

ATV MAINE Meeting
February 16th 2013
Hosting Club: Carmel ATV Club

Meeting called to order @ 9:05AM by President Ken Snowden

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of officers: All Officers, Business Manager and Regional VP's introduced

Secretary's report; vacant

Treasurer's report: read and accepted

President Report:

Tina White has successfully completed her 90 day probationary period and is now ATV MAINE Business Manager. Congratulations, Tina!

There has been no Safety Officer or Webmaster since November 2012. The E-board recommends sending a termination letter to Rick Sack informing him of termination. Mike Lee made a motion second by Ed Coleman to send termination letter. A comment was made that Rick was never notified about termination. Ed Coleman wants to re-affirm vote. All in favor – Motion passed. Rick will be sent a certified letter on February 19th, 2013 and an e-mail will go out on Friday February 22nd, 2013 for job posting for Safety Officer and Webmaster. All applications must be received by March 8th, 2013 @5PM. The question was asked if anyone in attendance was interested in safety officer position; Terry Sinclair- Acadia Area ATV'ers did express interest.

Ray Archer stated that we need a Safety Officer now and Real Deschaine thinks there should be two people working on getting Safety Trailers ready. Dan Mitchell has one trailer at his house and Real Deschaine has the other one. The trailers have to be ready to schedule for use; there are already clubs that want to use them. At present there is no job description for Safety Officer; the Policy Committee has this on their list of things to do.

ATV MAINE will not be doing any Sportsman Shows this year. A motion was made by Richard Willoughby, second by Dave Phillips to put the money toward the newspaper. All in favor- Motion passed.

Dan Mitchell – Executive Director:

Abandoned and Discontinued Roads Stakeholders Group in Augusta; municipalities can employ common law to abandon/discontinue roads. We are not on the Stakeholders Group as we have no presence in Augusta at this time. There is a law on the books, but hardly ever used, to compensate landowner if proven hardship. Is everyone paying their fair share? Is the burden being shifted to the landowner with no recourse? The Stakeholders Group believes it is in the best interest to maintain and provide adequate access to public and private lands and to have

continued access while respecting the needs of the user and abutting land owners. Dan will get to clubs as soon as this becomes an LD.

Legislative Bills Dan thinks are important to ATV MAINE:

LD 66 – require motorcyclists/passengers to wear helmets

LD 89 – Deadline for snowmobile registrations; requires the fee for resident snowmobile registration & non-resident seasonal snowmobile registration to be paid on or before December 31st prior to the year registration will be in effect and establishes a \$20.00 late fee.

LD142 an act to add using an All-Terrain Vehicle to the list of activities included in definition of “Guide” in the DIFW laws.

LD 154 – makes changes to the laws governing limited liability for recreational or harvesting activities. This will make it easier for non- railroad users to use railroad crossings.

LD 152 - authorize the Commissioner of ACF to nominate certain rangers in the Division of Forestry to become Conservation Law Enforcement officers.

LD 219 - Act to establish long term funding source for DIFW. This involves taking 10% of all proceeds from state owned properties used for energy development, up to \$5,000,000, and give to DIFW.

LD 284 – requires Department of ACF, Division of Forestry, to conduct a landowner program and repeals a requirement that the division print copies of forestry and forestry related laws biennially.

LD467 – Increases the watercraft, snowmobile & ATV registration service fees that may be assessed, collected and retained by agents.

We (ATV MAINE) have submitted a bill to create law for reciprocity with New Hampshire; they already have a reciprocity law they will use for Maine if we do the same. Dan decided not to do New Brunswick at the same time; they have their own trail fee and are not willing to waive it for us.

Act to increase revenue to the trail fund; increase registration by \$5.00 with all of it going to ACF. By doing so, will increase the amount of trail grants (Off Road Vehicle Division). We want all the money going to the trail fund. Richard Barter wanted to know if trail fund will get all the money. Dan has had discussions with all concerned and, although there are never guarantees, the bill could be pulled if there are any changes. Dan wants everyone to get back to their clubs to discuss this again; if there is too much opposition to the increase we will need to have more discussion.

A letter from Scott Ramsey detailed when you go to work on any land you need to be very aware of what the contractor is doing. This is extremely important because landowner can deny access if we are not careful. The president and trailmaster know or should know where there are sensitive landowners. Take care of them! In addition contractors need to be certified to do work in streams, rivers, bridge abutments, etc. for bridge repair. There are two training sessions this year, one already has been done. Real Deschaine checked and the cost is \$40.00 per person.

The Maine Conservation Recreation Forum www.protectmaine.org will meet on Friday, March 1st, 2013 from 9-1 at Maine Forest Council in Augusta. Dan will attend to discuss impact on ATV's. and report back.

High Peaks Alliance will be having discussions on alternative conservation strategies such as considering a Wildlife Refuge in the High Peaks. www.highpeaksalliance.org

MSA has put in a request for breakdown of cost to develop our rail trails. They think ATV's are being carried by snowmobiles.

Grant money: all costs (including the insurance that is purchased) should be put in, even if it takes your total over the allotted amount. Data counts!

Get in touch with Dan Mitchell for more clarification or information on the above bills and meetings.

Vice President & Northern VP Report: Real Deschaine nothing to report at this time.

Business Manager Report: Tina is working on a new database which will make it easier to access. New membership lists will, hopefully, be printed online, copied and sent with a check of course! It will no longer ask for members telephone numbers; the only phone numbers needed will be officers, director and alternate director. Business membership will basically be the same. Real Deschaine will get in touch with United Insurance to clarify the ADD policy (i.e. does policy cover owner and family or just the owner)

ATV MAINE Charity Team: (Calendar Raffle). Richard Willoughby is working on a different way to do the calendars this year. He is proposing instead of money, try to get donations from businesses, campgrounds etc.; that way all the money will be profit. A motion was made by Bev Sargent, second by Mike Lee to have Richard continue this project for calendar raffle. All in favor- Motion passed He suggested donating to the Troop Greeters. Tina White would like more discussion because there are a lot of charities that could be considered. There will be more discussion on this. Jeff Ireland stated that software with numbered tickets could be purchased for less than forty dollars.

Al Langley Scholarship Fund: Liane James reported that this is the fifth year of the fund and the deadline is April 30th to apply for the \$1,000.00 scholarship To apply you need to be a graduate or graduating from high school, maintaining a C average, going to college in any field of study. The complete list of requirements, scholarship information and application can be found on the ATV MAINE web-site.

Eastern VP Report: Ray Archer reports Sunrise Trail Coalition will be working on trail from Washington Junction to Ellsworth, possibly for the fall 2014; possible end of trail behind the Blue Seal Store on High St. Ellsworth; you will still park at Washington Junction, then ride your ATV/Snowmobile into Ellsworth. The trail has extended from Ayers Junction into Perry now; trying to get trail into Calais perhaps with some clubs extending their trails into Calais The town of Machias will be celebrating their 250th anniversary this summer. They are having parades in

June and would like to have the ATV clubs participate whenever possible. They have events planned every week-end through the summer.

Central VP Report: Ken Snowden having meetings to try to get ATV access through town.

Western VP Report: Mike Lee all trails are closed.

Southern VP Report: Richard Willoughby bridges need to be replaced and need access to trails.

Trails VP report: Ed Coleman – The Trails Committee will be working with the Western group to help GPS their trails. If anyone needs help contact your Regional VP and Ed will see that help is forthcoming. The Trails Committee is working to find a trail, hopefully a MATS trail in Bill's area, to dedicate in memory of Bill Lombard.

Nadine Stover would like to see a list of Regional VP's sent to clubs in each region. Tina will take care of this.

Policy Committee: Members David Phillips (chair), Maurice Sargent, Dave Coulters, Roger White and Terry James are reviewing a number of unwritten policies we go by that need to be in writing and approved. In addition there will be job description reviews for everybody and review of Rules and Guidelines. All clubs will get a copy to review and discuss before bringing up for a vote. Results for vote will not be ready until July, possibly later.

What's At?: Dave & Carole Phillips: There have been twenty different submissions for What's At? At the April Banquet, there will be five submission put out with GPS coordinates. The object is to get out and ride and find these places. Just another way to ride our ATV's more! This "contest" will continue so submissions will start again at the April Banquet.

High Mileage Challenge: Dave & Carole Phillips: Registration for next year will start at banquet. Note: 2012 High Mileage had 7 clubs with total of 66 machines that put on 86,000 miles.

External/Internal Audit still being done by Bernadette Vars; she reports all is excellent through June 2011. She has given high praise to Nadine Stover who is doing an excellent job of keeping everything straight. The message was "do not lose her".

RTP Grant Committee: Ed Coleman has replaced Tina White on RTP committee. Tina will give her final report today.

Tina White reported that RTP Grants can be applied for in four different categories (motorized, non-motorized, diverse and safety & education); ATV Maine has a seat on this committee. One club, Penobscot Off Road Riders applied for and received a grant last year. If you are going to

apply for a grant it is best to do so with a committee (4 to 5 people); makes the application process much easier. You can contact Ed or Tina for application information.

501c3 Report Dan reported that the 501c3 application has been accepted into the good category but it may be 3 weeks to 3 months before we know the final decision!

A big thank you to the Carmel ATV Club for hosting the February meeting and the great refreshments and lunch served!

50/50 Raffle (total= \$155.00) \$77.50 won by Pete Grant – Airline ATV Riders

Picture & Frame donated by Ray Archer to Carmel ATV Club for drawing – won by Judy Butler – Airline ATV Riders

Helmet Award - won by Cindy Wacome-Laroue - Moose Alley Riders
(Thank you to the Carmel ATV Club for getting the helmet from Bangor Motor Sports)

Pot O' Gold won by Lake Moxie ATV Riders (not present). Next meeting Pot O' Gold= \$100.00

Motion to adjourn by Ed Coleman, second by Mike Lee. Meeting adjourned @ 1:30PM

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Sargent – Secretary Pro-Tem for 2-16-2013 meeting