

Grateful Treads Spring Meeting
March 16, 2010
5:30 pm – Montgomery Side

Members Present: Chris Young, Meredith Young, Sue Wilson, Mat Long, Heather Steinhour, Don Ellis, Mary Ellis, Jay Adams, Jake Hartman, Carri Eno, Lenny Christopher

Minutes:

1. Elect Officers

Secretary: Mary Ellis

Treasurer: Sue Wilson

VMBA rep.: Chris Young/ Denny Lyster

President/Chair: Chris Young

Chris Young is new VMBA vice-chair for VT

2. Treasurer's Report

Balance: \$1,712.53

3. 5-Year Plan

Review Year 1

Chris went over the 1st year plan

Trails:

Where the Jay Peak flagging ends and before the xmas tree trails begin, there are 2 landowners. One of these landowners (Dave Sherman) is receptive to having a trail on his land. We are uncertain about the other landowner.

The Christmas Tree trails are public land and wide open for whatever trails we want.

Signs:

VMBA has discussed using statewide sign system – use blue/yellow colors with your own club logo. This is in the discussion phase still.

Lenny put a kiosk up in Lot B for people to sign in.

Some land that we ride is open for signage, some is not, depending on the landowner.

IMBA Standards for sustainable trails: We did have a 1-day session with Dave Bott and Eric Leonard working on the Oberland trail in Fall 2009

JPAA – Chris will try to attend annual meeting

Review Year 2 and make adjustments

4. Updates

Jay Peak (Dave)

Last year, Dave Bott and Hardy flagged some bike trails near/on the ridge from Jay Peak towards Jay (3 mile loop)

Dave's update: As it stands right now, Jay Peak is ready to do the project, but they have some permitting issues that need to be addressed. As soon as they know what they can do in regards to act 250, they will go and get the building under way. Jake Webster is the one in charge of permitting. There has been some marketing done in regards to these trails.

Where is Jay at in terms of downhill trails with lift access? They are not eager to allow lift access. What is currently happening will allow a lower-key way to re-introduce mountain biking.

Web site (Lenny)

Lenny has created a fan page on facebook for the Grateful Treads and also a Twitter page: Twittr/Gratefultreads

There are no website updates, but Lenny feels facebook will be easier for people to access and work with. Minutes and membership forms will be available on the website. Lenny will use facebook to refer people to the website.

With our website, email and FB page we've decided to use these forums for pictures/postings/event announcements/ and general news and forgo a formal newsletter.

Mary will continue to send emails as updates and to direct people to other forums.

VMBA (Denny & Chris)

- o Signage – VMBA is proposing blue/yellow signage statewide with club logos on their own trails. We'll wait and see what VMBA decides

- o Grants – Hoping for \$20,000 grant for bridge on Jay side. Last year we weren't successful, but there may be enough information this year to make it happen.

- o Exec Director Position – How is this paid? Patrick Kell was part time with VYCC and VMBA, but is now full-time with VMBA. Thus far, his salary is being paid in large part through grants. VMBA is doing what they can to secure funding for his position without asking more from clubs.

- Insurance – Do we need it? Are we liable if someone is injured? VMBA is researching what they would recommend. Some clubs are purchasing group liability insurance (\$500-\$1200/year). VMBA is researching state-wide insurance. IMBA does not cover individual clubs. Landowners are not liable, but could the club be liable?

5. Club Calendar: April-October

Texas Hold'em Tournament (March 20) – Posters will be put up to advertise. This is put on by the Lion's Club. This fundraiser brings \$400-\$500.

Changing of the Gears (April 3) – Group ride leaving First Trax at 10:00 to Jay Peak State Side followed by a potluck event. The potluck event/tailgate is judged by Jay Peak between 12:00 and 2:00. We'll put this out as a pure pot-luck event. Don proposed a bike – theme, with obstacles, trials stuff, etc. . . Jake will help create bike activities for tailgate. Mat has a couple tables and a couple of folding legs, so does Don, Jake and Carry may make a bike table.

We need grills: Chris has one, Jake will bring a grill, Gary will bring one.

We will do a membership drive and have t-shirts for sale at the event – same prices as previous years.

Sue Wilson will shuttle skis and be in charge of setting up the potluck area.

Mat will look through catalog and order new t-shirts to have available by then.

Mary will send out email re. COG and refer people to facebook fan page.

Club Meetings – Next one: Monday, April 12

Future meetings: 2nd Monday of every month, ride at 5:30, meet at 7:00– pizza orders will be made for those who indicate they will attend and would like to pitch in \$;,byob

Trails Mat Long is building trails at his house in the Giboux, as is does Doug Kopacz– they are linking them and hopefully will be linkable to the VASA trails (not sure about status of those trails). If we reopen Godfrey trails, they could link to those– **Don** will talk to Keith Godfrey about this

Membership – annual dues will remain \$25 per person, \$40 per family

VMBA events

VMBA movie night in May (15?) – we'll post on website

Next VMBA meeting – Last weekend in April, probably Rutland area

Next meeting on April 12 at 7:00:

Agenda:

Club calendar – parades, group rides, trail maintenance days

Landowner permission

Trail development