

SUNRISE TRAIL COALITION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
June 14, 2016 @NOON
Pat's Pizza
Ellsworth, ME

AGENDA:

1. **Introduction** of Directors and Quorum determination; Welcome Members and other attendees; distribution of Meeting sign-in sheet.

Members Present: Steve Rees, Charlie Robinson, Ray Archer, Charlie Corliss, Ian Staub, Andy Gallant, Gerry Nasberg, Polly Ceckler, Carol Cuddy, Bill Ceckler, Jen Boothroyd, Charlie Harrington

Others Present: Sandy Phippen, Mary Ropp, Gary Allen, Crystal Hitchings (taking minutes)

2. **Approval of Minutes** of May 10, 2016 Board of Directors' Regular Meeting - Minutes accepted as amended. #4, #7

3. **Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer, Ian Staub/Carol Cuddy - Treasurer's report accepted as presented.

Sunrise Trail Coalition Treasurers Report as of 6/14/16)

BHBT Bank Balance as of 5/31/16: \$19,877.27

Dues: 45.00

Total: \$19,922.27

Bills to be Paid:

Frost Septic: \$60.00

Inc. Filing Fee: (includes late fee) * 60.00

Total: \$120.00

Summary of Balances:

Grant Fund Carry Over: \$5,643.27

BSB Grant: 1,000.00

General Fund: \$13,279.00

*Reimbursement to Ian J. Staub

4. **Trail Mgr's Report** - Charlie Corliss

Construction has begun! Rain has caused some mud problems. Early next week will start putting gravel back in place. Will start a second crew on the Washington Junction end. Rails went to RR company, ties were disposed of. Facebook posts are attracting new likes and followers. Some negative comments are coming in, too, but Charlie H. is responding to them, and this provides an opportunity to give more information about the trail and the project.

Scott Ramsey's mother passed away on Memorial Day. The group will send him a card. He is retiring at the end of July, and is on vacation at this time. No idea who will replace him. Supervisor of the Off Road Vehicle position can't be advertised until it is vacant, and also until it is approved to be re-hired.

RF Jordan will begin grading any time. Will begin in Hancock and run 45 miles to Jonesboro Station Road. Should be finished prior to the All Night Relay Race. A request came in for use of the trail around mile 22 to haul timber from a land-locked site, with a 4-5 week window. No weekend operation, and must be in daylight

only. Some concern over messing up the freshly graded road, but there may not be a big issue.

The family of the individual who suffered a fatality on the trail has requested a memorial to be placed on the trail, in Jonesboro. Polly asked for the site to be kept maintained. Not everyone wants to be reminded of this. It is a good reminder for people to slow down to be safe. Could suggest an alternative, such as something non-religious. May be a good time to set a design standard.

Trail and parking signage is in the works, but Pat Adams is very busy.

Had a question about whether there are any parts of the trail in good enough condition to ride a road bike. It was generally felt that the tires on a road bike were too skinny for this trail.

Had more repairs to do where stone box culverts are starting to fail – they are losing gravel. Most repairs are done, no issues with last rainstorm. No new material will be put down in area by Schoodic Bog due to a need to conserve material for other projects. Bridges are becoming difficult/dangerous to bicyclists, Charlie H. suggested putting a warning sign up.

Jeff () has some rental cabins within a couple of miles of the trail near Great Pond, and they want permission to use the trail to advertise the cabins. He wants to build a few more camps, and brought some photos of existing ones. Steve R. went over policy statements: treating all businesses fairly. As a member, you can link onto the DSTC website and also add your logo. DSTC wants to encourage businesses to advertise lodging in general, as there is a dearth. There are limited ways to advertise along the trail; currently State signage indicates general services but not individual businesses. The site is directly connected to the trail, so the property owners can put a sign on their own land facing the trail. They would like to make this a destination site for trail vacations.

Charlie passed around a new brochure display case. He displays the newsletter, trail map, and state ATV map. Suggests having a membership application on the newsletter. Suggested having a donation box, such as they have at state parks.

Replaced most of Stop and Stop Ahead signs, which were badly faded.

Expenditure for plywood and lamination was authorized at the last meeting. Some materials have been purchased.

5. All Night Race Relay Planning: July 22 Ellsworth Start & July 23 Eastport Finish @Seaview Campground: Gary and Mary (Crow Athletics)

Gary and Mary from Crow Athletics gave summary of event. DST relay. 3rd year. Takes place on the 22nd and 23rd of July. The race is 102.7 miles, run in 16 legs. It is a team relay, and 26 teams are registered (up 3 from last year!), with many of them being return teams. The run is meant to showcase places off the beaten track, to help benefit communities in the regions. Riders are encouraged to patronize local businesses. Safety is very important - proper safety gear must be in use from sunup to sunset, with mandatory safety gear checks. There will be a half-moon that night, so it will be very dark. Headlamps and back-up headlamps are recommended. Start-up times are staggered, beginning around 5PM, arriving in Eastport around 1PM the next day. Computer analytics help the organization set the start times. A runner with Parkinson's will compete. Medal this year is designed to help celebrate railroad heritage of DSTrail. Social media is being used to highlight and provide information about the race through photography

Volunteer help from the DSTC will be greatly appreciated. Direct needs from the DSTC are ATV-rider volunteers to help monitor the trail during the event. All DST folks are welcome to get tickets to the lobster bake/chicken barbecue at the finish line in Eastport. Eastport is embracing the event.

Over 1,000 runners are signed up for the Millinocket race!. Need DSTC help to monitor safety. Runners are

encouraged to keep moving forward if they have issues – going backward is not a good idea. Safety issues are addressed with the group at the beginning of the event. Hoping to move more of staging to trailhead rather than at Cadillac Mountain Sports. Working with Cadillac to have their presence at the event. DSTC could sell products there. The DSTC can help with base set-up at trailhead. More info is available at CrowAthletics.com, on Sunrise Trail Relay page. Hancock Emergency Management Agency helps disseminate information to County/State folks. Want to grow size of event slowly to manage it properly, maybe 2-4 new teams a year, will eventually meet an appropriate limit, could be as many as 50 teams.

There will be toilets in Cherryfield, just outside Cherryfield, and in Machias, East Machias, and Dennysville. Steve Reese and Linda meet runners at the finish line (Seaview Campground), and so many express positive feelings about the event. It is rewarding to see an event that energizes people and showcases the beauty of the region. DSTC strongly supports the event and looks forward to assisting.

Crow Athletics thinks highly of Dennysville ATV club, and had a wonderful run there recently.

6. Committee Reports:

A. Ellsworth Extension Committee Report: Mobility Study by College of Atlantic Presentation Public Meeting May 31: Vice-Pres. Bill Ceckler and Treasurer Ian Staub

Students looked at a variety of connection solutions, recommended Beals to Main, Union, Bay View and then down to trail. Divided their excellent visual presentation into connections, getting through Ellsworth, and signage. Many folks from Beals Avenue were present to discuss some concerns with traffic. There was a discussion of closing Beals to thru-traffic, which was positively received. Discussion about biking around Ellsworth included a potential bike lane on the Route 3 hill out of Ellsworth; extending sidewalk near Cadillac Mountain Sports; making the vacant lot near Cadillac into a transportation hub; and many other good suggestions. Michelle took possession of a copy of the report; a number of City Councilors participated in the study.

D. Ellsworth City Planner Gagnon and Police Chief Bickmore May 26 Meeting Report:

Pres. Rees and Vice-Pres. Ceckler, and Charlie C. had a discussion with the Police Chief Bickmore and Michelle Gagnon (City Planner) on May 26th at City Hall to look at possible routes to get ATV's into and around Ellsworth. Businesses seem to want the ATV's. Charlie has a positive feeling about getting the permission. Bill suggested contributing some money to put gravel on the trail. Other opportunities for a turn-around and gravel on this segment of the trail are being discussed.

E. OTHER New Business: Charlie H. told about a trip he recently took where the trail was very muddy.

7. Old Business

A. East Coast Greenway Alliance 25th Anniversary Way Tour: July31-August 2, 2016: Pres. Rees

July 31 Calais: Welcome Dinner – Steve would like to have July meeting in Calais on the 19th to work with John Marchese to plan dinner and breakfast, and to invite some Calais area people to the meeting to further discussion about trail extension from Ayers Junction. Met with Moosehorn manager 1 year ago to talk about ATV's in refuge; each refuge manager has freedoms about what they will permit, there is now a new manager.

The tour will be set up so that some riders can go onto the DSTC for a section of the ride, the ECG group is looking for some DSTC riders to accompany them.

August 1 Machias: Welcome Dinner at Skywalkers; Breakfast at Helen's.

August 2 Ellsworth: Welcome Dinner - at Comfort Inn?

B. Bike Maine 2016 Downeast Tour: September 10-17, 2016: Crystal Hitchings
Machias: September 12
Milbridge: September 16

May be a good time to have a booth present to promote the trail to riders for future use.

C. OTHER Old Business: Ray – seeking better copy of the picture of Mrs. Roosevelt at Ayer’s Junction.

8. New Business

A. Discussion ATV Raffle: Andy Gallant

Eight places have been secured to sell raffle tickets in Ellsworth area, as well as a business in New Hampshire. Every business owner suggested \$10 per ticket, as more may be sold that way. Have to make a decision today. Have to sell 600 tickets to break even. Brand new 4x4 automatic Polaris from Friend and Friend. The cost today is \$4995. A \$500 deposit would have to be put down within the month to reserve the price. Andy thinks he has a blue model. During the summer, DSTC will sell tickets at events, ATV can be trailered and brought to events for viewing. Could be set up at Washington Junction trailhead. First week of October is the drawing, don’t have to be present to win, only 1,000 tickets will be sold. Andy can have tickets, posters, and fliers ready within a few days. Will also have a 50/50 raffle at the drawing. Motion to purchase ATV for the \$4995. Seconded, and unanimously voted upon. Ian wrote a check for the \$500 deposit today.

Andy’s reason for choosing the first week of October for the ATV raffle is because Destination Polaris is coming to the area to film a show about the area, and is willing to cover the raffle while they are here for several days riding and filming. Andy is trying to get Miss Maine to the event. The 9th is a likely date.

Ian wonders if Board members and family members should be prohibited from the raffle. Discussion ensued about who should do the drawing, no decision made.

B. Selection of new Vendor for ordering new Trail Logo apparel: Trail Mgr. Corliss

No new information on hats and shirts. Andy will take the design to DS Emerson for a quote next week. There are many styles of shirts to choose from. Steve wants to be assured the product is as good or better than the existing one.

C. ATV Maine Banquet @ Dennysville, August 20: Ray Archer

Several DST Board members will attend, raffle tickets will be sold for the ATV.

9. Schedule Date, Time & Location Future Monthly Board Meetings

A. Calais @ Calais Motor Inn, noon July 19

10. Adjournment