

BOBC Dec. 14th, 2023 Board Meeting

The Big Ole Bike Club Board of Directors meeting was called to order on December 14, 2023 at 6:00pm at Jeff and Bonnie Brand's home.

Members present: Jeff Brand, Jeff Pokorney, Craig Weber, Joe Schneiderhan, Tom Lynch, Craig Andrews, Jim Beck (visitor), Tom Haus. Absent: Jeff Walsh.

Agenda:

1) Friends of Nature Trail update - Jeff Brand and Craig Andrews

- a) Friends of the Nature Trail has received approval to proceed with plans to promote a 13 mile trail through the City of Alexandria. The group is asking to become an affiliation with BOBC for monetary services and grant writing incentives as they are needing support from a non profit 501(c)3 organization.
- b) Currently funds would be under \$500 with the potential to increase.
- c) Motion made by Jeff Brand to add John Wiggle and or Barbara Benson (Friends of the Nature Trail) and Craig Andrews (BOBC Treasurer) to a new checking account at Glenwood State Bank under the Big Ole Bike Club's 501(c)3 main account. Second by Tom Lynch Approved by all board members.

Other Financial Items:

- d) A motion was made by Craig Andrews to add Jeff Pokorney (BOBC President) to the Big Ole Bike Club's main checking account and remove Jeff Brand (BOBC past President). Second was made by Craig Weber. Approved by all board members. Jeff Brand will continue to be on the ROC account as a representative. No other financial changes are needed at this time.

2) Cycling without age update - Craig Andrews

- a) Currently operates 3 bikes with a goal of 6 bikes.
- b) Current status: 350 riders and 300 miles served
- c) Notified an Age Friendly MN \$40,000 grant that was applied for made it past the 1st round of qualifications. More info to come.
- d) Grant dollars are expected to be used to purchase a trailer and more bikes.
- e) Trailer must be less than 8' tall to fit under Grand Arbor garage doors.

3) RORC - Jeff Brand

- e) Adopt a trail and volunteers improved overall trail quality.
- f) Jeff Brand introduced "Microsoft to do" which would improve trail maintenance communication.
- g) Move to increase Mountaineers volunteer opportunities on trail maintenance.
- h) Proposed two trail building and meal opportunities hosted by the BOBC.
 - i) May Brophy and June Barsness
 - ii) Final decision pushed back to March 14th meeting
 - iii) More communication needed with future middle school and high school head coaches.
 - iv) NorthStar Christian Academy can conduct spring clean up

4) Electric Assist bikes on Mt. bike trails

- Concerns on 4-wheel drive bikes on trails.
- Tom Lynch will visit with CAMBA and identify other trail systems that have created guidelines.
- Pedal assist bike vocabulary

5) Trail Grooming/Snowmobile?

- Bryan Swensen will allow BOBC to use his snowmobile to groom fat bike trails for 2023/2024 season.

New Business:

6) 2024 Goal

- How do we improve marketing to increase BOBC membership.
 - Jeff Pokorney will write up a goal for BOBC and share with the group for further discussion.
- 1) The 2024 Big Ole Bike Club goal will strive to market to new riders and increase the percentage of riders for all organized group rides for all riders. The club will implement a two group strategy to ensure all riders have someone to ride with. Endurance and Recreational groups will have the same starting location with different routes back at the start. This strategy will be implemented in the winter of 2023/2024 on Fat Tire rides. In order to attract new riders all rides will be posted on the Douglas County Calendar.

Next Meeting March 14, 2024

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm

Respectfully Submitted by Craig Weber and Jeff Pokorney