

Stowe Trails Partnership August 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 16, 2023, 6:00-8:00 PM

Location: SAA Conference Room

Submitted: Ken Marin



Board Attendees:

Lucy Nersesian remote	Mike Waldert	Jeff Barden
Jeff Elbaum	Jeff Kauffman	Erik Timmerman
Andrew Volansky		

Quorum present? Yes (7/9)

Other Attendees:

Carolyn Lawrence, ED; Ken Marin; Bill Eby	
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Item	Notes
Approve July Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- July minutes- Motion from Mike W to approve; Lucy seconded- All were in favor
Welcome Jeff Elbaum!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Welcome Jeff to the board!
Board updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Nik Coffrin resigned from the board. Discussion around Board member public statements. Mike mentioned decision process for trail closures/opening with a focus not just on safety but sustainability.- Andrew mentioned that the trail text thread is a public forum that people willingly participate in, not necessarily representative of STP and our work.- Carolyn to create a board member code of conduct- Lucy highlighted that board members are officially representing STP when interacting with the public, so always remain respectful
Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- On track for budgeted revenue. \$181,460 of \$192,000 target. \$200 k of budgeted expenses, savings on budget with not having expense for community engagement coordinator. Made \$3000 at Velo Stowe.
Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Trail crew addressing wet spots. Mike Eric Grady, Niels, Jeff E, and Carolyn rode Cady Hill to discuss wet spots and what the trail crew has been doing to assess them / get on the same page with what the trail committee and board wants. Wettest summer we've had, wet spots and springs on the trails, with efforts to stay in front of issues.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jeff K mentioned strawberry hill as specific concern with some spots in bad shape (e.g. Robin's Run). Consider adding signage to the Robins Run reroute to encourage folks to use it, and fully decommissioning the old trail - Spring RFP – Carolyn will send out before Sept. Mostly excavator work around Cady Hill. - S&A – Walked trails with Carolyn for part 2. SLT shot down first iteration. For v2 of the amended design plan, we are going to suggest the B line for the King Kong roller will go to riders left instead of right to avoid the S3 natural community found there. Also can't build within 10 ft of sap lines, important to Percy. - Moving forward with building a skills area behind the Springer-Miller parking lot. Nick D (the new owner) is willing to sign a landowner access agreement if we end up needing an Act 250 permit amendment. Part of the area is in the flood plain –if we end up building in that zone, the Town will need to work with us to work with the State Flood Plain office. Still considering beginner skills area at Pinnacle as well. - Can we build a crosswalk from Springer-Miller to CHF parking lot? Would need to work with the State - consider reaching out to Rob who used to be on the Conservation Commission because he would know more. Could also loop this project in with the CHF parking lot expansion project. - Andrew – Pipeline to be more advanced jump line possibly, as third skills area progression. - Consider hiring the same trail builder to build all three of Trail 9, Baby Bears and Skidder for consistency. Integrate the trails to be diverse in skill levels. - \$1000 to remove graphics from the SunCommon trailer. Andrew may have a volunteer to resticker - Chris Jones from Factotum. Mike motioned to proceed with moving forward with Great Big Graphics if Chris doesn't want to do the removal, Jeff K seconded, all were in favor. - End of month timeline for Backslope to start working on Shredder. Should be done by end of season. - Brook Road – Leslie and Lucy met w 4 HOA representatives. Lucy relayed that they are happy with engagement from STP. Reported drop in trespassers since addition of the signage. Plan to wait until the end of the month and reach out to them again to see how things are going <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Andrew mentioned adding a trail closure sign at bottom of the road by the Rec Path so people don't ride up to find that Haulapalooza is closed.
Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not hosting Stokebury this year. WATA is in transition and didn't have capacity to help much. More of a COVID gap filling event, but board may drop it. Revisit for next year. - Leaf Blower – Registration went live on Monday. New for 2023, The Backyard will be posting a party the night before to help get folks registered. Need four people to do registration and a couple of parking assistants for the event on Saturday. Moving to week after Indig. People's Day. We were accepted into the Vermont Maple 100 for the event and will be listed on the VT Department of Tourism website - will hopefully increase registration numbers - Annual meeting – Last year at Trapps. Idea to explore doing a bike movie at Stowe Cinema and maybe food/beer from Skinny Pancake. Keep November date. Maybe Pinnacle sponsors the movie? - Land Trust connected Carolyn w Rubenstein UVM capstone project, recreation, environment for hosting a UVM student. Ideas to focus on removal of invasive species. Board was supportive of sponsoring.
Fundraising/ membership	Fundraising committee met in July – pamphlet in kiosks w QR codes.
Adjourn	7:38pm