

SUNRISE TRAIL COALITION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
November 16, 2015, Blue Bird Ranch, Machias

Persons present: Steve Reese, John Marchese, Ray Archer, Carol Cuddy, Sandy Johnson, Polly Ceckler, Bill Ceckler, Sharon Mack, Gerry Nasberg, Charlie Corliss, recording secretary Crystal Hitchings

Welcome new Board Members and other attendees; determine quorum

- Sharon Mack and John Marchese are new, There are now 15 board members.

Election of Officers: Pres., Vice-Pres., Secretary, and Treasurer

- President-Steve Reese, nominated by Bill Ceckler, 2nd by Carol Cuddy
- Vp-Bill Ceckler nominated by Carol and Sandy
- Secretary-Carol Cuddy, nominated by Bill and Gerry
- Treasurer-Ian Staub, nominated by Carol and Sandy

- Have to sign a corporate banking resolution for Bar Harbor Bank to remove Dave Wood as an authorized signatory. New resolution will remove him and rescind prior resolutions.
- Minutes must be mailed to the bank - Jacklyn Sinclair, Bar Harbor Bank And Trust, Po Box 1089 Ellsworth, 04605-9963

Schedule Date, Time & Location January 2016 Board meeting

Monthly meeting schedule - The regular meeting schedule will be the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 12-2 PM. The Board will review the next meeting date at each meeting based upon circumstances.

Next meeting will be January 12th in Ellsworth at Pat's Pizza.

SUNRISE TRAIL COALITION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
November 16, 2015 after Organizational Board Meeting

Introduction of Directors and Quorum determination; Welcome Members and other attendees

Persons Present: Steve Rees, John Marchese, Bill Ceckler, Polly Ceckler, Crystal Hitchings, Sandy Johnson, Sharon Mack, Gary Nasberg, Carol Cuddy, Charles Corliss, Ray Archer

Approval of Minutes of October 21, 2015 Board of Directors' Meeting

- Minutes will be emailed to the Board (Crystal doesn't have access to the website yet) and the Board will consider them in January.

Treasurer's Report- Submitted via email by Ian Staub.

- As of 11/23/15 the checking account balance is \$20,060.83. The general fund balance is \$13,417.56, the BSB Grant fund balance is \$1,000, and the Grant Fundy Carry Over balance is \$5,643.27.
- Motion by Polly to accept the report as admitted, seconded by Sandy.

Trail Mgr's Report-Charlie Corliss

- The trail survey grant is expended. Charlie wants to buy batteries for trail cameras. Needs \$100. Motion by Sandy to award, seconded by Ray.
- It is beaver seasonal migration time. Within past couple of weeks, there are 6 new sites with washouts and plugged up culverts. Charlie shared photos of damage and repair work at one site where it took 300+ yards gravel, 2 new 40' culverts, and over \$8,000 to repair beaver damage. This is trapping season but Charlie can't get anyone to trap these beavers. Charlie is busy keeping culverts cleared and building cages around them.
- Three snowmobile clubs have applied for a municipal grant for grooming -Narraguagus, Machias, and Dennysville. Hope to groom to Calais at least to Moosehorn office, to help get traffic into Calais this winter. MaineDOT fixed washouts and sprayed bushes in the Calais region. Rails are there, so need significant snow to groom.
- Extension to Ellsworth – no new news. The section of trail ATV club will build to get to other services is likely to be groomed as a snowmobile trail as well. Ellsworth and Acadia ATV clubs are primary responsible for that section of trail. The East Coast Greenway Maine state committee put out a request for updates, and Steve responded by letting them know about the 2.2-mile extension, assuming early to mid-summer opening. The Board will work with Ellsworth planning department to coordinate bike/ped issues; Steve will contact Michelle Gagnon. Charlie wants this section of trail out to bid before snow covers the trail. Ellsworth services extension planned to be located near Blue Seal Feeds, 2-300 yds. from that nearby corner, to Acadia Village behind Finelli's Pizza, will terminate at Ellsworth Marketplace next to Lee Auto. Need to build a bridge across Card Brook. Most of trail will be in a field, minimal clearing.

Membership Committee: Fall Membership Renewal: Carol Cuddy, Chair

- Steve suggested an assistant chair or subcommittee to help Carol.
- Want to bring Calais and Machias into more active membership. Carol should convene with Gerry, Leslie, Sharon, and John about going forward in 2016.
- Time for new membership newsletter. Received good response to last year's drive. Carol and Crystal will update the letter (Crystal will bill the STC if this pushes the work above and

beyond the current contract amount). Charlie will send his report to Carol for inclusion. Steve would like to list present business members on the one blank section of the newsletter. Want to get separate page onto website that lists the members, and to highlight a business each month. If the application itself were smaller, there would be more room in the newsletter.

- Are there too many categories of membership? Two years ago adopted current rates, wanted to offer enough to get range of businesses participating. Business charter-ship never developed. There have been memberships over the \$50 amount. Offered tangibles for higher memberships, but this has never taken off. Gerry suggests one class for business members with a personal appeal that would generate more engagement. 50\$ level is reasonable for businesses. Sharon thinks the existing structure is too complicated, suggests keeping \$50, \$150, and \$250 levels. John suggests an additional donation option in addition to their membership fee. Put highest level first. Keep Gold, silver, and standard business options with further donation option. 501c3 status should be clearly noted on the application for tax deductions.
- Pictures – could put an appeal out on the website for pictures. Could use cable pool event photo and relay race photo, events we have done, the cross-country event, Sally's memorial stone. Drop-box storage for group's docs and photos. 10\$ month for over 2 GB of storage. Link on website to photos. Let's explore photo storage on website or through drop box.
- Will review methods of gathering more members at January meeting.
- Sandy Phippin – an author and teacher in Hancock, could help influence that region.
- Calais Advertiser and Machias Valley News Observer and Quoddy Tides, weekly newspapers in the region. Sharon suggests article about the economic and other impact of the trail. Bangor Daily News contact is Joanna Billings. Timing of the article is important. Early spring, early summer should follow up on Sharon's suggestion. Charlie noted that a number of businesses are taking out ads in the ATV and snowmobile maps of the DST.

Planning Winter 2016 Cross-Country Ski event

- Machias train station will be occupied in December or January.
- Supposed to be like last winter for snow volume, but just have to pick a date and take a gamble. February is best bet. Need committee chairs, Bill and Polly Ceckler will oversee this.
- With more public participation, would be fun to have more than one leg or circuit. Would be fun to have a few prizes. Need flat terrain. Want a warm place to get hot chocolate at the end of the ski. Could do the dike in Machias. There are a number of resources in Machias.
- Sandy suggests committee brings ideas to next meeting, with an interim committee meeting. Steve will contact Molly Henry of the East Coast Greenway for a commitment of funds.
- DOC may have skis and snowshoes to loan out for the event.
- Could alternate locations each year – Ellsworth/Machias.
- Sandy, Carol, and Gerry will help Bill and Polly plan the event.
- Could be good to do it over the school vacation weekend, which would be the 20th of February.

Old Business

Update Train Depot Restoration Cherryfield: Steve Rees

- Planning board received application from Kathy for foundation work. After discussion with CEO about the simplicity of the application, CEO felt it didn't necessitate a building permit review, and Planning Board could defer to CEO, who will complete the review and supposedly issue the permit to Kathy. The Board is more interested in interior assets of the building rather

than exterior renovations.

New Business

Trail Extension to Calais: Charlie Corliss & John Marchese

- In early fall, members of the Board met with the director of Moosehorn, toured existing route of the East Coast Greenway through Moosehorn. Looking at bringing all multi-modal uses through Moosehorn to Calais. Bill Kolodnicki was open to allowing ATV's to use the trail with adequate standardized mufflers. Scott Ramsey MaineDOT said he met with Calais town manager and the discussion was good.
- Should work to push this extension forward with legislative representatives and elected officials of Calais region. Would like a report at January meeting from John re an update on what's possible in Calais. Charlie notes legislature is critical to convince because it takes a legislative act to remove the rails. Hope for ECG reps to back this extension. Bill wonders what railroad groups will say about this extension, as they have lots of clout with MDOT.

Next meeting will be January 12th in Ellsworth at Pat's Pizza.

Adjournment –Motion by Carol, seconded by Sandy at 2:09.