**Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition Monthly Social, December 12, 2011**

Mike Carpenter at the helm

Membership - Annie – all time membership high – 400 ish, wahoo (we were 320 last year)

Treasurer’s Report – Marcia –$ 13,000 in checking

* Income: 3,800 (gran fondo donation, 2,700; bike racks, $60)
* Expenses: 2,800 (trailwork – 1,500 with SMT; bike racks, bike summit, league certified instructor course)

Weekly Rides/Work

* Sunday rides are still going from Bridgewater and Harrisonburg
* Saturday trail work – Hillendale
  + New green trail going in near the power line cut!
  + Work at the pump track, Boy Scouts cleared out a huge area, and work has been going on
  + Every Saturday throughout the winter except for Christmas and New Year’s, 9 am to noon. It’s a great way to start your weekend.

Hunting – high powered rifle season is done; Massanutten is still closed except for Sundays, cause they stay open through black powder, etc.

First Ride of the year!

* January 1, Icicle Ride, Wildwood Park in Bridgewater

DCR (VA Department of Conservation and Recreation) RTP Grant

* SVBC has been awarded our second DCR grant, about $127,000—we are SO COOL!!
  + (DCR is a state agency that administers the federal RTP grant, which I presume stands for Recreational Trails Program. So this is federal money that comes to us via the Commonwealth of VA, and we got it to work on trails in the George Washington National Forest)
* This is a maintenance grant (rather than new trails) – working on Lookout Mountain, Narrowback (continuing Festival work), Camp Todd
* $27,000 of the 127 is a share, with contribution from SVBC, Shenandoah Mountain Touring and the Forest Service. We’ll be delivering ours in work hours
* Thanks so much to the guys who worked so hard on the grant: Kyle Lawrence, Chris Scott, Thomas Jenkins, Carp, PJ, and thank you Forest Service
* There are and will be plenty of opportunities to get involved (starting 6 am tomorrow morning from ChrisScottistan)

Virginia DCR is looking for input on their big planning process (this has nothing to do with the Forest Service plan, below,, lots of planning going on)

* Their plan is called the Virginia Outdoor Plan
* Meetings Tomorrow at 3 and 7 pm – Stanton – they’re looking for long term and short term projects to add to their plan

Forest Service will have another draft of the George Washington plan out soon

* 50,000 comments received during public comment period, which ended a bit over a month ago, now we wait

SVBC Board Elections

* 7 people on Board, 2 year terms, 4 folks’ terms are ending: Carp, Marty Neary, Marcia, Mark Veerman --(boooooo, don’t go!); Four folks are running: Travis Layman, Ben Sandel, Rich Harris, Jen Wolfson

Advocacy

* Travis Layman is going to start a monthly casual advocacy (city, county, etc.) lunch, Wednesdays at noon at Dave’s, info will be on the website, in the newsletters
* County-Terry Short from VDOT is coming to meet with our county biking crew, cool
* Nupes, a roadie, requests that mountain bikers respond to road-related advocacy requests, e.g., in the last newsletter there was a note that Blue Ridge parkway is considering closing to bikes!! So please, even if you never ride the Blue Ridge parkway, respond with a quick email… Ditto for other requests… (Note: Nupes has been to Hillendale trail work twice this fall!)

February is club pot luck

And that was… the shortest meeting EVER!! 24 minutes!! Go Carpenter go!!

Next meeting, same time, same place, second Monday of the Month, Ruby’s (Clementine’s Basement), 7:30, January 9, 2012

Minutes by Jennifer.Wolfson@gmail.com