

SORBA meeting minutes for March 6, 2014

A meeting of members was held on March 6, 2014 at the YMCA Corporate Office, 120 Holmes Avenue, Huntsville, AL. The meeting commenced at 6:35 P.M.

Welcome/Roll Call- Mary Anne Swanstrom welcomed the members and Jennifer Gravlee took attendance.

Members Present- Mary Anne Swanstrom, Jennifer Gravlee, Steven Gravlee, Kauren Gauthier, Scott Schlapman, Tim Barnack, Bethel Bradford, Matt Dewitt, Jenny Vick, Jenn Smith, Derek Pommerenck, John Hunt, Grace Ragland, Freddy Steele, and Robert Murphy.

Memberships- Jennifer Gravlee- Jennifer announced to the group that we have 57 current members, 6 lapsed, and 140 expired. The group agreed that if we continue to do what we are doing the membership will grow.

Land Manger MOUs- Steven showed the group that he had the MOU for Monte Sano State Park. He will forward the MOU to Mary Anne who will sign it and forward it to Tom Sauret at IMBA-SORBA to sign. Steven has not had a response from the Land Trust on our MOU with them. Mary Anne will check with Marie Bostick at the Land Trust on this matter and report back to Steven.

Treasury- John Hunt- John made the group aware that we have \$6,441.68 dollars in the club bank account. Mary Anne asked how much of the membership money comes back to us. John Hunt believes it is \$20 per member he will confirm that and report back to Mary Anne.

Spring Picnic- Jenny Vick- The picnic is set for April 26th at Monte Sano Park. Jenny Vick and Jenn Smith shared their ideas regarding the menu with the group. A pavilion for this date has not yet been reserved. Jenny Vick will confirm that a pavilion can be reserved and report back to Mary Anne when this has been completed.

Trail Projects- Tim Barnack/Matt Dewitt- Tim explained to the club that we need someone from the SORBA Huntsville chapter to attend the April 9th meeting in Guntersville. Mary Anne Swanstrom stated she would be going. The club asked Mary Anne to check on grants for the McKay Hollow project. Tim met a man by the name of Brandon Perry from the Land Trust and his job is solely to improve the trails. Tim and Mr. Perry went out and looked at Dummy Line trail and Huck N Roll as well as GPS the trails. Tim suggested Huck N Roll be closed because the trail is in very bad shape and needs a lot of work. The Land Trust is waiting to see what the club thought. Nobody disagreed with Tim on closing the trail. Tim stated his concern about not being kept updated on trail days due to a trail day that was planned and advertised for Sunday, March 9 while he was planning to hold a trail day on Saturday, March 15. They agreed to have two trail days on two consecutive weekends.

IMBA/SORBA- Mary Anne Swanstrom- March 21, 22, and 23rd is the SORBA/IMBA meeting in Anniston, Alabama. Mary Anne is planning to attend the meeting. Anybody else who would like to attend is welcome to. She went over the prices for the Summit and the club made others aware that in the past the Huntsville chapter paid for members to attend Summit. Tim Barnack made the group aware that the Pinhoti trail will be extended to the Gulf Coast, and asked Mary Anne to bring up that the Alabama part of the trail is not open to cyclist. Mary Anne will bring this topic up at Summit to see about possibly getting that changed. The IMBA/SORBA director Tom Sauret emailed MA to make her aware of trails opening in Florence, Alabama. They will be have an opening weekend April 19th, and 20th, the Saturday will have a 10K. Sunday will be the bike opening day. None of the members stated if they would or would not be able to attend the opening day of the Florence trails.

Thursday Time Trials – Scott Schlapman- Scott said the event page for the Time Trials is up and running. Scott showed the club the new app the club purchased for scoring the trials. He has not checked on socks yet, but he did check on pint glasses. Double sided glasses will cost the club around \$500 for two hundred of them. Scott received an email about SORBA having a new insurance policy. Scott will check on the changes for covering the TT and report back to Mary Anne. Karen is working on the flyers, no routes are picked out, but it will be close to the same as the 2013 Time Trials. Tim and Bethel will make the number plates. Tim and Scott will decide on a date for a mock time trial and report back on that.

IMBA trail school and Monte Sano map- Rob Murphy- Rob made the group aware that the last Monte Sano map was updated approximately ten years ago. Rob needs an updated list of trails and get them GPS. Trail boss certification days are November 15-16, and December 6-7. He contacted 6 people so far to see if they were interested in attending and if they wanted to do a four day weekend or two two-day weekends. The cost varies depending on how many people we send. Rob explained the different prices to the club. The club decided on dedicating \$2,000 towards the fees associated with the class. Steven Gravlee seconded this vote. It was decided to participate on the two weekends instead of one.

MSSP biker's lot pavilion- Freddy Steele- We have free labor to build a pavilion in the biker's parking lot. The estimate cost for supplies would be \$5,300. Scott Schlapman suggested this be something that a member of the community could sponsor. Bethel Bradford suggested that the club get back some of the revenue from the profit of renting it if we were going to put money into it. Freddy will find out how long the free labor offer is available and Matt Dewitt will check with Kent to see what exactly his plans are for the pavilion. Freddy and Matt will report back to Mary Anne by March 31st.

Bike Swap- John Hunt- The first Bike Swap is set for Sunday, April 13th at the Monte Sano Lodge. This is a fundraiser for the club. It is \$35 to rent a table and \$125 dollars to rent a booth. The club will not profit from anything the booth and table vendors sell. If someone sells a bike the club profits 5% of the sale. John is going to check on providing beer. Matt Blevins is building two picnic tables and putting them at the biker's parking lot. Mary Anne asked John to please create a web page for the swap to answer questions.

RFR and NICA- Grace Ragland- Alabama will hold its first Ride for Reading event in Huntsville on May 9th. To view drop off spots for book visit the page online. Volunteers will be needed day of to ride and drop off books. New Belgium is donating a bicycle. Volunteers names will go in a hat and a name will be drawn. **NICA-** Alabama has been selected as the next state to have a school league mountain biking team. The year 2015 will be the first races. The press release for this news will be at the Sea Otter Classic. NICA is currently looking for coaches.

Trail System Funding- Derek Pommerenck- Coldwater trail system recently was given \$275, 000 to put towards trails. Eighty percent of that was funded by the Federal government. The goal is to figure out exactly how trail systems like Coldwater were able to get this financial assistance. Scott brought up that Land Trust now owns Chapman Mountain and club discussed and agreed this would be a great opportunity to establish trail systems. The next step is for the Land Trust to be contacted and find out the exact borders, and then discuss funding at the April 9th meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.