## **Ascutney Trails Association**

# June Board Meeting 6/9/21

#### 09 June 2021 / 7:00 PM / Zoom & Ascutney Outdoors Center

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8029529745?pwd=cUI4OHd0UFJoRTNSY3hUQ2hoM090dz09

## Attendees:

Erik Schutz, Matt Kantola, Colin Eggleton, Wendi Reuter-Lorenz, Aaron Day, Stan Spencer, Rob Knight, Ben Bardwell Absent: Isaac Robison

Member/guests: Jim Lyall, Michael Bell, Felicity Knight, Brittany Preston, Jessica Brodie, Emily Curtis-Murphy, John Costello, Meg Schultz, Adam Howard, Peter Varkonyi, Lauren

## **AGENDA**

## Last Meeting Follow-up

1. Approve Meeting Minutes from May 2021 BOD meeting

Motion to accept meeting minutes from May 2021- Aaron, Second-Colin, Carried

### **Committee updates**

- 1. Event Committee
  - a. Flow State Mtb Festival
    - i. Meet the crew John, Meg and Howie Last weekend in July 1500max festival. Splitting effort, Camping on sight, Lawsons to have a beer tent out front, 15 to 20 vendors. ATA needs to provide volunteers...lots of them! Festival begins Friday at 9am. NEMBA will be back next year, and this is our year to create a brand. Youth group may want to create a sort of mini fun race. Under 12 is free.
    - ii. Budget, Sponsorship, Volunteers, Schedule- Current Details -30 10x10 vendors have signed up-, \$2960 is budgeted for sanitation potties, \$500 for ice..., Lawsons is doing a trade for publicity/beer. Expense/Revenue sharing is 50%. Ben is concerned that we as a non-profit should be the primary benefactor and not split 50/50. Mountain Flier sales team is confident they will fill the necessary vendor slots. Colin, also expressed concern that this event "Can't" lose, because ATA financially cant afford to lose and people are adjusting their summer schedules to accommodate this event. June 16 is the final go/no-go decision date.
    - iii. Brownsville Butcher and Pantry- Peter and Lauren thanked Erik for inviting them, but they have concerns regarding how this event was organized with little support from local businesses such as theirs. Lawsons and BBP were "puzzled" as to how

this happened without including the local Lawsons retailer. They feel this is a great idea for a post Covid event, but they feel inappropriately left out. BBP is most concerned that in the future ATA will be a better partner with the local businesses. BBP could have done this for us with Lawsons, and saved us all the staffing issues. ATA(Erik) has hired an event coordinator that is handling the logistics of the beer issue.

- 2. Youth Group Committee- update. Rides every Friday but insurance is an issue and Erik has confirmed that VMBA is covering the kids. Glen (AO) is not comfortable with this yet.
  - a. Utilize VMBA insurance- Erik could not get insurance independently because of trail maintenance coverage. We still need coverage for hiking (multi-use). Also, background checks are necessary for youth leaders. A concern expressed was that they need some easier trails and some skills equipment that can be pulled out for the Youth rides. Consensus was that they could build and utilize their own equipment as they feel appropriate. Also discussion regarding, what the youth goals should be. Generally we all agreed that we want to support the effort.

Motion to approve \$250 for the expense regarding background checks for youth groups, Aaron. Second - Ben. Carried

#### 3. Trails Committee

- a. Norcross Trail
  - i. Signs 16 text signs, hiker image and bike/no bike signs- Aaron modelled his amazing text signs which should be ready this weekend. Brian Renfro has laminated paper signs to use until wood can go up.
  - ii. Bridges- All set and ready to go.
  - iii. Trail work- Trail work will be complete this Friday.
  - iv. Norcross Trail Opening Ribbon Cutting- State will create an approved press release. Preview ride this Sunday at 9am at AO center.
- b. Weathersfield Spur/State FP&R update-
  - Weathersfield TF- The Weathersfield Conservation Commission voted to approve phase one of our Trails development plan, and UVLT has confirmed in writing that we are good to go with the plan including the access trails and Highline trail to the top of the vertical access logging road. Stan has already begun clearing the corridors for the green trail's more complicated areas. Mike Bell is starting a full time job at Okemo and will not be available to build trail as expected this season. Some routing adjustments and re-flagging need to be done to prepare for volunteer raking and benching. Week day volunteers requested!!
  - TAMA- Included in the WXTF Phase one approvals is the recognition that the TAMA will launch onto southbound private property somewhere off of the vertical access logging road. Now we need a much delayed clarification from the State as to how they want to handle shared permission/easements with ATA moving forward.
- 4. Flow Trail Committee

- a. Act250-met with the WWindsor select board and they voted to submit the act 250 application for the flow trail. We also need a conditional use zoning permit (Deb Sherer) and the earliest this can be addressed is August 10th. Aaron offered that when the excavation is taking place, we could ask that emergency access points be improved. Once permitting is in place fundraising can begin.
- 5. Website/Social Media/Marketing-Tabled

Annual Membership Meeting- June 23, at 6pm at the Picnic Shelter (mile 2) Two spring newsletters mentioned this, and the website.

Adjourned 9:03