

Topsham TrailRiders October Meeting



Date: Monday, October 30, 2023

Location: Exhibition Hall on the Topsham Fairgrounds, ME 04086

Executive Board Present: Jenny Little

Devin Favreau

Tim Moody

Dee Blanchette

Charlie Parkinson

Board of Directors Present: Richard Arsenault

Ron Dumont

Randy Bickford

Mike Little

Rocky League

Board of Directors absent: Matt Nixon

Tara Crossman

Dan Parlin

Brad Hoskins

Meeting Called to Order at: 6:30 PM

Meeting Adjourned at 7:39 PM

Approximately 28 people attended the meeting and signed the attendance sheet.

Election Committee

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Welcome to our TTR's 2023 annual meeting! It is during this meeting we will be conducting the elections for club officers and board positions. All of the positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer as well as the 5 Board Positions) received nominations during our last meeting. Before the elections are completed I'd like to take a moment to remind everyone who the nominations are for each position, perhaps you could raise your hand when it is read. I believe that there

Executive Board

President: Jenny Little **Vice President:** Devin Favreau / Tim Williams **Secretary:** Jessica Emmert
Treasurer: Tim Moody

Board of Directors – 5 Positions

Michael Little / Randy Bickford / Richard Arsenault / Ron Dumont / Bob Strout / Noah Herrick / Don Curtis / Dee Blanchette / Stephanie Burnham

Since there are positions with multiple nominees Noah and Dale created a ballot. In an effort to allow them enough time to count them the elections were completed at the very beginning of the meeting and the results were shared later during the meeting.

Noah and Dale explained to the group how to complete the ballots. Thank you to Noah and Dale for facilitating this on behalf of the club.

Secretary Report:

Jenny Little emailed a copy of the September minutes to all club members. No one in attendance requested for any edits to the minutes that were remitted.

- Motion was made by Tim Williams to approve the Secretary's report.
- Motion Accepted by Devin Favreau
- Was passed with no opposition.

President's Remarks

During the meeting Jenny Little provided updates on the following:

Appreciation Lunch for Topsham PD and FD

During the recent events in Lewiston and Lisbon the board chatted with a few town officials about the involvement of both Topsham PD and FD. Both the Topsham Police and Fire departments along with many many agencies offered support in some capacity so we voted to facilitate an appreciation lunch for both the Topsham PD and FD. The board approved spending up to \$200 towards this meal. On behalf of the board, I'll be working with Matt Nixon on getting this scheduled and delivered to them. We are scheduled for November 17th.

NOTE: During the meeting a few members offered to make a few sweet treats for the Appreciation Lunch. An email will be remitted pertaining to this shortly so check your inboxes.

It might be nice to offer a couple of homemade desserts in conjunction with our lunch. If anyone would like to help please let me know personally.

West Side Park and Ride

The access trail leaving the West Side Park and Ride still remains closed at this time. Unfortunately, the landowner has asked that it remain close for the foreseeable future until the building and fencing are completed. So, it is looking like the access trail from our West Side Park and Ride may be closed for snowmobile season too. If you can recall we are still trying to

get a section of the access trail leaving the park and ride reviewed by either DEP or Inland Wildlife Fisheries per landowner request and we've not been able, get that completed as of yet.

Municipal Grant Update

As a reminder, Topsham Trailriders utilized a municipal grant this year for the first time. I am happy to report that we've submitted our final submission to the state for reimbursement. We will kick off the application process all over again for 2024 when we head out with Bursey Enterprises on Sunday, November 12th.

In other news, I am happy to share that Bursey Enterprises recently came aboard as a TTR business sponsor!

Introduction of our New Trail Coordinator

I'd like to thank both Charlie and Mike for making the time to take Brett LeBlanc, our new Trail Coordinator from Bureau of Parks and Public Lands out for a ride of our entire trail system. Brett works very closely with Brian Bronson who manages the ATV program for the state. It was a great introduction to what TTR is all about.

It was great to have the opportunity of taking a ride around the trail system so that could get ideas of areas that we need to take care of.

Winter Meeting Day / Location Change

A reminder that for the past two years Topsham Trailriders has relocated their winter meetings beginning in November and continuing until March because of the Exhibition Hall is used as a storage unit during the winter months. During our July meeting we voted to hold our meetings in the Community Room at the Topsham Public Library as well as move our meeting day from Monday to Tuesday during the months of November to March. So a reminder that beginning in November we will be meeting the last Tuesday of the month at the Topsham Public Library. Update your calendar folks!

Trail Closure Date

I am not certainly trying to rush the remainder of the season along but similar to last year Topsham Trailriders will close their trails the weekend after Thanksgiving provided that conditions allow for riding until then. We do reserve the right to close them earlier if it is necessary. Continue to check both our website and Facebook for updates.

Treasurer Report:

Tim Moody reported that as of 10/27/2023, we had \$510.00 in the cash box and a balance of \$1,671.95 in the checking account and \$5,648.49 the savings account. Tim also provided an update of the apparel account which now has a balance \$1,297.79. He also shared that the food events account currently has a balance of \$2,314.17. The account pertaining to Events/Raffles has a balance of \$597.10.

- Motion was made by Tim Williams to approve the treasurer's report as provided on the agenda.

- Motion accepted by Randy Bickford
- Was passed with no opposition.

Trail Master's Report: (Charlie Parkinson, Brad Hoskins and James Belanger)

Charlie provided the following update:

Trail Conditions:

All of the ATV trails are currently open.

West Side:

A reminder that the park and ride access trail is still currently closed. However, the trails on the West Side are open so if you can find a legal place to park you can ride the trails but cannot access the Nouria Gas station.

East Side:

The east side trails are still open and doing fairly well considering the amount of rain we've received.

Upcoming Trail Work Parties:

- **Sunday, November 5th 9 am – Snowmobile Work Party**
 - We will be building snowmobile bridges during this work party.
 - Many hands are needed to complete the bridges in one work day.
 - Please bring drills, shovels, and your machine.
 - Address for the work party is 43 Emerald Ave., Topsham ME
- **Sunday, November 12th 9 am – Ride to Prepare for the 2024 Municipal Grant**
 - We will be departing from the dirt parking lot located off of Agway/Sherry Drive in Topsham.

CMPS Volunteer Hours:

The volunteer trail work hours from October 1, 2022 to September 30th, 2023 have been submitted to Central Maine Powersports. We should hopefully have the gift certificates for the folks who earned at least 40+ hours of trail work. Thank you to all of the generous volunteers who helped us during all of our work parties.

Per Mike Little's request once Charlie receives the gift certificates a social media post will be made so folks are aware of the great things our volunteers are doing.

Committee Reports:

BBQ Committee

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Summary of TTR's 2nd Annual BBQ & Ride
Saturday, September 30th

Ride began at 10 am
Food was served a little before 11:45ish
Location: Pulling Ring at the Topsham Fairgrounds

Door Prize Raffle: Brought in \$238.00
50/50: At the time of the drawing, it was announced that the winner would be receiving \$119.00.
The winner donated their winnings back to the club.

Expenses:
From the receipts I was aware of we spent \$213.77 total and we were approved to spend up to \$500.00.

Calculations:

Total of Ticket Sales: \$1,140.00
Total of Expenses that I was aware of: \$213.77
Proceeds from the 50/50: \$238
Proceeds from Miscellaneous Donations: \$139
Proceeds from Clothing Sales: \$146
Grand Total for the 2nd annual TTR BBQ Fundraiser : \$1,449.23

Attendance Numbers:
4 Landowners attended
We officially sold 62 tickets and had 53 of those tickets in attendance

For comparison here are last year's calculation totals:
Calculations:

Total of Ticket Sales: \$1,850
Total of Expenses that I was aware of: \$310.65
Cost of Pig (with Bob's Discount): \$700.00
Proceeds from the door prize raffle: \$50.00
Proceeds from the 50/50: \$143.00 (We received \$53.00 back from the winner which is included in the total.)
Grand Total for the 1st annual TTR Pig Roast: \$1,032.35

Attendance Numbers:
6 Landowners attended
We officially sold 88 tickets and had 73 of those tickets in attendance

Apparel Committee

Jenny provided the following update:

I met with a designer who is going to work on creating an enhanced logo acknowledging 25 years of TTR.

In an effort to sell the remaining shirts we still have I'd like to propose we do a clearance sale of \$5.00 per shirt regardless of size.

NOTE: The members in attendance did not have any objection to the reduction of the cost of the t-shirts. Social media post will be made to facilitate the clearance sale.

When we place another apparel order we will explore creating discounted combo packages such as someone who wishes to purchase a sweatshirt, hat and sticker.

Maine Sportsman Show Committee

Jenny provided the following update:

The show is scheduled for Friday, April 19th and will end on Sunday, April 21st at the Augusta Civic Center TTR has a corner booth reserved and paid for by MOMS of Topsham! A huge thank you to their generosity.

Are there any individuals who would like to join the Sportsman Show committee?

NOTE: During the meeting, Stephanie B., Mike L., Charlie P., and Jenny L have stepped up to be part of the committee. A meeting will be scheduled either later in November or early December.

Our first meeting will include discussion on:

- Money needed (ie materials, and raffle items)
- Volunteers needed during the show
- Free TTR item for the booth
- Slide Show – just this past year or 25 years of TTR?
- Raffle

Ride Coordinator Update

Mike Little provided the following update:

The 2023 official riding season has come to end and what a great one we had despite all of the rainy weather! We certainly did our best to make the best of it. We rode all over the State from Moosehead, Madawaska, Machais and areas in between. I believe that the partnership with We-Atv 207 was an added bonus to all of the great things Topsham Trailriders is already doing.

Probably no surprise but the proposed 2024 Topsham Trailriders schedule for next year has already been created and will be presented next month. I do hope that TTR will continue their partnership with We-Atv 207 to add the out of town rides to their schedule.

If you have any suggestions that you would like us to consider please contact Michael Little, Ride Coordinator, for Topsham Trailriders at 207-522-3780.

Club Membership Update

Dan Parlin was not able to attend the meeting so he remitted the updated membership totals to Jenny who provided the following update about the TTR memberships. As of October 28, 2023, TTR has the following for club memberships:

Total Number of Memberships: 121

And now we have 10 Business memberships

Of the 121 Memberships they can be broken down to:

66 ATV Maine Members

24 MSA Members

8 Associate Members

10 Honorary

Safety Course

On behalf of the following Safety Course committee, Ron Dumont provided the following update:

At this time the safety committee, needs to receive additional training pertaining to the snowmobile side of the course. They will continue to work on receiving that training.

Old Business

ATVing Santa

Last year, Mr. & Mrs. Claus reached out to Topsham Trailriders for their assistance to help spread Christmas cheer in downtown Bath as well as the local Senior homes. All who participated brought their wheelers which were decorated in holiday gear and some members even dressed up as reindeer and elves. This year Main Street Bath is coordinating the same type of event and Topsham Trailriders will once again be responsible for spreading Christmas cheer. The event is scheduled for Saturday, December 16th beginning around 10 am.

We are limited to only 10 machines and we currently have all of those spots spoken for.

Trunk or Treat – Town of Topsham

Tim Moody shared that the event is scheduled for Tuesday, October 31st. Our booth needs to be decorated and set-up by 4:00. A reminder that during our September meeting Michael, Charlie, Tim and Dale volunteered to work this event.

25th Anniversary of TTR

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Nothing new to report at this time other than we will gather a group of folks for this committee in January.

Food Drive Ride – Last Ride of the Season

Jenny Little provided the following update:

TTR's annual food drive ride was held yesterday Sunday, October 29th on the West Side. The event was not only fun but also a huge success. We had over 30 machines join us yesterday and even with cold temperatures everyone left with a smile on their face. I am happy to announce that we delivered 151 pounds of food along with a \$480.00 donation today to MidCoast Hunger Prevention in Brunswick.

To compare last year, we donated a little over \$300 dollars and 120 lbs in food.

Thank you to everyone who joined us yesterday and helped to make this event a smashing success! Save the date of next year: Sunday, October 27th.

New Business

Veterans Day Event

Jenny Little provided the following update:

I reached out to Peter Gordon, Manager of MOMS Topsham. I inquired if he would have any objections if Topsham Trailriders held a meet and greet at their location on Saturday, November 11th. I inquired if we could also bring the grill and do some grilling in honor of our Veterans. Peter was 100% in support of this event. The idea is that we would invite Veterans to join us for hamburger/hot dog for free and all others could make a donation for their meal. We are scheduled to be there and ready to go by 11 am and finish at 2:00 pmish. A cook has already offered his services for this event. The only thing we do not have is meat, buns, and chips.

- Motion was made by Michael Little to allow the club to spend up to \$300.00 to purchase the food needed for the luncheon.
- Motion Accepted by Don Curtis
- Was Passed with No Opposition

Also, Peter and have tentatively scheduled another TTR meet and greet in the Spring at the kick off our ATV season. It is scheduled for Saturday, April 27th.

ATV Show Shine Swap 4 Vets

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Topsham Trailriders recently received a letter in the mail from Darcey Emery. She is busy planning the first ever Show Shine & Swap 4 Vets. It is scheduled for Sunday, May 5th, 2024. It is being held in the Auburn Mall Parking Lot from 10 am to 4:30 pm. There are many different ways to get involved with this event from ATV clubs to participants. We've been invited to register as a vendor in an effort to drum up some club memberships. The cost for a booth is \$50.00 which includes a 10x10 outdoor booth and 1 event t-shirt. The club is responsible to bring their own booth materials.

Is there anyone interested from the club interested in facilitating this on behalf of the club?

NOTE: During the meeting, the club opted to revisit this in either February / March of 2024. A tickler has been made to remind us in early next year.

Elections Committee

The results from last night's annual election are as follows:

President: Jenny Little

Vice President: Tim Williams

Secretary: Jessica Emmert

Treasurer: Tim Moody

Board of Directors:

Randy Bickford

Michael Little

Richard Arsenault

Noah Herrick

Don Curtis

Congratulations to both the nominees and the winners! Thank you all for your willingness to step for the club.

Social Night

The next social night for the club is scheduled for Wednesday, November 8th at 6 pm. The social will be at Bolos Burger in Brunswick. The restaurants appreciate receiving a headcount as to how many folks will be coming. Please let Jenny know if you will be coming by either updating your status to going within the Facebook event or by contacting her personally.

Open Member Comment

- A member in attendance extended a BIG thank you to all of the folks who wear the orange vests and often carry radios during the events. She can't thank them enough for all that they do.

Upcoming TTR Events

October 31st – Trunk or Treat at the Topsham Fairgrounds

November 5th – Snowmobile Trailwork Party – 9 am – 43 Emerald Ave., Topsham ME

November 8th – TTR’s Monthly Social Night at the Bolos Burger Restaurant – 6 pm – Located at
7 Dunlap Street Brunswick

November 11th – Meet and Greet with TTR & Veteran’s Day Lunch – MOMS Topsham – 11 am
to 2 pm

November 28th – TTR’s Regular Monthly Meeting – Take note of the day change and time
change—Topsham Public Library at 6:30 pm located at 25 Foreside Road.

Respectfully Submitted

Dee Blanchette

10/31/2023

October 2023 minutes were approved with no edits requested during the November 28, 2023 meeting. JLL