00-8:00 PM
 Location: Field Guide
 Submitted: Leslie Gauff



Board Attendees:

Leslie Gauff via Zoom	Mike Waldert	Jeff Kauffman
Erik Timmerman	Nik Coffrin	Andrew Volansky
Rob Connerty		

Quorum present? Yes (7/9)

Other Attendees:

Carolyn Lawrence, ED	Evan Chismark for Leaf Blower download
Carla Quandel	

Item	Notes	To Do
Approve July Board Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - August Minutes - Motion from Nik to approve, Andrew seconded - All were in favor 	
Finance Update	Mike: Sponsorship was a key part of being close to our target, which made up for being down in membership but ended up about \$10k short of budget. If we can get the extra end-of-year donations, such as we received at the end of last year, we should be good. Rob will contact one of the donors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Begin planning Giving Tuesday and end-of-year giving campaigns
Trails	<p>Grady's update: Grady was not able to attend, but presented this overview ahead of time.</p> <p>S&A Part 2 update from CL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site visit stage 2 with all the stakeholders and Cyril and Grady. • We submitted the design plan info to SLT, addressing soil erosion, etc. • SLT expresses that AC should be more for nature and natural resources than play. All AC rec partners, including the town, were there and seemed aligned with a focus on saving natural resources to remain in compliance with the Adam Camp Rec Plan and conservation easement. 	

- STP was excluded from a second on-site walk with SLT Stewardship Committee with no reason given.

S&A Part 1 update:

- SLT feels that Serenity is out of compliance with the easement
- Easement was issued in 1995, and is very vague.
- SLT's new conservation manager is assuring that SLT is looking for a solution to bring the trail into compliance, but they are also concerned about any potential liability they may be at risk for.
- We continue to try to nail down the definition of 'structure'. The Town of Stowe has different definitions of structures.
- VMBA is making this a priority to help navigate this challenge, meet with us and SLT, and try to find a solution that's acceptable to all the stakeholders.

Fatbike committee:

- All in agreement to putting a Fatbike committee together. CL will pull one together with Ryan Thibault.

E-bike committee:

- Carla suggested an ebike committee.
- Evan asked where things stand with e-bikes.
- Town considers class 1 e-bikes motorized vehicles as of 2018. State recognized them as nonmotorized in 2021. Hoping the Sterling e-bike pilot study will bring clarity to Town and how they want to define them moving forward
- STP has no decision-making powers over this but continues to work with all the stakeholders to advance the presumed interest in helping to allow ebike riders to ride in Cady and Sterling.
- Carolyn has been reaching out to other chapters to get ebike data which has all been positive so far. Also reached out to the organizations in Quebec like Vallee Bras du Nord, and E47, as they both allow e-bikes in their networks.
- Erik: a EB committee could put together an ebike demo day, and suggests that SLT and others come to experience.
- Rob: Get Frank on this project
- Carolyn met with the Town Planner- Sarah McShane who says we need to go to CC and then we go from there to try and get all the stakeholders on board for any changes made to management plans and approved uses (e.g. motorized fat bike grooming and e-bike access)
- Board agreed to source volunteers who would be interested in getting involved in an e-bike capacity could help gather relevant data and studies for advocacy purposes

	<p>Skills Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CL met with Paul Percy re: skills park and will hopefully soon have a 10 yr landowner agreement with Paul • Next step: go to SLT for approval since they hold an easement on the privately-owned parcel • From there, go to the Town DRB, Selectboard, to acquire local permits. Act 250 permit amendment is also required. • Cabot is interested in funding the skills park once all permits are in place 	
Leaf Blower	<p>Evan: Things are coming together, and we will all continue to work together to get everything pulled together for another great Leaf Blower event! Evan said we still need to nail down parking, i.e. the Springer-Miller lot.</p>	
Fundraising	<p>Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We added a couple of new Community Supporters. No new Sponsors, but we had the most this year, than any other year! • Sponsor and Community Supporter appreciation event at the Bartlett meadow last week was minimally attended but was great and everyone had a good time. <p>Donor networking night:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carolyn has spoken with the Kelly Brush Foundation which suggested ideas for inviting high donor prospects to a social event and discuss what we are doing, and to get more donors and funding for STP. Perhaps do an event in January? • Common Format (from Nik and Jeff): cocktail hour, 5-10 minutes of why we're all here and here's why it's important, followed by a comment of please support if you can and to direct any questions you have to a board member 	
Outreach	<p>E-bike demo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-7 p.m. on Sept 22 at Sterling Forest lot • Aaron, Bosch rep, bringing 3 bikes, Ranch Camp bringing more • Aaron bringing sodas <p>IMBA donor event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMBA donors and staff are coming for a retreat next weekend - they need ride leaders for Sept 24/25. Let Carolyn know if you're available. <p>Annual Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STP Annual Meeting Nov. Thursday 17 - 6-8 at Trapps Bierhall. • Carolyn putting together presentation 	

Adjourn	7:40 p.m.	
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