



MTB Kingston AGM Meeting Agenda
Thursday, March 22, 2018, 7:30 PM
Monty's Pub
Kingston, Ontario

- 1. Roll call (quorum achieved)**
 - Reached with 30-plus members

- 2. Welcome and Approval of Agenda**
 - No voiced issue with agenda

- 3. Sharing of reasons we love mountain biking**
 - Nature
 - Trail-building

- 4. Business**
 - I. Outgoing president's remarks (5 minutes)*
 - Darryl says he loved being on the board and enjoyed mixing his passion with something constructive
 - Chris Frank is taking over
 - Board members are all very equal at the table
 - He will continue as treasurer
 - He thanks early contributors like Toby Dodwell, Dean and Sheila Gardner, Kira McNeeley and Kim Moore who've done lots of work
 - It's great to see so many people enjoying it
 - Chris mentions that riding was mostly at Ft Henry at first until it was closed due to the 9-1-1 attacks. Collins Bay started, then J&J started with 10km of trails (911 led to the success of MTB Kingston)

 - II. Giving of thanks to landowners and volunteers (5 minutes)**
 - Donors and leasers and we have to treat them nicely
 - Big shout to Rob Sangers, #1 land owner, who's here
 - Tammy and Wally, Laurie Loughlin run kids events and so do Sabrina and Brendan with Mike Lavender and Monica Tan
 - Thanks to Kim Moore who gave so much time giving guest passes and responding to many emails
 - Thanks to the bridge builders

 - III. Summary of incorporation process and objectives of incorporation (5 minutes)**
 - Kim Moore says good will come of it: we can apply for grants to get money for building and running activities at the club
 - We ride on City property. To do that, we need to be incorporated and insured, makes the club accountable

- It's easier to attract board members
- Projects: a trailer to get the kids race team to O-Cup races, apply for grants (e.g., Trillium Fund) to build trails from IMBA, etc. (e.g. flow trail)

IV. **2017- 2018 financial summary by outgoing president Darryl Gillespie (5 minutes)**

- No concerns made about price of membership, others suggested that membership fees could be higher
- Darryl shows financial statement and offers to give out a copy to anyone who wants it
- \$1,300 in bank at start of year, \$46,000 in membership came
- \$6000 in trail maintenance, spring festival, race series (insurance for all events)
- We made \$14,000 last year (not including excavator rental), but almost \$8,000 was spent on trail work, including the costs of an excavator, which brought us down to a \$7000 positive balance
- Operational expenses are big. We want trail maintenance to be as big as possible.
- Insurance through Oasis was 50% of costs, based on member numbers and km of trails. No big jump in membership expected, so big jumps in insurance prices expected.
- Tags were the next most expensive: \$4300 last year. We're looking at ideas to reduce cost.
- Driveway maintenance, including calcium for the people who live at the end of the street to keep good relationships with them.
- Sponsored world cup racer Evan McNeely, who grew up riding our trails, with \$1000 to help him
- A little spent on the clubhouse

V. **2017-2018 draft budget discussion & questions (10 minutes)**

- Sheldon Laidman suggests we might pay someone to do the grunt work admin work that we now rely upon volunteers to do, and was concerned about the sustainability of club with the fees low and administrative burden high. Darryl says this is being considered. They're thinking of getting a summer student to do some very basic trail maintenance. But there are insurance and tax issues if we pay someone in an employer-employee relationship.
- Guest passes? New registration system will have a day pass option.
- Some operational costs are due to the purchase of the new fatbike groomer

VI. **Election of officers (5 minutes)**

- Frank Armstrong, secretary
- Peter, vp
- Rob, general manager
- Roisin Beck, comms officer
- Chris Frank, president
- Darryl Gillespie, treasurer
- We need a second communications officer, maybe an assistant not on the board
- Motion to accept slate of officers – Motioned by Bryan Brassington and seconded by Mark Duttle (?)

VII. **What is your vision for the next five years? (strategic planning discussion) (15 minutes)**

- **Strengths of club**—24-hour/365-day access, quality and variety of trails, great community of guides who are willing to take new members for tours, dog-friendly (it would be nice if doggie doo were picked up better), inclusion of kids and family-friendly nature, technique workshops, mapping for winter stuff could improve (snowshowing, etc.) and access, noncompetitive weeknight racing series.
There was discussion around closing trails and keeping positive rather than attacking members that ride when they shouldn't. Rob indicated that riding the Ridge, Pete's and Route 66 when wet (within reason) would be ok as it is difficult to harm these trails.
- **Weaknesses**—more trail signage, emergency action plan (Rob met with local FD and they went through all the trails. He agrees that better signage is a great idea. An evacuation had to be made last year), if making day passes, signage must increase substantially. Some new members indicated they got lost on Home Loop and missing the largest section due to signage.
- **Opportunities**— some shorter trails would be nice for younger members (Rob says he made that 3km of rain-

proof trail for everybody, regardless of age), Kim Moore would like to see more people racing, Tammy would like to see something close to the barn that's technical and progress—she hopes to spearhead it with the race team and get help and ideas—for the little kids (like 5 years old), connect with other clubs to create some synergies or reciprocal relationships, road trips as a club, Mallorytown now has mtb trails (they have fatbike ride Sunday), a tryout day to give new people a chance to try out riding on the trails, create a lobby group to get trails back in the city (Chris Frank says that talks were happening about riding at Little Cat), a forum on the website might be a great idea for discussions about trail building and road trips for people who don't do Facebook (Peter Dawson says we already have that for Facebook and maintenance would be challenging), a weekly MTB shuttle from the LBSs. A MTB festival was discussed with the city at one point.

- **Threats**—non-members who ride the trail and aren't insured, theft, folks who aren't equipped do night rides, people stopping showing up to events because everyone is faster than them, landowners (we must show the tags on our bikes or backpacks) because they are taking a huge liability risk by letting us ride there—if they see riders going by without a tag (Ridge just changed ownership), it wouldn't be good. If you see someone without a tag, you must bug them, self-police. We have 8 different landowners. Chris Frank suggests we market the fact that we are using local amenities. Don't expect people to know the rules; they need education. How do we communicate some trail rules? Tammy says we could have clear trail-rules signs. Dave Logan suggests we try to entice current landowners to come and ride on the trails on their property. Rob says all of our landowners ride except for one. Diverse opinions, encourage them and keep it positive.

VIII. What does the club need from you? (10 minutes)

- **Youth Race Team** —Tammie Stanton: 22 kids on the race team and expecting as many as 25 this year; they go to O-Cups and school races; they want to do a kids' race at the farm this year; aged 10+; there's a whole between the little kids and race kids, so they're hoping someone will start a 7- to 10-year-olds' group; jerseys (?).
- **Kids' club leaders** – Sabrina and Brendon Gurd stepping back, Mike Keene said he would be willing to run a Friday night kids' event so kids can have their own marshmallows and the slower folks can get out on a FNL. Mike Lavender is interested in helping with Monica. It could run formally in May and June and informally after that.
- **events organizers**—More women's event to get more female riders out. Tammie is getting an instructor's licence and will be encouraging more women's skills clinics.
- **race planners**—Bryan Brassington needs help to pound stakes, etc. That is an area that needs a lot of help. He needs help if the route will be stretched longer. Chris F. emphasizes that races are fun and not overly competitive
- **trail maintenance groups and leaders**—**Last fall: Nov. was hardest month** on property with rain, trying to make the 3km sustainable loop (200 tonnes of gravel put on 3km of trail). Lots of spring erosion so there's lots of work to do in spring; trail is rideable for anyone. **New project:** main beaver dam on Home Loop has moved left about 5 feet so a work day will be posted. **New project:** Rooney's Loop long bridge. Beaver dam on Rooney's Loop needed with bigger culvert to control water level better. **New Project:** over/under bridge. Jean-Marc Grimard has done more work on the trails in the last two years than anyone. We need more people: **trail ambassadors**. Rob wants to put a group of two or three people per trail who ride the trail and acknowledge there's something wrong. Jean-Marc logs what's broken. **For insurance, we have to show that if there's a problem, we fix it promptly.** When we have a reported accident, we have to show we did something about it. Rob wants the Home Loop to be very, very safe. If you are a better rider, there are better trails for you. Members can contact Rob to become a trail ambassador: just ride the trail and say there's problem. **There's an app for that:** Navionics, take a photo of it and email it to Rob and he can easily find it. Chris Frank suggests those people also take over maintenance. Dave Logan suggests that there be something written into the membership that a **condition of membership is that use of the trail requires members to report trail problems**. Dave Logan suggests an online report option. Mike Lawrence says it's easy to forget. Rob and Chris suggest folks connect with Frank Armstrong if interested in getting involved in trail maintenance or as trail ambassadors.
- **social coordinators**—Chris calls for a social coordinator. No bites.
- **group ride organizers**—Rob wants to see more group rides. Possible speed-group names: Sightseers, Cruisers, HammerHeads. Facebook can be used to set times for ride events in advance. Bryan Brassington suggests we schedule weekly club rides on different nights/times. Scott from Ottawa suggests you do one night for all levels: meet at same time and ride with beginner, intermediate, and advanced. Everyone gets checked for proper gear

and if you don't have the gear, you don't go on the ride. He says no one needs to be in charge. Bryan Brassington suggests that only the beginner level ride needs a leader.

- **ski groomers**—*talk about it later*
- **your thought**—Calls for a couple of bike shops to do bike maintenance workshops.

IX. Registration night planning and new registration process (5 minutes)

- Big news: We have 1000+ members so we need to automate membership signup. Thanks to Cataraqui Adventure Trek, we've figured out how to automate our waivers and memberships.
- We're now set up on Zone 4, which has a customizable membership form option with waivers.
- There is no longer a paper waiver or admission form.
- Fees will increase if you sign up after the sign-up night
- People will sign up beforehand and pick up a membership tag.
- Every bike shop will get a log-in code (and Trail Head). People can pick up their tags at local bike shops and there will be some available at the barn.
- There's an opt-in for email trail reports during registration
- If people want to pay cash, they can come to the sign-up night.
- Tammie Stanton says there's an option that allows people to pay at bike shops, but Pete Dawson doesn't want to overload bike shops.
- Someone says if folks are really worried about credit cards, they can get a prepaid credit card
- The day pass is \$20. Dave Logan said people might want to trespass because it's too expensive. Pete Dawson says it's meant as an incentive to get people to buy a membership.
- We're still trying to figure out how they get a pass that they can display or show it asked by a member.
- What about ski tags?
- Guest passes won't be available before May 1. In the meantime, we will use the current passes and tell daypass buyers where they are. We will eventually switch to the daypass-only deal with no option to ride free with current members.

X. Events schedule summary and member ideas (10 minutes)

- Trail safety clinic coming up May 27: wilderness first-aid primer (what to do if bad stuff happens)
- We have a couple of members who are doctors and wilderness first-aid trainers.
- Will take place in barn.
- More info to come
- Dan Marshall's race will return to farm on Labour Day Weekend, but it won't be the final race of the series.

5. Adjournment and conviviality to discuss fat biking and trail riding

- **Adjourned at 9:33.**
- **First event will be the train cleanup**