



P.O. Box 1358  
Gainesville, GA 30503  
Phone 770-718-3674

---

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association March 15, 2008

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held March 15, 2008, at Mulberry Gap in Ellijay, Georgia. The meeting commenced at approximately 11:00 a.m.

### **Participating Chapters:**

See attached document for those members present. It was noted that there were no representative present from the following chapters: Charlotte, MARC, SOFA and Southern Crescent. All other chapters had a voting member or proxy present. Sign in sheet is attached.

### **Welcome and Roll Call:**

Chapter representatives and SORBA staff introduced themselves.

### **Approval of November board meeting minutes:**

There was a motion by Paul Farrow to accept the November meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Jay Aiken and all present voted in favor of accepting the November meeting minutes.

### **President's Update:**

President Eric Hunter spoke about chapters receiving grants, and the need for those chapters to turn in information and photos detailing their use of the funds to Robin Allen for the Fat Tire Times. Eric also highlighted several things the executive board will focus on this year. Those included bylaws, beefing up the powers of the executive board, enhanced communication and a standardized officer election cycle.

### **Executive Director's Report:**

Executive Director Tom Sauret gave an update on the status of the SORBA/IMBA merger. The merging of the database is complete, and in 57 days Tom will work for SORBA full time. He called the merger historic, and first of its kind. Tom went on to stress that this year SORBA will seek to promote its non-Georgia chapters. In an effort to become less Georgia-centric, SORBA is directing much of its funds to the chapters located outside of the state. He encouraged all chapters to e-mail the staff and executive board when they need money, schwag, etc.

### **Ride Center Update:**

Ryan Schutz with IMBA spoke about the concept of a ride center. He defined a ride center as a model trail system in a community that embraces cycling. He stressed it's the community aspect

that makes a trail system into a ride center. He encouraged chapters to promote themselves in their communities. He also spoke about the SORBA/IMBA merge, and said new membership cards should be arriving soon. He stressed that one of his primary goals for the year is to give the tools and support needed to promote SORBA and its chapters.

### **New Chapter Petition:**

There was one new chapter petition: SORBA Uwharrie located in the central park region of North Carolina. The petition was accompanied by discussion about the chapter being home to one of IMBA's first ride centers. A motion was made by Darryl Clark and seconded by Paul Farrow to accept the new chapter. All present voted in favor of approving the new chapter.

### **Staff Reports:**

Walt Brady offered an update on membership and events. He encouraged chapters to send their event information to Robin. He also talked about the IMBA World Summit, which will be held in Park City, Utah, in June. He reminded everyone that National Trails Day will be the first weekend in June, and that Asheville and Ellijay will be focal points.

Robin Allen offered an update on the Fat Tire Times. We will have four issues per year. Information for the June/August issue is due May 1. She encouraged chapters to send in photos and information.

Daniel Elzey encouraged chapters to send in their volunteer hours forms every two to three months. He also offered an update on Bike Patrol, and encouraged chapters to contact him to set up training sessions. He also mentioned Trips for Kids, and asked chapters to be in touch if they wanted his help coordinating a Trips for Kids ride.

A motion was made by Tom Tomaka to end the business meeting. It was seconded by Randy Conner. All present voted in favor. There being no further business, President Hunter adjourned the meeting at 1 p.m.

After a lunch break, several breakout sessions were held. These included a Club Building workshop led by Ryan Schutz; a workshop on Holding Quality Events by Rick Moon, Angela Allen and Renee Martinez; a Pro Trails information session led by Stephen Mullins; Search and Rescue/Bike Patrol by Daniel Elzey; a session for new officers led by Tom Sauret; and a discussion session on Forum Posting Guidelines led by Robin Allen.

---

Eric Hunter, President

---

Renee Martinez, Secretary