

Chippewa Off Road Bike Association

Board Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2016

6:30 pm

Fantastic Sams Training Center

Members Present: Viet Van Dong, Jon Riggs, Andy Tyriver, Dan Deetz, Jereme Rauckman, Laura Plummer, Sue McDonald

Members Absent: Jay Plummer, Dean Roth, Dave Olson, Pat Rasmus, Kevin Roytek, Noah Michaelson, Brian Kelley, Ahmyn Masci, James Kiffmeyer

Also Present:

Meeting called to order at 6:35pm by Dan Deetz

OPENING BUSINESS	
Approval of previous minutes	Viet asked for clarification of section of previous minutes regarding request by commercial landowner to purchase a small portion of Lowes Creek County Park. It's noted that the Parks & Forest Committee denied the request.
President's Report	No report
Sec-Treas. Report	Jereme sent regular financial reports, as well as end-of-year cash flow reports for 2015 to the board.
Member Input	None

TRAIL & EVENT COMMITTEE REPORTS	
Area 178	No report
Hickory Ridge	The board discussed grooming expenses incurred by Friends of Hickory Ridge and those doing grooming at the trail system. The board is generally in favor of donating funds to assist with these expenses but would like to discuss details first with those grooming, to better understand specific costs and ownership of equipment. Tabled until next meeting.
Lowes Creek	No report
Northwest Park	No report
Otter Creek	No report at meeting. Dave emailed group prior to say MOU has been renewed for another year and outlined some information from the recent Parks meeting.
Pipestone	No report
Winter Fest	The fat-bike race only had 15 racers, possibly partly due to warm weather and the change in location of the Winter Fest event. The board discussed whether this was an event worth continuing in the future, since turnout is relatively low and CORBA is also focusing on Powder Keg during this time. The board decided not to make any hard decisions at this point but also not to avoid that weekend for Powder Keg.
Powder Keg	Jereme is still working on a final budget report but reported low turnout, with 58 snowshoers and 24 fat-bikers. The general feeling is that the date may have played a role in the poor attendance and that it might be beneficial to move the date back to late January, despite possible conflicts

	with Winter Fest. Jereme will contact the curling club to try to get on the Expo building calendar for that date.
Firecracker	Looking for additional sponsors. WORS plans to implement minimum fees for race organizers never came to fruition, so those costs will be similar to previous years. WORS discussed plans to improve attendance but made no hard commitments that Laura is aware of. Laura has instructed Don that we would handle trail run registration ourselves if WORS isn't more timely this year with their system.
Fall Back Blast	Laura discussed plan to add 2 and 4-person relay options. Dan suggested she verify with the timing company that this wouldn't cause any issues.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
Lowes Creek Grooming	Low snowfalls have made this a less than ideal winter for grooming tests at Lowes, and the route that was groomed didn't get used much, partly because the other trails were plenty rideable most of the time. The narrow and winding nature of most of the singletrack at Lowes makes grooming them with the current equipment almost impossible and would likely be difficult, at best, even with smaller equipment. It was suggested that better planning next fall of a winter-only route is necessary for successful groomed trails at Lowes. The board also discussed approaching the idea of shared-use ski trails with the County and XC ski community. Laura will contact Josh to start the conversation.
Memorial Benches at Lowes Creek	Jon was sent information from the County on preferred benches and will create a proposal of locations to present to the County.
Annual Meeting	No action has been taken yet to plan the meeting or collect potential board candidates.

NEW BUSINESS	
Board Restructuring	Jereme suggested that the board should consider restructuring its makeup, based on the growing number of Trail Liaisons (due to additional trail systems) and the lack of board involvement by some members. Specifically, Jereme would like to propose making Trail Liaisons non-board positions appointed by majority vote of the board, split the Secretary/Treasurer position in two, remove the Member at Large officer position, and add non-officer Member at Large positions for each county CORBA works with trail systems in. It was discussed that, by making Liaisons non-board positions, it would allow liaisons to focus more on their trail systems, if they choose, while also allowing them to continue serving on the board if they want to become a Member at Large or general board member. Jereme didn't want to make an official motion yet, due to so many members being absent. The board then discussed at length how to proceed with respect to current bylaws and the general membership. It was decided Jereme would send a proposal to the board, and a vote would take place at the next meeting whether to bring the changes to a vote at the annual meeting.
Onion Reroute	Jon & Dan are working on a plan for the Onion trail reroute and will come up with a proposal and materials list.
MTB Project Maps	Sue has been working with the MTB Project web site to put the Lowes Creek trails on the site.
Win-a-Bike 2016	The board okayed moving forward with the program this year, with similar guidelines as last year.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:28 pm

Submitted by Jereme Rauckman, Secretary & Treasurer