

Minutes

NSMTBTA Meeting

Tuesday March 8th, 2011

In Attendance: Sue Earle, Lawrence Plug, Kaarin Tae, Darrell Cooling, Matt Rockwell, Troy Turple, Shawn Skelhorn, Mike Phillips, Jim Kvammen

1. **Approval of Agenda**
2. **Approval of Minutes** from Jan.4th, 2011 : Shawn, seconded: Jim
3. **Regrets:** Mike Hutchinson, Adam Shore, Barry Bennet, Tom Kavanagh, Heather Watson
4. **Survey for DNR Report** (Darrell) – Darrell reported that upwards of 200 people responded to our SurveyMonkey survey about the needs of mountain bikers in Nova Scotia. He is now in the process of compiling those results into a report that will be passed on to DNR with the purpose of educating them regarding mountain biking and trails in this province.
ACTION: Darrell will submit the report to the group in preparation for presenting it to DNR.
5. **NSMTBTA Logo** (Sue) – No word regarding the requested changes to the logo design.
ACTION: Sue will implement the changes requested by the group and bring the logo to the next meeting.
6. **Blog for IMBA Canada Newsletter** (Tom) – Tom sent regrets, item skipped.
7. **Ice Race Report** (Tom) - Tom sent regrets, item skipped
8. **Uniacke Estate** (Troy) – Troy has met with Uniacke Estate to discuss fixing the existing trails to better conform to the Whistler guidelines and make them more suitable for mountain biking. They are very keen to work with us and expressed interest in creating an “enhanced” museum experience that could include activities such as mountain biking and trail maintenance workshops. Troy is waiting for them to put together a Land Use Agreement that will provide us with the permission to go ahead and begin working on upgrading those trails.

9. Other Business Arising

- 9.1. **Halifax Regional Trails Association** (Shawn) - The Halifax Water Commission has asked that we join HRTA in order to move ahead on plans for the Spider Lake trail system. Kaarin is our HRTA rep. She indicated that the NSMTBTA can't join HRTA because it is a collective of smaller community groups. She suggested that the interested members form a Spide Lake Trail Association which would be eligible to join HRTA. Geoff Murray and Scott Walsh have expressed interest in forming such a group. There may be start up funding available through HRTA to help with the expenses of forming this Association.
ACTION: Shawn will contact Geoff and Scott to discuss this. Kaarin will notify Shawn of the next HRTA meeting date.
- 9.2 **Gorefest** (Mike) – Mike requested that the NSMTBTA organize a trail building session for Gorefest. In exchange, the NSMTBTA will get a vendor's booth for the weekend to use for promotional purposes. Jim Kvammen expressed interest in running the trail building session on the Saturday of the Gorefest weekend.
- 9.3 **Funding**– Troy mentioned that Michelin has an Environmental Stewardship grant that we may be eligible for. Lawrence has been looking into startup funding through HPP. There is funding available but they would rather see us operate as part of an already-existing group such as BNS.
Action: Troy will look into the grant and report back with details at the next meeting.
- 9.4 **BNS Merger** (Lawrence) - Lawrence has spoken with some of the BNS Board members who indicate that there is the possibility for the NSMTBTA to join BNS as a stand-alone committee. We could write our own bylaws pertaining to our relationship with BNS and becoming a part of BNS would automatically increase our membership numbers and make us eligible for funding through BNS.
Action: BNS is holding a meeting on Wed., March 16th. Some of our members will attend in order to further discuss the possibility of a merger. Lawrence will send out the BNS bylaws in preparation and write an initial "proposition" set of bylaws as well as a budget. The decision on whether or not to merge with BNS will be voted on by our membership at the upcoming AGM.

10 Area Reps Reports

- 1.1 Valley (Mike Hutchinson) - not present, report attached.

We have a new board of directors that was voted in at our extremely late 2010 AGM (it was in November when it should have been in March)

- o Mike Hutchinson replaced Glenn McMullen as President (also trail manager at the Links and volunteer coordinator)
- o Colin Banks is re-serving as Vice President (also AVMBTA group ride leader and event/race coordinator)
- o Michelle Marcinkiewicz voted replaced Ryan Lindh as Secretary/Treasurer (also Trips for Kids coordinator)
- o Ryan Lindh is re-serving another term as a board member (race coordinator, trail coordinator, webmaster)
- o Dave Marshall is re-serving another term as a board member (race coordinator)
- o Dan Pottier is re-serving another term as a board member (event volunteer)

- We will be holding our 2011 AGM on Thursday, March 31st at 7:00pm in room # BAC 244 at the Acadia University. We want to keep it short and sweet this time, the rough agenda will be:

- o Adoption of changes to bylaws

- o Announcement of new AVMBTA membership policy- we are taking a tiered approach to membership: those who've paid the \$15 for life fee will remain on our AVMBTA email list and will continue to be members. We are now collecting an annual membership fee of \$20 for those who wish to become active AVMBTA members. The annual fee gives you:

- The right to vote on issues, resolutions, board members, etc. at the AGM
- The right to become a board member or member of the Executive

- Free access to weekly AVMBBA guided group rides (non-members pay \$5 to join the group ride)
- Registration discounts at AVMBBA events/races
- Name in a hat at the AGM for door prizes
- o Discussion on strategic direction for AVMBBA over next three years- update on progress since November
- o AVMBBA event and race schedule release
- o Door Prize Draw
- We are working hard to get funding to assist in the cleanup of the Links, and are also hopeful to secure funding to do some small trail expansions/upgrades
- The AVMBBA will be hosting several races and events this year as follows:
 - o Our regular “Summer Solstice XC” will be replaced with an unsanctioned 4-hour endurance race: count laps, no categories, most laps wins. Prizes for fun. This race will be held on Apple Blossom Sunday, the same day as the local community event “Woodville Chicken BBQ.” This will their 40th anniversary of the event, and they know how to feed a crowd. We will race from 10am-2pm, then head down the mountain as a hungry mob to take over the BBQ. I think a full meal deal is \$10. Can’t beat that.
 - o There will be the regular points series XC race at the Gorge (official date TBA)
 - o The Super-D at the Gorge for the DH point series is on again, (Sunday of Labor Day I think)
 - o The Middleton DH is in for late September (the 17 and 18 I think)

10. 2 Highlands (Sherry Huybers) - Not Present

10.3 South Shore (Matt) - Matt has been talking to the Trails Coordinator for Lunenburg County regarding dong maintenance on the Indian Path Trail. She has had input from other mountain bikers and wants to hold a public meeting before proceeding. DNR still hasn’t given the final approval for trailbulding on the land behind the school in Chester Grant - Matt will follow up on that.

10.4 Fundy (Duane Moase) - Not Present

11. AGM We will hold our AGM on Sunday, April 10th at 4 pm in room 1401 of the Mona Campbell Building at Dalhousie University, corner of Coburg Road and LeMarchant Street in Halifax. We will be electing a new Board of Directors and officers as well as voting on a merger with BNS. A full agenda will follow.

12. Next Meeting April 5th, 7:30pm, the Old Port Pub on Windmill Road in Dartmouth

13. Motion to Adjourn: Sue, Jim