

SORBA minutes for the meeting on January 16, 2014.

A meeting of members was held at the YMCA Corporate. The meeting commenced at 7:45 P.M.

Welcome/Roll call

Mary Anne Swanstrom welcomed all the members. Jennifer Gravlee took attendance.

Members Present

Tim Barnack, Matt Dewitt, Jennifer Gravlee, Steven Gravlee, John Hunt, Rush Mitchell, Scott Schlapman, Jennifer Smith, Mary Anne Swanstrom, Jenny Vick, John Price.

Communications- Karen Gauthier

Karen will design a poster for time trials. She will help Rush Mitchell and Jennifer Gravlee with designing anything needed for memberships. MaryAnne Swanstrom mentioned Karen designing cards to hand out with SORBA information. Scott Schlapman added that we should put cards out at the trails that gave step by step directions of what to do in case of an emergency. Jenny Vick suggested a permanent map located at different points on the trail that showed where the person is and include details about adjoining trails. The members decided we would need a box or something to put this information in. Nothing was set regarding this.

Membership- Jennifer Gravlee

Jennifer made the group aware that we have 210 members, but only 60 current. She stated that the main goal of the year was to increase membership. Rush Mitchell will be assisting Jennifer with memberships. The ladies will reach out to past members who let their membership expire. With the input of Steven Gravlee and Karen Gauthier they will design a template to send to members who let their membership lapse. The flyer will let members know of the great things SORBA has going on for 2014. Rush and Jennifer will also work with Steven and Karen on designing a newsletter that is sent out to members bi-monthly. Jennifer and Rush

agreed that having the time trial riders pay for a membership would help our membership number.

Treasury John Hunt

John Hunt stated we have \$5,733 in the bank. We all agreed that the club takes in more than we spend. Next on the list was insurance. The insurance policy regarding was Time Trials was the main decision. John Hunt and Scott Schlapman were both looking at policies. The members were trying to decide if it is beneficial to buy the policy for non-members to participate in the time trials or not. John stated that the SORBA insurance will cover current members to ride. The policy for non-members is roughly \$1,500. Scott and John are going to continue to look into policies. Nothing was decided on buying the non-member time trial coverage at this time.

The Adopt a mile clean-up was set for March 8th. The board discussed having a clean-up in the afternoon and a night ride after that.

Social Events- Jenny Vick

New Belgium Brewing Co. will be distributing Fat Tire beer in Alabama starting January 27, and Jenny and Jenn are working with the distributor to provide swag for a social. The spring picnic is on the schedule for April 26. Jenny is checking into a band. Scott suggested Salty Nut to help with beer for the event. Jennifer Gravlee agreed as well to try and keep it local. Jenny Vick will check with Salty Nut about this. Jenny Vick suggested SORBA participate in; a Percy Warner night ride in Nashville, a camping trip in the fall at Mulberry Gap, a pool party at Monte Sano, wild game cookoff in Decatur in October, Scavenger hunt October 11th.

Trail Work – Matt Dewitt and Tim Barnack

Next trail day set for February 8th. Focus on educating people how to build trails. The cost of SORBA trail school is \$350-\$450 per participant. Group discussed having different leaders and splitting into different groups to complete certain tasks on trail days. Great improvements were made to dummy line. Matt and Tim will decide what trail will be worked on February 8th and give a trail plan to Mary Anne by January 27.

IMBA/SORBA – Mary Anne Swanstrom

Mary Anne spoke with the IMBA/SORBA leader and instead of Guntersville having their own chapter, the Huntsville chapter will be the chapter for north Alabama. Guntersville will be putting in new trails similar to Cold Water Mountain with help from the state. Matt Dewitt brought up that he has mixed feelings about that since we could use the help in Huntsville. Jenny Vick stated that if we help Guntersville then we could be next in line to receive help from the state. Mary Anne said the IMBA-SORBASummit will be held March 21st – 23rd in Anniston, and SORBA Ex. Dir. Tom Sauret is planning a meeting with Alabama State Parks on March 21 to discuss a statewide mountain bike trail.

Time Trials – Scott Schlapman

May 29th – August 7th is the timeframe for the event and the week of July 4th will be skipped. Scott will start an event page on Facebook soon for the series. Scott is in contact with Salty Nut brewery with possibly providing two small kegs per race. Scott suggested doing pint glasses and T-Shirts for members as part of a schwag bag. Tim suggested socks instead of T-shirts so you did not have to worry about sizes. Scott has a friend who can screen print T-shirts for a reasonable price. Tim suggested changing age groups for the time-trial. Rush Mitchell suggested that showing up should count for more than fifteen second difference. Scott wants to bring back the Arrowhead course. Scott educated group on a new timing system that would utilize three iPads with bluetooth and one hotspot. The group discussed buying one or more iPads but decided to hold off and see how the program works. Jennifer Gravlee offered use of her iPad to use. Mary Anne recommended for the first race to also use stop watches. Tim and Scott will do a practice race with the system to make sure it works as intended. The cost for the software is \$60. Mary Anne Swanstrom made a motion to purchase the software. Jenny Vick seconded the motion, and the club voted in favor of purchasing the software.

Other business

Some people have paid for jerseys, and Scott has not ordered them yet. ProGold has withdrawn sponsorship from the race due to a disagreement with IMBA-SORBA over distribution. Scott wants to take ProGold off the jersey and needs to add Southern Carnage. Scott will call and check on doing this within the upcoming week.

Mary Anne brought up that we need to check with Land Trust and Monte Sano on our Memorandums of Understanding with the land managers of these properties. We all need to be learning to use Wordpress, the web site platform, and putting important dates on the calendar through gmail. As members we need to get on the Facebook page often and update trail conditions.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 P.M.