

VAST BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
July 24, 2006

DIRECTORS, ALTERNATES & STAFF PRESENT: Steve Fielding-Addison; Norm Roark-Bennington; Ken Gammell-Caledonia; Jim Hill-Chittenden; Dave Page-Essex; Daniel Favreau-Franklin; Bill Oakes{Absent}-Grand Isle; Brian Wells{Absent}-Lamoille; Larry Trottier-Orange; Brian Cook-Orleans; Barry Bradley-Rutland; Johnny Lynds-Washington; Roone Gibbs-Windham; Bruce Murray-Windsor; Ann Shangraw-President; Pat Poulin-Vice-President; David LaBelle{Absent}-Treasurer; Bonnie Holbrook-Recording Secretary; Bryant Watson-Executive Director, Alexis Nowalk-SSTP Trails Administrator
GUESTS: Betty Roark, Star Poulin, Conrad Stewart, Lacy Murray, Sue Trottier, Stevie Legge, Fred Cota

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by President Ann Shangraw.

AGENDA: *Bruce Murray moved and Norm Roark seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.*

- 10b Strategic Planning
- 10c Early Bird TMA incentive

SECRETARY'S REPORT: *Steve Fielding moved and Larry Trottier seconded to approve the minutes of June 26, 2006 Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.*

TREASURER'S REPORT: *Norm Roark moved and Dave Page seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.*

CONSENT CALENDAR-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT and TRAIL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: *Norm Roark moved and Steve Fielding seconded to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Motion carried.* Alexis Nowalk distributed reports on what grants were approved and explained them. Bryant Watson reported that we are working with the Transportation Department with the Derby Border Crossing. We're looking at alternatives for bicycle, pedestrian & snowmobile crossings to make the crossings safer.

COUNTY REPORTS: **Windsor County** all is quiet. The Agricultural Fair was a wash due to rain. **Franklin County** has a bridge to be put in. One club set a brush cutter on their drag to try. John Ross is doing better. **Caledonia County** had their summer picnic. They had their elections and Kenny Gammell is still the Director. Dave Pistoula is the new Alternate Director. Kenny says that if you are thinking about retiring to do it! He loves it and doesn't know why he didn't do it a while ago. **Windham County** had some storms that took some trails out. They have trail damage that will take some work to get back. **Orange County** had a flash flood that took out a bridge in Williamstown. **Essex County** and **Chittenden County** are both quiet. **Orleans County** has been having some fun. They have many projects due to closures. **Addison County** Field Days are August 8-11th. **Rutland County** had a tremendous amount of rain and they're sure there will be trail damage from it. They are working on their outdoor show. Things are coming together nicely for it. **Washington County** is pretty quiet at this time. The usual debrising and cleanup will need to be done. They're working on a route through Stowe. **Bennington County** has some damage from a Beaver Dam to take care of.

APPROVE FY2007 BUDGET: *Dave Page moved and Jim Hill seconded that we move the requested line item for VT Trails Act for the Gas Tax Grant. Motion carried.*

LAMOILLE VALLEY RAIL TRAIL – LEASE UPDATE: Bryant Watson gave a brief update on the lease. There has not been much movement at this time. We are waiting for the State to complete the language in the lease. We are getting closer. There is an issue with the Management Plan however the Legislature has stated that they do not want the Management Plan to hold up signing of the lease. The State is mandated by the Federal Highway Department that the rail bed will still need to be maintained in a way to be a usable rail bed if needed in the future.

APPROVE LVRTC MEMBERS - TED CHASE: Pat Poulin reported as Ted Chase is out of state. The Board was presented with a list of applicants.

- Daniel Zucker (Non-Motorized Representative Candidate) **Barry Bradley moved and Kenny Gammell seconded to approve Daniel Zucker to the Committee. Motion carried.**
- Michael O'Hara (VAST Representative Candidate) **Kenny Gammell moved and Steve Fielding seconded to approve Michael O'Hara to the Committee. Motion carried.**
- Daniel Favreau (VAST Representative Candidate) **Roone Gibbs moved and Kenny Gammell seconded to approve Daniel Favreau to the Committee. Motion carried.**
- Kenneth E. Hoepfner (Non-Motorized Representative Candidate) withdrew his application to the committee.
- Julius "Red" Goodman (Non-Motorized Representative Candidate) **Kenny Gammell moved and Steve Fielding seconded to approve Julius "Red: Goodman to the Committee. Motion carried.**
- Danny Hale (VAST Representative Candidate) Comments about the conflict of interest with Mr. Hale representing VAST when he is the President of VASA, the state ATV association were made. He is a snowmobiler too. It was also pointed out that having Danny Hale on the committee would provide a good way of getting information to the VASA members. It has been very beneficial to have him at the meetings that have been held so far. Other comments made were that it is better to have more diverse representation. **Jim Hill moved and Larry Trottier seconded to approve Danny Hale to the committee. Motion carried with Roone Gibbs, Steve Fielding and Ken Gammell opposed.**

TRAILS COMMITTEE DISCUSSION – ALEXIS AND ANN: Alexis Nowalk lead the conversation. Currently the Trails Committee is very large and due to its size, it's very difficult at times to get things accomplished. Ann Shangraw and Alexis Nowalk have discussed ways to change the dynamics of the Trails Committee to be more effective. Ann and Alexis asked for support from the Board to change the dynamics. Each County will be asked to have only one Trails Coordinator on the Trails Committee. The counties that have two Trails Coordinators because of their size will be asked to have one of their trails coordinator be an alternate. Alexis and Ann will work on the wording and will present a proposed change to vote on at the next Board meeting.

STRATEGIC PLANNING: Ann Shangraw asked the Board if it would be all right if she selects a small committee to draft a long term strategic plan to present to the Board. The committee will consist of Jim Hill, Bryant Watson, Alexis Nowalk, Steve Fielding, Scott Stone, Pat Poulin, Bonnie Holbrook, Ann Shangraw and Dave LaBelle.

EARLY BIRD TMA INCENTIVE: Orleans County has a Lodge that will be giving a three nights stay. The other counties are asked to get at least one prize into the VAST office within the next couple weeks.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: The **Board Resources Committee** has a camping trip planned as previously discussed. We are looking at having a retreat this winter. The committee will meet at 5:30 before the Board meeting next month. The **2006 ISC Committee** is wrapping things up. Bonnie Holbrook and Bryant Watson met with the Sheraton to review the bill and how things went. We've gotten all the bills in although we are still waiting for some sponsor money. We have gotten enough funds in to pay all the bills. The **Annual Meeting Committee** is at the Barre Auditorium. Sambels and the Northfield Snowmobile Club are doing the Banquet. It's a B.Y.O.B. There will be workshops and "snowmobile races" during the day. We will check on the possibility of parking Motorhomes overnight in the parking lot. The **PR & Marketing Committee** discussed keeping some programs alive and is working on them. The **Recognition Committee** is all set to go with awards for the Annual Meeting. The **Trails Committee** meeting at the Ludlow Sidehill Crunchers happened and the feed was really good. A lot of the committee members did not show up. The next Trails meeting will be a potluck dinner.

President Ann asked if we could have our summer potluck next month. The office will supply the meat and drinks and paper products. Each County will bring something. This will be a true potluck so counties do not have to sign up for a certain item. The next Director's Meeting is August 28th, 2006. **Steve Fielding moved and Bruce Murray seconded to adjourn at 7:22 PM. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Holbrook
Recording Secretary