

## Minutes of the Nova Scotia Mountain Bike Trails Association

**Date:** Monday, October 4th

**Location:** Oakfield Golf Club, Enfield, NS

**Attendees:** Sue Earle, Troy Turple, Matt Bernard, Lawrence Plug, Shawn Skelhorn, Matt Rockwell, Jim Kvammen, Kaarin Tae, Darrell Cooling, Paul Shatkotko, Kevin Chaisson

1. Meeting called to order.
2. Regrets: Sherry Huybers, Glenn McMullen
3. Insurance: Sue reported that we've been receiving invoices for the balance owing on the insurance we took out prior to HRM Bike Week. Darrell reported that there is not enough money in the bank account yet to pay the bill.

**Action: *We need to increase our membership. Sue will send out letters encouraging people to join.***

4. Code of Conduct for Directors: A committee was formed in March to come up with a Code of Conduct for our Board of Directors. The committee consists of Glenn McMullen, Mike Phillips and Mike Hutchinson. No one was present to update us on behalf of the committee .

**Action: *Sue will contact Glenn to find out if the committee has made progress on this item.***

5. Letter regarding Cape Split on behalf of AVMBTA: Sue reported that she has been trying to organize a meeting between DNR and key members of our group to discuss this issue following an offer to meet by Brian Kinsman. So far we have been unable to find a date that will work. Darrell offered to attend a meeting if we can organize one in late November.

**Action: *Sue will contact DNR and Glenn McMullen and organize a time when Glenn, Darrell, Sue and DNR can meet in November.***

6. Logo Contest: Troy reported that no entries were received for our logo contest. Sue offered to come up with a few options for a logo and if we choose one, the prize will be donated to the NSMTBTA for trail building purposes.

**Action: *Sue will design some logos to present to the group.***

7. HPP Funding: Lawrence has been investigating start-up funding through the HPP. Obtaining funding is complicated for us by the fact that some funding is available municipally and other funding is available provincially. Still waiting to hear about the possibilities for Provincial Funding.

8. Crown Land: Troy has been looking into parcels of Crown land that might be suitable for trails. He has identified a parcel around Long Lake in Mount Uniacke and plans to further explore the potential of that land for trail development. He indicated that DNR seems quite willing to work with us.

9. Reports

(a) Fundy Region (Duane) – not present

(b) HRM Region (Shawn)- Shawn has agreed to re-serve as the HRM Region Representative.

(c) Annapolis Valley Region (Barry and Glenn)- Not present

Sue filled in some information regarding what's happening in the Valley including the launch of a Trips for Kids Chapter, the land access issues at The Links and the Town of Wolfville's initiatives to build a bike park.

(d) Highlands Region (Sherry) – Not present

Sherry was absent due to meetings regarding plans for a new bike park in New Glasgow.

(e) South Shore (Matt Rockwell)

Matt has been working with Lunenburg's Laura Barkhouse to identify suitable tracts of land for trail projects. He is working towards approval for a multi-use trail system in the watershed area and has been granted permission to develop a mountain bike specific trail system on a 100 acre parcel of land that is currently attached to the landfill site. The landfill will be closed this spring and then the process of trail planning can begin.

(f) Cape Breton – We still have no rep for Cape Breton.

***Action: Kaarin will look into finding someone to fill this position.***

10. Additional Business:

10.1 HRM Bike Week: Lawrence reported that our participation in HRM Bike Week was a success. Several people attended the clinic including people from Parks and Recreation. Next year the clinic will be held in the Commons where it is more accessible.

10.2 Halifax Regional Trails Assoc.: Lawrence gave a presentation about the NSMTBTA to the HRTA and received lots of positive feedback. Lawrence will make his PowerPoint presentation available to anyone who wants it.

One holdup for our trail-building goals is the fact that the current trail standards recognized by the NS Trails Federation include nothing that resembles mountain bike singletrack. After discussion, we agreed that it would be prudent to work

towards incorporating the Whistler Trail Standards in the Federation's Trail Standards Guidelines. A committee consisting of Lawrence, Kaarin and Sue was struck to work on getting the Whistler Standards into that document.

10.3 Macintosh Run: Kaarin reported that the Macintosh Run Watershed Association is very receptive to the inclusion of a mountain bike/multi-purpose trail.

10.4 Membership Drive: Shawn suggested we need to launch a membership drive to get more members.

***Action: Sue will write a letter that will be circulated via local websites.***

10.5. Spider Lake: Discussion surrounding the need to work on making Spider Lake a legal trail system for mountain bikes.

***Action: Lawrence will talk to HRM and find out what we need to do to pursue this.***

10.6. NS Trails Federation: Lawrence suggested we should become a member. Discussion indicated agreement however lack of funding is currently prohibitive.

11. Date for next meeting: We decided collectively that meetings will occur regularly pm the first Tuesday of every month. For now we will continue to meet at the Oakfield Country Club in Enfield if it is available. Next meeting will occur on Novemeber 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 pm.

12. Motion to Adjourn: Darrell, seconded by Troy