

Topsham Trailriders December Meeting



Date: Monday, December 27, 2021

Location: Basement of Saint John's Church (39 Pleasant St, Brunswick, ME 04011)

Executive Board Present: Matt Abbott
Dale Rowe
Tim Moody
Jenny Little

Board of Directors Present: Randy Bickford
Ron Dumont
Rocky League

Board of Directors Absent: Charlie Parkinson
Dan Parlin

Meeting Called to Order at: 6:30 pm

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:22 pm

Member Introductions were completed along with the Secretary circulating an attendance sheet. The attendance sheet had 12 signatures with email address and telephone numbers provided.

Secretary Report:

This was Jenny Little's first meeting as the newly appointed Secretary for TTR. She did not have a report to provide to the board.

- A motion was not needed since a full report was not provided.

President's Remarks:

Meeting Locations

- Matt Abbott shared that he does not believe there will be enough space to accommodate TTR's regular membership meeting at the Exhibition Hall at the Topsham Fairgrounds for the next few months as the hall is being used for storage.
- During the November 2021 meeting it was presented to those in attendance of the possibility of relocating the meeting location for TTR. Dale Rowe had inquired with

the Fairground Café and the soonest they could begin to fit us in would be for the regular membership meeting on Monday, January 31st. The club approved this location move.

- During the next board meeting it will be officially voted by the board to combine the board and regular membership meetings. The board meeting would meet at 6:00 pm and the regular membership would meet at 6:30 pm.
- Matt Abbott informed the group that the board meeting which is scheduled for Monday, January 17th will be held in the basement of Saint John's Church at 6:30 pm.

Online Membership

- Matt Abbott shared that a link to the club membership form is now available on the TTR website. He shared that he would like to open a business PayPal account to have linked to the website to allow folks to join the club or donate to the club through the TTR website.
- Matt also did share that he is working on a way to edit the membership form to make it a fillable form. He will be working with Charlie Parkinson on the form. Stay tuned for additional updates.

State Municipal Grant

- Matt Abbott provided an update to the group that he will be meeting with Pam Leduc, the Parks and Recreation Director, for the Town of Topsham on Friday, January 7th at 10 am. The meeting is being held in the town office and all club members are welcomed to attend the meeting.

CMPS Trail Fund

- Matt Abbott shared with the group that the board voted during their meeting on Monday, December 20th to continue TTR's participating in the CMPS trail fund program.

Treasurer Report:

Tim Moody reported that we had \$101 cash on hand and a balance of \$685.75 in the checking account and \$926.64 in the savings account. Tim also circulated a thank you letter that the club had received from the Mid Coast Hunger Prevention group for the recent donation the club made from the funds collected during the last ride of the 2021 season.

- Motion was made by Bob Sweeney to approve the treasurer's report as provided on the agenda.
- Motion Accepted by Matt Nixon
- Was passed with Tim Moody abstaining from the vote.

Trail Master's Report:

Charlie Parkinson did not attend tonight's meeting so therefore a trail master's report was not provided. Matt Abbott informed the group that Charlie will be out of town until the start of 2022.

- A motion to approve the Trail Master's report was not made during tonight's board meeting.

Committee Reports:

ATV Safety Course

- It was suggested during the November regular membership meeting that TTR consider hosting a ATV Safety course. Matt Abbott reached out to IFW for more information. They provided a contact name of Steven Barr. IFW is happy to help with the registration and more but TTR would need to find a potential instructor.
- During the December board meeting Ron Dumont offered to lead this for TTR. He said he would be reaching out to Dave Anderson to inquire if he would be willing to be the instructor.
- Ron reported during tonight's meeting that he has reached out to Dave Anderson but has not yet heard back from him. Ron is thinking of scheduling the safety course during the winter months and will be seeking volunteers very soon but otherwise he has no further information.
- Tim Moody offered the basement of Saint John's Church to hold the safety course.

Maine Sportsman Show

- Michael Little reached out to Matt Abbott to share with him that he had recently received a registration form for the upcoming 2022 Maine Sportsman Show. The booth was associated with United Trail Volunteers but since that organization is no longer in existence Michael presented it to TTR. The Board voted and approved for TTR to register for the 2022 Maine Sportsman Show during the December 2021 meeting. Jenny Little offered to lead this committee.
- Laurie Lake inquired with the group if this was the same Sportsman show that had been mentioned at the West Bath monthly meeting. She was inquiring if TTR was considering combining efforts with a club to save money.
 - Matt Abbott shared with the group that he had reached out to Ed Barrett, the President of Lisbon Hardcore Riders about joining in with TTR. Matt reached out to LHR per the recent discussion that the board had during the December 2021 meeting.
- It was mentioned by Dale Rowe that should COVID continue to spike that there is always a possibility that they may cancel the show but we should receive a refund.
- Dale also shared that the club should discuss what type of giveaways the club would like to do during the Sportsman show.
 - Matt Abbott shared that the Sportsman Show committee will discuss this further and bring information to the meetings as needed.
- Jenny Little reported that she had completed the registration form and had remitted it to the Sportsman Alliance. She heard back from them stating that they were reviewing our request and would let us know if it is approved.
- Jenny also asked if there was anyone interested in assisting with the Sportsman Show. The following club members offered to help:
 - Randy Bickford
 - Dale Rowe

- Michael Little
- Matt Nixon
- More Discussion will occur during the January meeting.

Old News:

- Discussion on the Last Ride of the Season
 - Bob Sweeney offered some feedback about the last ride of the season. He shared that he and his wife Annette had a great but he noticed a couple of small missed opportunities during the ride.
 - He shared that he noticed that people had money to contribute but they did not have anything to contribute other than the donation jug. He inquired if TTR would consider doing a 50/50 during their events.
 - He also mentioned that perhaps TTR should have donuts and coffee available.
 - Matt Abbott shared with the group that he had forgotten some key items such as the 50/50 jug and tickets for the 50/50 during the last ride of the season.
 - Jenny Little informed Bob and others that Michael Little and herself at the suggestion of Matt Abbott created TTR event instructions. These instructions are guidance for all future upcoming events.
 - A copy of the instructions were provided to those in attendance.

New News:

Ski Joring Event – February 12th

- Matt Abbott shared with the group that he had been contacted by the Topsham Fair committee if the TTR would be interested in helping during the Ski Joring Event on February 12th.
- Matt Nixon and Randy Bickford inquired what the club's liability during this event?
- Matt Abbott said he would need to defer to the trail experts (James Belanger and Charlie Parkinson) as to what their thoughts were.
 - Is this something TTR could even do? What type of equipment would it require?
- Don Curtis asked if we have the time of waiting till the end of January to make a decision for the event or would the Fair need to know sooner?
 - Matt Abbott asked if the group was okay with the Board making a final decision during their meeting in January.
 - No one expressed any objections on that.

By-Law Revisions

- Matt Abbott provided each member with a draft of his proposed by-law changes. He shared that the changes included formatting changes along with some individual enhancements. The By-laws draft was dated for December 27, 2021.
- While reviewing the by-laws there was some discussion amongst members about the price of membership between individual and family memberships.

- A motion was made by Bob Sweeney to combine the current two club memberships (Single & Family) into one membership and charge \$35.00.
- Motion was accepted by Randy Bickford.
- Passed with no opposition.

Respectfully Submitted

Jenny Little
12/27/2021

Was officially voted and approved by the club members in attendance on Monday, January 31st.
JLittle