

Topsham TrailRiders September Meeting



Date: Monday, September 25, 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

Dan Parlin

Rocky League

Brad Hoskins

Board of Directors absent: Matt Nixon

Tara Crossman

Meeting Called to Order at: 6:28 PM

Meeting Adjourned at 7:33 PM

Approximately 30 people attended the meeting and signed the attendance sheet.

Secretary Report:

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

- Motion was made by Dan Parlin to approve the Secretary's report.
- Motion Accepted by Don Curtis
- Was passed with no opposition.

President's Remarks

During the meeting Jenny Little provided updates on the following:

West Side Park and Ride

The construction began on the property abutting the West park and ride in late June and has been progressing quite nicely. In early September, we met with the landowner to discuss where the trail would be placed now since the majority of the construction was complete. When we left our meeting, we all optimistic that we might be able to begin clearing the park and ride in the near future after we check with a couple of town officials. Since that meeting, we've heard back from the Landowner who was advised by the Town of Topsham Planning Department to have DEP evaluate the location of our trail. We've reached out to our contacts at the Town as well as Brian Bronson in hopes of connecting with DEP sooner than later.

Municipal Grant Update

As a reminder, Topsham Trailriders is utilizing a municipal grant this year for the first time. We've now submitted two reimbursements to the Town of Topsham and have received the money back for one of the reimbursements and soon will receive the money for the second. I think it is safe to say that each time when Charlie and I process something associated to the grant we learn something.

In other news, Bursey Enterprises completed their work on the West Side this week. They did an amazing job and will be coming aboard as a TTR business sponsor!

Newsletter Enhancement

A reminder that last month I spoke of adding additional content to the newsletter we are add of a section onto the newsletter that would speak to: Tip of the Month from member feedback that we've received. For the next few months, we will be gathering tips from you the members. Each of us in this group have different perceptions on ATVs and Snowmobiles and so what better way to share in our wealth of knowledge. If members would like to email their tip please remit them to topshamtrailriders@gmail.com.

Treasurer Report:

Tim Moody reported that as of 09/22/2023, we had \$530.00 in the cash box and a balance of \$6,449.94 in the checking account and \$8,084.61 the savings account. Tim also provided an update of the apparel account which now has a balance \$1,151.74. He also shared that the food events account currently has a balance of \$1,818.61. The account pertaining to Events/Raffles has a balance of \$359.09.

- Motion was made by Tim Parlin to approve the treasurer's report as provided on the agenda.
- Motion accepted by Dan Parlin
- Was passed with no opposition.

Elections Committee

As a reminder our annual meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 30th which during this meeting we will hold the annual elections for club officers and board positions. All of the positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer as well as the 5 Board Positions) are elected annually. Nominations for all of the positions listed above were accepted during this meeting while the voting will occur in October.

Note: Noah Herrick, advised all members how to complete the nomination form he created. Folks completed the form which afterwards Dale Rowe and Noah reviewed the names received for each position. Once Noah and Dale completed their analysis, they presented their nominee summary sheet to Jenny so that the nominees could be asked if they accepted. At the end of the meeting the nominees for each position were as follows:

Executive Board

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

Board of Directors – 5 Positions

Michael Little / Randy Bickford / Richard Arsenault / Ron Dumont / Bob Strout (follow-up needed since he was not in the meeting) / Noah Herrick / Don Curtis / Dee Blanchette

Update since the meeting note:

Upon reviewing the nomination forms and summary sheet on Thursday, September 27, 2023, Jenny noticed that there were nominees on the sheet that were missed during the meeting. The names were Jean Piche for Secretary and Stephanie Burnham for Board of Directors. The nominees have since been contacted to inquire if they were interested in accepting their nominations and we are able to report the following:

- Jean Piche has declined the nomination for Secretary.
- Stephanie Burnham has accepted the nomination for the Board of Directors and declined her nomination for Secretary.
 - With Stephanie accepting the nomination for the Board of Directors below is a list of the updated nominees:
 - Michael Little / Randy Bickford / Richard Arsenault / Ron Dumont / Noah Herrick / Don Curtis / Dee Blanchette / Stephanie Burnham
- Bob Strout has declined the nomination for the Board of Directors.

As you begin to think about who you may vote for in October, please consider the following: who is best suited for the position, who advocates for TTR both within both the ATV and local community whether in person or from afar, and also who actively participates with TTR. It is exciting to see new folks wanting to join the board.

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.

Charlie has not been on the trails but from riders who have they have shared that the trails on the west side are wet and very fragile. If you do venture out on the west side please ride with a buddy and use 4x4 drive to prevent excessive damage.

East Side:

The east side trails are still open and doing fairly well considering the amount of rain we've recently receive. A work party was held on Saturday, September 23rd to prepare the trails for the upcoming BBQ. There were a couple of areas that the trail crew staked off to prevent machines from riding on it..

- Upcoming Trail Work Parties:
 - **Sunday, October 15th 8 am – West Side Work Party**
 - Reminder that this is a CRITICAL work party to prepare for our last ride of the season.
 - Many hands are needed to complete as much of the West Side.
 - This trail work party is designated specifically to cutting the brush back, clearing tears, adding signage and working on correcting drainage issues.
 - Please bring brush cutters, chainsaws, and shovels.
 - Check Facebook for meeting location.
 - **Sunday, November 5th – Building Snowmobile bridges**
 - This work party has been designated to build bridges at 43 Emerald Ave off of Cathance Rd
 - Charlie will connect with the lumber yard about ordering the material for this work party.
 - Jenny will connect with the landowner to ensure we meet that day.

Committee Reports:

BBQ Committee

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Event is this coming Saturday 9/30! Ride at 10 am and food will be served near or around 12 pm! I did also remit an email yesterday afternoon about the BBQ and Ride.

Tickets can be purchased tonight or at the door

Cost of tickets at the door:

\$30.00 per person

\$60.00 for a family pack (2 adults & 2 children)

Supplies:

- Thank you thank you thank you to everyone who has donated! At this time, we don't need to scramble for much!
- Just remember to make arrangements with me if you are not able to attend Saturday.
- Otherwise, please have your food items here before 11 am.

Cooking:

- The pork has been purchased and has already been cooked!
- Anyone here have the time before Friday to navigate to Dan Parlin's home to the TTR tent to put together the grill?
 - **Note:** Folks gathered on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, to put the grill together.
- Dale Rowe is still on tap to cook for us with John Hibbard as his assistance.

Setup:

- Friday 9/29 -- Reminder to:
 - Charlie, Mike, Tim W, Stephanie, Donnie, and Dale you have signed up to help with setting up the pulling ring on Friday night. We will begin around 5:30 pm.
 - Anyone else is most certainly welcome to join us!
- Jenny will follow up with Topsham Fair to ensure that Leon or a member of the Fair will be able to unlock the pulling ring, bathrooms for both Friday and Saturday
- We will be hauling picnic tables to the pulling ring and setting up other items as well as getting items from Dan P.'s house.
- Saturday 9/30 – will begin around 8:45ish
 - Reminder to Donnie, John B., Dale, Charlie, Tim W, Mike, Randy, and Stephanie you've signed up to help with the final setup on 9/30

Registration:

- Stephanie B. and Jenny will be working the registration table.

50/50 & Apparel Table

- Jessica and Rick have volunteered to work this table.

Serving the food:

- Need 5-6 volunteers to help setup and serve the food to folks beginning a little before 11 am if you will not be riding
- Dale Rowe has offered to cook the burgers and dogs!

Clean up:

- A few individuals will be needed for clean up on Saturday as well.

Expenses:

\$140.77 (flyer, pork and misc supplies)

Income:

Ticket Sales: \$540.00

Last year we had already sold: \$1,230.00

Apparel Committee

Jenny provided the following update:

There is nothing new to report this month other than considering designing a 25th Anniversary TTR logo.

Ride Coordinator Update

Mike Little provided the following update:

We are ending the season with a bang!

We begin on **September 30th** with our BBQ event being held on the East side.

There is a possibility that the ride scheduled for **Saturday, October 7th** may be moved to **Sunday, October 8th**. I am heading to the Riverside Trailriders meeting tomorrow evening to inquire if they are able to lead us around town. When we have more information to share, we will update social media and our website.

Our next ride is scheduled for **Saturday, October 14th** when we head to Waterford.

We then have a BIG trail work party on **Sunday, October 15th** on our West side!

Our final 2023 in-town club ride is scheduled for **Sunday, October 29th** when we host our annual Food Drive Benefit Ride provided that trail conditions allow.

We do our best to communicate updates either via email, on the Facebook event or the website event so I would recommend to continue to check one or the other.

Club Membership Update

Dan Parlin provided the following update about the TTR memberships. As of September 22, 2023, TTR has the following for club memberships:

Total Number of Memberships: 119

Safety Course

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

Ron did not have anything more to share about the safety course at this time.

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 looking at doing the same type of event perhaps with a few small changes and Topsham Trailriders will once again be 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 7 of those spots spoken for. Please navigate to the Facebook event to update your status as going to be included in the total. Those folks who have marked as interested are not being added to the total. You are welcome to reach out to Jenny personally to notify her that would like to join them during the event if you do not have a social media post. We are still looking for folks to join us!

Road Side Clean Up 9/9 and Mats Installation Work Party 9/10

Jenny Little provided the follow update:

I continue to be amazed how remarkable and special this club really is! On Saturday, September 9th the road side clean-up was completed with only 4 members in attendance but it was still done! Thank you again to those four individuals! And, on Sunday, September 10th – we had over a dozen members show up to help with the installation of the mats. It was a full day of trail work but because of the volume of volunteers it was completed in one day! Thank you thank you thank you for stepping up and helping!

Trunk or Treat – Town of Topsham

Tim Moody shared that the club is now signed up to participate in the Trunk or Treat Halloween event facilitated by the Parks and Recreation department from the Town of Topsham.

Last year we set-up the pop-up canopy with decorations and Charlie and Dale had brought their machines. If I recall we need to be set-up and decorated by 4 pm. The club is seeking 4-6 people to help with this event

Note: The folks who interested in helping are Michael, Charlie, Dee, Tim and Dale.

25th Anniversary of TTR

Jenny Little provided the following update:

2024 is the 25th Anniversary of TTR. Big plans for next year especially our July 20th, 2024 ride! I'd like to create a committee to help plan special things for 2024 especially the July 20th, 2024 ride. The committee would work together on things like seeking a food truck for our July 20th, 2024 night ride. A committee may be established in January 2024.

New Business

Food Drive Ride – Last Ride of the Season

Jenny Little provided the following update:

Not only are we planning for the upcoming BBQ scheduled for September 30th we are also planning for our last ride of the season. Our annual food drive ride is scheduled for Sunday, October 29th at 10 am. I am happy to announce that we may have possibly keyword possibly found a starting location on the West side for the last ride of the season. Thank you to Don C, Charlie, Matt N, and Devin for all of their efforts in helping to finding this location. Again, we are still finalizing the location but things are looking very promising for an end of season ride on the West Side.

If the trail conditions allow at the end of October and with the ride occurring on the West side it stands to attract a HUGE amount of people. As we get closer to that date, I'll reach out to everyone via email to seek volunteers. So save the date...Sunday, October 29th – Last ride of the season on the West side!

Important update since the meeting: The dirt lot located off of Agway Drive will not become our park and ride. It may ONLY be used for the work party scheduled on October 15th and the ride scheduled on October 29th. Our apologies for the confusion about that. We have since chatted with the landowner and received the necessary clarity.

Social Night

The next social night for the club is scheduled for Wednesday, October 11th at 6 pm. The social will be at Pats Pizza 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

Nothing is nothing to report.

Motion to Adjourn was received at 7:33 pm by Richard Arsenault and was accepted by Michael Little. Was passed with no opposition.

Upcoming TTR Events

October 8th – Out of Town Ride in Lisbon – Beginning at 10 am meeting on Wagg Road

October 11th – TTR’s Social Night at the Pat’s Pizza at 112 Pleasant Street, at 6 pm

October 14th — Pulpit Trail Blazah’s Fall Foliage ride

October 15th — In-town Trail Work party

October 29th — In-Town Annual Food Drive Benefit Ride provided that trail conditions allow on the West side.

October 30th — TTR Monthly Meeting at 6:30 pm with the Board meeting at 6 pm. A reminder that the meeting is being held at the Topsham Fair Exhibition Hall. ***This is our Annual Election night for our Club!***

October 31st—TTR will be celebrating Halloween by participating in the Trunk or Treat event put on by the Topsham Parks & Recreation.

Respectfully Submitted

Dee Blanchette

09/28/2023

September 2023 minutes were voted and approved as written on Monday, October 30th, 2023.
JLL