



South Coast Bikeway Alliance

Steering Committee Meeting November 14, 2017

Dartmouth Town Hall, 6:00 PM

Attendees:

Bob Espindola, Jeff Oakes, Bonne DeSousa, Sandy Medeiros, Gail Hartnett Rodrigues, Mike Langford, Paul Pawlowski, Greg Barnes, Alex Bulhoes, Jen Carloni, Dawn Dimarco, Frank Rodrigues, Hank Reilly, Keith MacDonald, Mike Labossierre

Treasurer's Report

Bob and Bonne are working to have Rockland Trust extend check signing privileges to Greg. Bob reported a balance of \$2,710.99 in the account prior to the Trail Building Workshops. The invoices for the Workshop expenses will be submitted to the DCR ASAP. A motion was made and passed unanimously to pay Peter Jensen and Associates, LLC for their workshop services. The volunteer services provided at the workshop will be calculated at the rate of \$29/hour and applied toward the 20% match requirement of the DCR Grant.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of October 10, 2017 were passed unanimously.

Reports/Updates

Executive Committee:

Greg will renew the IRS Non-Profit status forms.

Bonne asked for a volunteer to function as the SCBA Secretary, with no takers.

Workshop:

Sandy described the well-attended Trail Building Workshops and both Hank and Frank stressed the value of the hands on and group building experience.

Scenic Greenway Committee:

Paul reported on the meeting attended by Mary Ellen, Keith and himself. They have to elect officers and may be meeting twice a month to prepare CPA grant applications New Bedford and additional information in support of the Westport CPA grant submittal. Gail offered to have the applications printed at the YMCA. Both the New Bedford and Westport grant applications were for \$10,000 to be used for the Scenic Greenway Feasibility Study. The timing of the grant awards is likely to mean the final Feasibility Study may not be ready until February, 2019. In the meantime an application can be made for Fall River CPA funds. It was noted that the Quequechan River Rail Trail (QRRT) dispute was currently occupying the Fall River bicycle advocacy groups but that a member from that community is needed on the Scenic Greenway Committee.

Dartmouth:

Greg noted reported that 0.85 acres of land suitable for a trail head parking lot and a 97 acre parcel suitable for a portion of the Scenic Greenway had been acquired by Dartmouth. Dartmouth's CPA grants applications are due on January 24th with the award on March 6th. Greg suggested that the SCBA do a Super Bowl walk to raise awareness of the Scenic Greenway. It could coincide with the Big Walk held 2 weekends before Mother's Day.

Future DCR Grant Projects:

Bob suggested a small do-able project such as a connection to the QRRT on the Father Tomaso trail might be an option and asked if anyone was willing to help with that project. If that does not work we need to come up with additional ideas to maintain momentum.

Quequechan River Rail Trail:

The potential for a driveway easement to a commercial property across the recently dedicated QRRT was discussed.



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Summer Bike Challenge:

Bob will present the trophy to Fairhaven which won the Trophy for 2017 which had been previously been held by Mattapoissett. He will be looking for someone else to promote the Summer Bike Challenge for 2018.

Bike Share:

The presentation by VBike of their bike share program was attended by members of a number of SCBA towns. Bonne offered to provide a contact to anyone interested.

Light Brigade:

The bike lights have yet to be received from MassBike. SCBA will be looking for volunteers to distribute them, possibly linked to an SCBA event sometime before June 2018.

OTHER BUSINESS

Fundraising:

The SCBA is in need of fundraising to replace our depleted funds. The Officers and the Event insurance policies need to be purchased (\$1,000±) and our annual operating expenses of \$2,500 needs to be funded. Janice Velozo offered to help Bob with a grant application to the Narragansett Bay Wheelmen which allows use of the grant for operational expenses. Bob will provide a Draft Grant application to the SCBA for comment prior to submittal.

Membership Fees:

A motion was made by Bob and seconded by Bonne to solicit \$15 annual individual memberships and \$100 business memberships from our SCBA membership e-mail list. The e-mail solicitation will note the membership fees are tax deductible. A Pay Pal account will be established by the SCBA Treasurer to receive the fees. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. The idea of establishing a Go Fund Me account for the Scenic Greenway Project was discussed and will be considered by the Scenic Greenway Committee.

Tree for Karen Pearson:

The SCBA has no funds to contribute at this time.

SCBA Meeting Schedule:

The third Tuesday of each month was selected as meeting dates for the SCBA Steering Committee meetings for 2018.

The 2018 Summit will need to be organized soon. Dawn Dimarco of Mass in Motion will look into booking the Fort Taber meeting room again for Thursday, March 22, 2018.

Opening for Question/Comments from meeting attendees:

A number of attendees expressed the opinion that the Trail Building Workshops were very beneficial on a number of levels. The SCBA should continue to build on the success of those workshops. It would be beneficial to have received handouts from the Workshops. They may be forthcoming from the Workshop facilitators. The handouts, photographs and other graphics could be worked into a presentation for the Summit.

The next meeting will be held on December 19th at 6 PM at the Dartmouth Town Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05.

Respectfully submitted

Jeffrey Oakes