

Topsham Trailriders March Meeting



Date: Monday, March 28, 2022

Location: Sea Dogs Brewing Company (1 Bowdoin Mill Is Ste 100, Topsham, ME 04086)

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

Board of Directors Present: Randy Bickford
Ron Dumont
Charlie Parkinson
Rocky League
Dan Parlin

Board of Directors Absent: n/a

Meeting Called to Order at: 6:30 pm

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:31 pm

Member Introductions were not completed. There were 33 people who attended the meeting.

Secretary Report:

Jenny Little emailed a copy of the February minutes to all club members who provided an email address. No one in attendance requested for any edits to the minutes that were remitted.

- Motion was made by Randy Bickford to approve the Secretary's report.
- Motion Accepted by Dale Rowe
- Was passed with no opposition

President's Remarks:

State Attention on Trails

- Matt Abbott informed the club that the State of Maine will be increasing their trail inspections.
 - Our end of season ride from 2021 did cause a little extra wear and tear on the trails so the club should be prepared for additional trail maintenance.

- Matt was informed that the State would be riding our trails soon and offered to ride with them.

Treasurer Report:

Tim Moody reported that we had \$101 cash on hand and a balance of \$1,059.57 in the checking account and \$5,537.06 in the savings account.

- Motion was made by Michael Little to approve the treasurer's report as provided on the agenda.
- Motion Accepted by Dale Rowe
- Was passed with Tim Moody abstaining from the vote.

Trail Master's Report:

Charlie Parkinson shared the following information with the group:

- Trail Conditions:
 - Trails are still currently closed.
- Upcoming Trail work:
 - Saturday, April 9th at 9 am
 - The work party will be working on the west side of the trails to take apart the bridge
 - Those who will be participating should plan on bringing power tools
 - Lunch will be provided by the TTR Treasurer
 - A Facebook event will be created with additional details
 - Sunday, April 24th at 9 am
 - The work party will be working on the east side of the trails covering roots and other ruts and divots.
 - Bob Sweeney will be assisting with his tractor during this event
 - Those who will be joining should plan on bringing shovels. Charlie will coordinate who will be hauling trailers.
 - Lunch will be provided by the TTR Treasurer
 - A Facebook event will be created with additional details
- Trail Master Task Update:
 - Inventory of TTR material-
 - Charlie has completed the inventory request that Matt Abbott asked for and has remitted the list to Matt.
- Landowner Permissions:
 - Charlie shared that he has not yet connected with Matt Nixon to begin working on this.
 - The Landowner permissions need to be completed by early June 2022.

Committee Reports:

Club Membership Update

Dan Parlin provided an update on the club memberships:

- 12 Business Sponsors

- 6 Associate Memberships
- 9 Honorary Memberships
- 48 Regular Club Memberships
 - A portion of these memberships belong to ATV Maine as well as MSA

ATV Safety Course

Ron Dumont provided the following update about the ATV Safety Course:

- The ATV safety course that is scheduled for Sunday, May 15th is at full capacity of 20 students with a guardian attending as well.
- The class is being held at the Topsham Fair exhibition hall and demos will be held in the pulling ring.
- Dale Rowe and John Hibbard have offered to spear head coordinating the lunch for the students and instructors
 - During the February 2022 meeting the club voted to provide a free lunch to the student and the instructors.
 - The State of Maine added the \$10 fee to help offset any costs TTR could incur for hosting this event

Maine Sportsman Show

Jenny Little provided the following update on behalf of the Sportsman Show Committee:

- The excitement is building for the upcoming Sportsman show in Augusta which is scheduled for Friday, April 1st to Sunday, April 3rd
- TTR is fairly good shape in regards to have all preparations nearly complete and ready for setup
- Jenny reminded all volunteers of when they scheduled themselves to work this coming weekend
- The executives from the Sportsman Show contacted Jenny Little to inquire if TTR had a door prize item they wanted to donate to the show for advertisement and promotion.
 - The club discussed and a motion was made by Darcey Emery that TTR donate a club t-shirt and hat as a door prize to the Sportsman Show.
 - The motion accepted by Michael Little
 - Was Passed with no opposition
- All are encouraged to come and visit TTR

Old Business:

Municipal Grant Update

- Matt Abbott informed the club that TTR cannot apply for both the State Trail Fund Grant and the Municipal Grant.
 - In light of this information the Board has made the recommendation that the club pursue the Municipal Grant rather than the State Trail Fund Grant

Fundraising Meal

- As a reminder the fundraising event is scheduled for Saturday, October 1st to be held that the exhibition hall at the Topsham Fairgrounds.
- Bob Sweeney has graciously donated his time to cook a pig for the club during the event.
- Jenny Little inquired if the club should create a committee to facilitate the planning of this event especially since we will be selling tickets.
 - The following club members volunteered to work with Jenny Little on the Pig Roast committee:
 - Bruce Kaake
 - Darcey Emery
 - John Hibbard
 - Michael Little
 - The committee will meet soon to create a proposal for the club to consider as to if a ride will be scheduled during this event
- As a reminder the club will be seeking donations for the salads and other items.

Written Partnership Document with Topsham Fair

- Matt Abbott is in the early stages of create a proposed written agreement between TTR and Topsham Fair but has nothing new to report this month.

Facebook Members Only Group

- Matt Abbott shared that the Facebook members only page has been fully deleted.

New Business:

ATV Maine Banquet

- The banquet is scheduled for Saturday, April 23rd in the Bangor area.
- Charlie Parkinson and Tim Moody have offered to attend on the club's behalf

Memorial Weekend Club Ride

- Michael Little the Ride Coordinator reminded the group that TTR has their first club event scheduled for Saturday, May 28th.
- Michael inquired with both the club and the Trail Master if we should consider postponing the event to later in June to allow for additional trail maintenance to be completed.
- The club was in agreement and the May 28th event has been rescheduled for Saturday, June 18th.
 - Michael will take care of updating the Facebook event

Memorial Day Parade

- Matt Abbott informed the club that the Brunswick/Topsham Memorial Day Parade will be happening this year.

- As a reminder it is scheduled for Monday, May 30th and it typically begins early in the morning and will last till mid-day
- Matt inquired if the club had any interest in participating in this event
 - Many hands were raised indicating a large interest
 - Additional information will be provided at the next meeting
 - Matt will create a Facebook post to hopefully draw up some additional interest

Route 196 ATV Access Route

- In the past TTR has tried working the Town of Topsham about creating a road access on Route 196 that could connect the West side of trails to the East side of trails.
 - Matt Abbott has shared with the club that the discussion has once again resurfaced
 - Matt has been speaking with the Assistant Town Manager for the Town of Topsham. They discussed the idea of turning a piece of 196 into an ATV access route.
 - The town is currently running it by the appropriate personnel to acquire their feedback and safety concerns
 - Once we receive their feedback we are in hopes of requesting this at an upcoming Selectboard meeting.
 - It would seem that the Town of Topsham can dictate the particulars of road access
 - Once it is approved by the Selectboard the DOT would install the signs
 - Matt will provide additional updates as they become available

Respectfully Submitted

Jenny Little

03/29/2022

Approved during the April 25th meeting