

Stowe Trails Partnership July 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 12, 2023, 6:00-8:00 PM

Location: SAA Conference Room

Submitted: Leslie Gauff



Board Attendees:

Lucy Nersesian	Mike Waldert	Jeff Barden, virtual
Leslie Gauff	Jeff Kauffman	Erik Timmerman

Quorum present? Yes (6/9)

Other Attendees:

Carolyn Lawrence, ED; Grady Vigneau, TM; Ken Marin, Jeff Elbaum, Josh Salvo	
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Item	Notes	To Do
Rob	Shared remembrances, thoughts, emotions and other, in honor of our friend, Board colleague, mentor and loved one, Rob Connerty	
Approve June Board Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - June Minutes - Motion from Lucy to approve, seconded by Erik - All were in favor 	
Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hardy's parents in Cady's Falls were in need of help, so what can STP do to assist. Leslie reported she'd been out there in the afternoon. They had lots of helping hands. Leslie will follow up with Hardy to see if we can do anything more for them, but they seemed to be in pretty good shape, according to Hardy. - Leslie and Carolyn and anyone else will reach out to Sponsors who have potentially been hit by the storm to see if there is anything we can assist with. 	
Staff Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carolyn and Jeff K. met with Mike Hamberg to terminate his employment as Community Engagement Coordinator for a variety of reasons which have been documented since he started. 	
Finance Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mike W, Re balance sheet: "We continue to be in a good Cash position based on other profitable years" - Re P&L: "We've booked just shy of \$173,900 of normal Revenue (not including Tool Trailer)" 	-

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Re Budget: “\$192-193k of Revenue forecasted (not including Tool Trailer) - so moving in the right direction, but still need another \$19k to hit our Revenue Forecast - Jeff K.: What do we see now going forward re revenue? Mike: Push on increasing membership, end-of-year donations, and some receivables 	
Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trail updates <p>Grady: Lots of drain clearing after the rain. A specific project: Working on the area between the bottom of Flo and Snake bridge where the trail continues to widen. Town has offered us dirt they have to donate to fill in the blown-out area. Other: Cleared Emily’s Bridge; Pickles Path is good to go.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sterling Run proposal <p>Grady: Last week the Trail Committee voted to recommend Niels' proposal to rework the washed-out section of Sterling Run. It is where the Catamount Trail comes into Sterling Run if you come in from Dish Lane and head back towards Billings Road. Projected cost would be \$995 for one day of machine work which would ensure that the water crossings are working properly. Landowner Michael Nissenbaum has agreed to this work. Mike thinks it's worth spending the money. Jeff K. moved to move forward, Lucy seconded, all approved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brook Road <p>What are the solutions to satisfy the Covered Bridge Condo HOA's concerns about riders using the private Brook Rd. to park,, and rider trespassing issues of the CBR property to access Haulapalooza, vs riding back up Haulapalooza.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Erik suggested the need to provide a climbing trail that is better. Mike suggested that is a 3 yr solution and that we need something more immediate. More signs, getting our media partners to push messaging to riders, were discussed. Lucy and Carolyn will meet with the HOA to discuss solution options, including connecting with law enforcement to mitigate the use of the private road, and the trespassing issue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trailer <p>Mike: we have the money to buy the trailer from Sun Common</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We received quotes for the existing wrap, etc.: \$1k to remove; \$6k, \$7k to rewrap, \$4k for graphics, not a full wrap - Can't rewrap over the existing wrap <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mike: We need to check hardware and axles before going forward with the rebranding - Erik: Would be great to have it branded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - S&A design plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grady and Cyril are reworking the plan attempting to get it approved (amended design). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mike: might be worth reaching out to Knight Ide to see what changes he might be able to effect that SLT would approve. Grady agreed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pipeline skills area update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schedule meeting with HOA - Reach out to Paul Percy - Develop trail proposals for Skidder, Trail #9, Baby Bear

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The trail committee will meet at the site - Grady: Chris Jolly showed the corridor for a potential skills park. Niels had the idea to build a flo trail with a variety of features. Would also include a skills development area - for intermediate + and a place for people/kids to session. - Mike reminded that our insurance carrier requires all of our jumps to be rollable - Pinnacle Ski & Sports skills area update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grady feels there's enough space to work with for a skills track and pump track. We'd need to modify the plan we already have from Max - Lower Haulapalooza and Sterling Connector <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Still pursuing ideas for this - Stowe Village Inn connector trail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carolyn: We have approval from the town to build subject to not exceeding the amount of trail we have left to build as per permits for Cady Hill Forest. Grady calculated mileage: .28 mi. for "Village Inn Connector, so we'd have .5 mi. left to build "Skidder", and "No. 9" trails 	
Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Velo Stowe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - July 29. Talta and Hitchhiker have agreed to cover the volunteer operations as needed while STP attendees Rob's service at 3 p.m. - STP website <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carolyn reported the new website is up and running. Better functionality 	
Fundraising and membership	<p>Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leslie reported general membership is off 19+/-% YTD - CS membership #s off 42+/- % off of # of, but the revenue # is only off by about 11% YTD - An "auto pay" option for VMBA membership was discussed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fundraising committee will take this up at next meeting, and other ideas for increasing membership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schedule Fundraising Committee Meeting
Adjourn	8:09	