

VAST Board of Directors – November 21, 2016 Minutes

Approved at the December 19, 2016 Meeting

OFFICER PRESENT:

President: Tim Mills
Vice President: Jeff Fay
Treasurer: Tom Baltrus
Secretary: Jim Hill

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Addison: Lewis Barnes
Bennington: Vacant
Caledonia: Ken Gammell
Chittenden: Pat Poulin
Essex: Dave Page
Franklin: Absent
Grand Isle: Dave Ladd
Lamoille: Carmin Lemery
Orange: Ron Garvin
Orleans; Roger Gosselin
Rutland: Merritt Budd
Washington: Mark Reaves
Windham: Absent
Windsor: Dick Jewett

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS PRESENT: Stewart Ahearn, Essex County

STAFF PRESENT:

Executive Director: Cindy Locke
Trails Administrator: Matt Tetreault
Trails Manager: Shane Prisby
Office Coordinator: Cyndy Carrier Jones

GUESTS PRESENT: Ed Hebebrand, Phyllis Jewett

Meeting called to order at 6:12 PM

Recognition of Visitors

Approval of Agenda: Dave Page moved to approve the Agenda as present; Lewis Barnes seconded, so moved.

Secretary's Report: Lewis Barnes moved to approve the Secretary's Report as presented; Dave Page seconded, so moved.

Set of Plans for Pole Barn are in discussion.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Baltrus gave an overview of the financials for the period ended October 2016.

Dick Jewett had a question on the LVRT budget regarding the monthly interest. Cindy Locke will look into it and get back to the board.

Dick Jewett moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented; Roger Gosselin seconded, so moved.

New Business

Funding of VSTC

- Cindy Locke noted that the VSTC meets once a month. We will continue to help fund this account. The Committee has been discussing maybe having a dollar amount put aside every season after a certain amount of TMAs have been sold to help fund this account.
- A brief discussion followed. Changes cannot happen this year as it would require a Bylaw change or Policy change.

Policy Changes

- Jeff Fay reviewed the changes / updates to the Policy.
- Military TMA – Limit to a purchase of two. They must show their military ID and status. There is a site that they can go to to print out a certificate to verify this rather than copying their ID. VAST is also opening it up to non-resident military (motion made last month and approved).
- Travel Reimbursement – this stems from the bylaw changes allowing non-resident officers. This is funded within the current budget. Limiting travel to in-state? Decided to leave it open ended and will address the issue as it comes up.
- New Section – suspected misappropriation of use of Club Funds (see attached).
- There was general discussion about this. We didn't have anything in place to address this, so thought we should put something in the Policy.
- Mark Reaves – change the wording to 'At the request of the county director or club officer'.
- Dick Jewett made a motion to send the proposed section, "Suspected Misappropriation of Funds", back to the Policy Committee to review; Pat Poulin seconded, so moved.
- Dick Jewett made a motion to approve the remainder of the proposed Policy changes with the exception of G; Pat Poulin seconded, so moved.

Club Compliance

- Cindy Locke – The meetings are going very well; have done a number of Counties. The meetings cover a number of issues that are important to the clubs.

On Line TMA Update

- Cindy Locke – The new on-line system is working very well; sold 71 so far; about half are non-residents.

VTrans Lease with VAST

- Cindy Locke – we have received two documents from VTrans; neither of them included the issues we had. It didn't include the lease itself.
- Act 250 – Hans is our new attorney. We had a meeting and Hans is putting together 3 different reasons why we shouldn't be in Act 250.

- Shane Prisby – We are trying to look at this in a broad sense. The Burlington Bike Path has the same things that the LVRT has, so this is a good example for us to use. Maintenance is covered under the railroad, rail banking is a real part of rail lines.
- Federal preemption.
- They are very optimistic about the Act 250 issue.
- Process and timeline; we have until next year.
- Cindy has reached out to Phil Scott’s office regarding this.
- Hans will continue to work pro bono on this unless we have to go through Act 250.

Committee Reports

Annual Meeting

- Carmin Lemery had a question about charging vendors.
- Cindy Locke and Merritt Budd answered – you charge all vendors.

Finance

- Cindy Locke discussed the issue of constructing a pole barn for next year for VAST equipment.

PR & Marketing

- Carmin Lemery – Saturday, February 818 – Military Appreciation Ride In – Oxbow Park in Morrisville – 10 – 2.

Governor’s Council

- Dick Jewett gave an overview of the November meeting minutes.

Other

- Merritt Budd announce that his last meeting as a Board member will be December 2016. Kurt Marcheaux will be stepping in as the County Director for Rutland.
- Issue with snowmobiles going to gas stations – access from the trails to the station. Have checked with Stewart’s Shop and they are requesting a copy of our insurance policy.
- VAST Office has some dead trees that need to come down. Looking for some volunteers to help with this.

Next meeting is Monday, December 19, 2016 with a Holiday Dinner at 5:15 PM.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.