

VAST BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

December 18, 2006

Minutes

DIRECTORS, ALTERNATES & STAFF PRESENT: Steve Fielding-Addison; John Perkins-Bennington; Ken Gammell-Caledonia; Jim Hill-Chittenden; Dave Page-Essex; Jon Ross-Franklin; Bill Oakes-Grand Isle; Brian Wells **{Absent}**-Lamoille; Larry Trottier-Orange; Brian Cook-Orleans; Norman Gilman-Rutland; Johnny Lynds-Washington; Roone Gibbs **{Absent}**-Windham; Bruce Murray-Windsor; Ann Shangraw-President; Pat Poulin-Vice-President; Mark Ellingwood-Treasurer; Bonnie Holbrook-Recording Secretary; Bryant Watson-Executive Director, Alexis Nowalk-SSTP Trails Administrator

GUESTS: Mitzi Oakes, Jim Holbrook, Star Poulin, Jeff Fay, Jodie Ross, Stacy Lynds, Josh Nelson, Sandy Woodbeck, Roberta Stammers, Conrad Stewart, Rhonda Bedell, Norm & Betty Roark, Mark Reaves, Sue Trottier

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by President Ann Shangraw.

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT: *Jim Hill moved and Bruce Murray seconded to approve the minutes of November 27, 2006 Board of Directors meeting. Motion carried.*

TREASURER'S REPORT: *Pat Poulin moved and Bruce Murray seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.* Mark Ellingwood gave a brief summarization of the cash flow. There were a few questions regarding expenditures.

CONSENT CALENDAR-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT and TRAIL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: *Bruce Murray moved and Larry Trottier seconded to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Motion carried.*

Jamie McFeehan, with our Government Relations team, addressed the Board and spoke about some proposed legislation for Landowner Appreciation that we hope to have submitted in the coming legislative session.

COUNTY REPORTS:

- Most counties have trails signed and ready to go. There have been some reroutes so riders need to follow signs. Orleans County suggested that we get more lighting for the VAST parking lot. There are still some pending legal issues. There is a lot of water on the trails that need to freeze. Chittenden County announced the 2007 VAST Annual Meeting will be at the Champlain Valley Expo and will be on September 29th.

LAMOILLE VALLEY RAIL TRAIL – Management Plan:

- Thirty-four (34) comments were received with two basic issues raised.
 - Use of herbicides
 - Abutting landowner representation on the management committee.
- Public comments will be put on the VAST website.
- The committee proposed a change in one area of the Interim Management Plan.

Jim Hill moved and Bruce Murray seconded to approve the LVRT Management Plan as approved by the LVRT Committee. Motion carried.

ANN SHANGRAW REGARDING EMAIL FROM DEALER: Ann Shangraw received an email from a dealer requesting discounted TMAs. Dealers and other members need to remember that even when there is a "no/little snow" year, that there are still many expenses involved with rerouting trails, trails constructions, equipment grants and operating a statewide snowmobile system. Without our volunteers and the trails, the dealers would probably not be in business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- The **Board Resources & Organizational Planning Committee** suggested moving the Board Retreat to February.
- The **Landowner Appreciation Committee** is moving forward with proposed legislation.
- The **Recognition, Scholarship & Volunteerism Committee** is working on the Volunteer Weekend & Scholarship application materials.
 - Saturday was the cut off date for purchasing TMAs to be in the Early Bird Drawing.
- The next combined **Governor's Snowmobile Council/Responsible Riding and PR Committee** is January 9th.
 - Clubs need to be careful where they put up the Landowner Thank You signs due to billboard laws in Vermont.
- The **Trails Committee** had a very productive meeting with the new reorganized committee. They are reviewing the Equipment Grant in Aid policies.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Bruce Murray moved and John Perkins seconded for the Board and Alternate Directors to go into Executive Session at 6:59 to discuss Personnel Issues. Motion carried.

Jim Hill moved and Steve Fielding seconded to come out of Executive Session at 7:10 PM. Motion carried.

Dave Page moved and John Ross seconded to accept the Committee evaluation for the employee evaluation and grant a 3% raise. Motion carried.

The next Director's Meeting is January 22, 2007 at 6:00 PM with refreshments to be provided by Grand Isle County. **Ken Gammell moved and Bruce Murray seconded to adjourn at 7:13 PM. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted by

Bonnie Holbrook, VAST Recording Secretary