

Meeting date: Monday, March 9th, 2015

Meeting time: 5:30 pm at Clementine restaurant

Directors present were Charlie Chenault, Mike Bowen, Ritchie Vaughan, Kyle Lawrence, Ben Sandel, Tim Cupp. Marcia Lamphier was present in her co-treasurer role. Jason Burch was present in his secretarial and transitioning financial role.

Minutes were reviewed from the February Meeting. **Charlie Chenault moved to accept the minutes pending the changes, seconded by Ritchie, approved by all.**

The February checking account reports were reviewed by the board. Marcia, Kyle and Jason gave a brief history of the financial system and where the system is going.

Kyle gave a membership update. There are 565 unique members. Kyle gave a brief history and future direction of the membership system.

Old Business:

- Regional Bicycle Economic Impact study. Kyle, in Rich's absence gave a quick update on the current progress. The remaining proposal for the project was for about \$40,000. Estimated costs were around \$15,000-\$20,000. The new proposal has the Central Shenandoah Planning District to survey the locality. The full study has fallen through due to this issue.
- Mike and Misty should have a proposal at the next meeting for the NICA Youth mountain bicycling program.
- Ben Wise purchased some advertising opportunities on WMRA. He will offer this to the SVBC for whatever we would like to use. The timing is for concurrence with Bike Month.
- Kyle asked if there was any discussion on the goals that we created in 2014. The board discussed the history of the goals. Ideas posed were: reviewing these goals regularly as well as having them on the table in from to the board during meetings.
- Safe Routes to school purchased 100 bikes for schools this winter. Waterman elementary does not have a place to store these bikes. The program is asking for \$2,200 for the Massanutten Vocational Technology school to build a shed to store the bicycles. Questions the board raised: can we do a matching grant or are there other participants.? The board was generally supportive but had some questions to Nathan regarding some specifics. Ben stated that this would be an excellent opportunity show the city we are in strong support of their program. Some ideas surfaced regarding caveats to Nathan associated with mobilizing SVBC's name in press releases for doing this.
- Kyle has not provided any material to Karen Ford who will be facilitating the board retreat later this month. Kyle asked for any feedback with last year's retreat. Mike said in initial brainstorm would be a great idea. Ben thought it would be good to present a brief timeline of the organization. The long history is very important to the understanding of the direction of the current organization.

New Business:

- The board welcomed their new board members (Charlie, and Tim) to the meeting, Dan Finseth could not attend the meeting.
- Scott B. gave an update on the Safe routes to school program as well as the Drivers Ed. Program in the Rockingham County school programs. He discussed potential Merck grants that could be acquired and where and how they could be applied. He expressed interest in starting to match youth programs in the direction best associated with the areas offerings and methodologies to approach this. There are opportunities for a part time coordinator that could move towards a full time coordinator. Details associated with a coordinator position have not completely been fleshed out yet. He explained some geographic challenges that the county faces with its schools and locations. He explained that the grant is annual and is renewed annually. The city has had terrific opportunity renewing their grant; this is in part due to the tight connections of the City's program with the community.

Scott then gave a brief description and introduction to the youth mountain bicycling program. Another gentleman, Zach Foster, has extensive experience with education youth regarding natural environment and outdoorsman skills. Scott B., Scott Wooten, Thomas Jenkins, Kurt Rosenberger, and Zach met last week regarding the potential of this program. Vision: what if students could build trails, run on trails, and ride on trails? These ideas are in the brainstorming phases and there is plenty of work to do.

Kyle explained that this is part of the master picture of the SVBC regarding its youth initiatives, community building and sponsoring opportunities. The board was very supportive and offered many comments. The primary question at this point: is the SVBC comfortable offering its 501 (c) (3) status to apply for the grant. Group consensus was around fiscal responsibility associated with grant application. Concern was voiced to make sure the leaders of this idea to come forward with a more fixed organization to help ensure and guarantee fiscal responsibility and mitigate risks associated with this.

Mike Bowen made a motion to apply for the proposed Merck Grant (Scott B. Scott W, Thomas J., Kurt R., and Zach F. to perform work) with intentions to fund youth development through trail building projects in the Massanutten Western slope area. Seconded by Ritchie Vaughan and approved by all.

Committee Reports:

- Kyle gave an update on the RTP grant. The documents have been officially signed. We will be receiving another grant for \$250,000 matching 80/20 grant. He said that there have been 14 contractors interested. The pre-bid meeting has been pushed back due to the snow.
- We had an opportunity to meet with the George Washington and Jefferson Forest Head Superintendent. The meeting was terrific and some good conversation was had. Mr. Speaks expressed his interest in long range plans.

- The Harrisonburg City bike and pedestrian subcommittee will be working on a revision/update to the current Bike/Ped plan.
- Rockingham Bicycle Pedestrian Plan is moving forward with the MPO and County taking the lead in developing the plan. Public meetings will likely be in the fall with the approval of the plan to follow.
- The meeting was adjourned at 19:00.