

New Hampshire Statewide Trails Advisory Committee (STAC)
Meeting Minutes from April 8, 2008

In Attendance

Members:

- Tom DiMaggio (Chair) NH Mushers Assoc
- Greg Placy NH DOT/Dist 1
- Ken Domey NH Off Highway Vehicle Assoc
- Jerry Moore NH DOT/Bike-Ped
- Debbie Briscoe NH Horse Council
- Jack Waldron SPNHF
- Judy Silva NH Municipal Assoc
- Jack Chapman FOMBA
- Jeff Balch NHTSA
- Scott Hatch NEA4WDC

Staff:

- Jennifer Codispoti NH Trails Bureau
- Bill Gegas NH Trails Bureau

Guests:

- 21 members of the NH ATV and New Durham Valley ATV Clubs

Open Meeting

7:05 PM, meeting called to order.

Introductions

Members and guests introduced themselves and their affiliations.

Review Minutes

Minutes from the January 8, 2008 meeting reviewed and accepted.

OHRV Update

Jeff B informed the committee that after a great winter the majority of snowmobile trails in the Southern portion of the state are now closed. Many trails in the Northern portion of the state are still open. Extra funds have been release to continue grooming operations.

Recreational Trails Program

It has recently been brought to the attention of the States' RTP coordinators that the current Federal Transportation Bill is up for renewal. Because the Federal Highway Administration is facing large budget shortfall in the national transportation fund, there is the potential that smaller programs such as RTP may not be reauthorized. It was agreed by the committee that a letter should be sent to our representatives in the US Congress and Senate by the chairman on behalf of the committee urging the importance of reauthorizing the program.

Heritage Trail Update

New developments to the Heritage Trail have been happening in Bristol. Jenn C has received new pictures of the public utilizing the trail. Jenn C also reports that she has been receiving several requests from town for HT signs.

Old Business

Non-motorized trail funding. Jenn C informed the STAC that a Memorandum of Agreement has been drafted between DRED and the AMC. This MOA outlines the establishment of a volunteer trail adopter program which may be accepted as a pilot program as early as this summer. The Bureau will provide tools to the parks, of which park managers will keep for the volunteers. Pilot sites will likely be in Bear Brook State Park and Mt. Kearsarge State Forest. Volunteer training should be available. The House RR&D Committee is still waiting for STAC to make recommendations for any pending legislation regarding a non-motorized trail funding program. They are currently keeping the bill on hold as DRED and AMC work on the adopter program. Discussion. Motion made by Jack W to form sub-committee to study non-motorized funding potentials. STAC agreed, calling for 2 motorized and 2 non-motorized volunteers along with one Bureau staff advisor.

Trail etiquette. Tom D will follow up.

New Business

PowerPoint Presentation by Ken D of the New Hampshire Off Highway Vehicle Association. Issues facing OHRV Use in NH.

Next meeting set for September 9, 2008 DRED conference room, 172 Pembroke Road, Concord.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.