

VMBA Board Meeting Minutes
 October 17, 2018 6-8pm
 Best Western, Waterbury

Members present:

x	Mike Bell, Chapter Representative	x	Melissa Moore, Treasurer
x	Judy Boyd	x	Alex Showerman
x	Brad DeBoer, Chapter Representative via phone	x	Adam St. Germain via phone
x	Hilary DelRoss, Co-Chair via phone	x	Tom Stuessy, Executive Director
x	Jeff Dickson, Secretary	x	John Tedesco, Chair

Guest: Monique Gilbert

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Items
Administrative Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Minutes from September 12, 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MM moved to approve, JB seconds, all approved, none opposed, none abstained. ● September Actions items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strategic Plan Survey (All) ○ Annual Fund Donor lists (All) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Hilary, John, and Jeff provided names to Tom, everyone else needs to get Tom names ○ Governor Questionnaire (AS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Alex will draft a questionnaire this week 	ALL- Provide Tom 5-7 names of potential annual fund donors
Festival Follow-Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jeff mentioned that the BOD has been discussing the pros/cons of continuing the Fest given the resources it requires from Jacob and the relatively limited value it seems to provide to VMBA ● Mike Bell reported that the STAB board is generally in favor of hosting the Fest again and has discussed what it would mean if VMBA stepped out of the organizing role ● John noted that STP recently hosted Leaf Blower and had 236 attendees with no involvement from VMBA -- nearly as many as the Fest ● Melissa raised the possibility of flipping the 60/40 split between VMBA and STAB to 40/60 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tom suggested that a split of some kind can still work out financially but with more administrative contributions and less logistics and organizing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Not necessarily 40/60, even 25/75 could be feasible ○ Proposed an MOU to work with STAB on a new arrangement for continuing the Fest with less VMBA involvement ● The BOD authorized Tom to explore new cost-effective models for VMBA Fest with STAB or another chapter within the next 30 days and report back to the BOD 	
<p>Treasurer's Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Melissa reported that September income is down 16%, but relative to the yearly budget we are up 10% in income ● We are at 75% for the annual projected income for the year ● Overall, on a year to month basis VMBA is OK financially, and on an annual basis VMBA is doing very, very well if the budget plays out as anticipated ● STP also reached out to Melissa about reviewing VMBA financials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A meeting is scheduled for STP to look at VMBA's books on 10/24 with Melissa, Tom, and Alison to present and answer questions ○ STP seems particularly interested in how Cabot and OGE funds are spent ○ Alison has prepared a significant, very thorough amount of information for their review 	
<p>VMBA Press Trip</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alex reported on the Vermont MTB press trip in which various journalists from Backcountry, Singletracks, Mountain Flyer, Men's Journal, etc. attended ● Trip exceeded expectations in terms of response from participants ● Journalists were very impressed by the VMBA model and advocacy in Vermont, which they recognized is unique and is working ● Received good feedback that can be used in chapter discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ e.g. really appreciated the amount of directional trails in Vermont, with dedicated climbs and descents 	
<p>Advisory Council Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapters promised to review the membership model after 5 years ● Council agreed to conduct that review and a subcommittee was formed 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Preliminary plan was shared with Advisory Council and feedback provided ● Advisory Council met in early October and dove into all things VMBA financials after initial request from FOTW ● Chapters were overwhelmingly supportive of the information shared and several wanted to know how Chapters can do more to help VMBA with its administrative needs ● Major proposed membership model changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase member dues to \$55/year but maintain the 50/50 split between chapters and VMBA ○ Possible increase of cap to \$13,000, STP on the fence 	
STP Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tom, John, and Jeff met with Drew, Rachel, and Evan of Stowe Trails Partnership board ● The meeting was very productive in clearing the air about past interactions between STP and VMBA and creating a sense of cooperation and shared interests moving forward 	
ED Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Act 250 & Trails and Greenways Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commission started to hear testimony last week ○ FPR sent a survey to trail-based organizations, which they filled out together ○ Vermont Trail Alliance has been created for lobbying purposes ● Annual Fund will be launching next week ● Cabot Proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will be covering the entire cost of the website backend ○ Very into in- and out-of-state marketing ○ Will be sponsoring VMBA bike raffle again ○ Etc. 	
Board Succession & Annual Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● John announced that today's meeting is his last and he will not be able to attend the Annual Meeting as Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ John, Wyatt, and ideally another BOD member will continue working on trail grant ● Melissa's tenure also is ending but she willing to help with crossover for new Treasurer after her term ends 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wyatt has resigned from the BOD due to his move to BC and difficulty participating in meeting remotely	

Next meeting: Annual Meeting, Nov 29, Montpelier