



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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association August 12, 2006

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held on August 12, 2006 at the United Community Bank in Brevard, North Carolina. The meeting commenced at approximately 10:30 a.m.

See attached document for those members present. It was noted that there were no representative present from the following chapters: Chattanooga, Ellijay, Habersham (UC3), and MARC. All other chapters had a voting member present.

Keith Owen called the meeting to order, briefly introduced himself, and asked for the Board and attending SORBA members to introduce themselves.

President Owen then requested approval of the March 2006 minutes. A motion to approve the March 2006 minutes was made and seconded. All present voted in favor of approving the March 2006 minutes.

Scott Benton, representing Fat of the Land bike club (Tallahassee, Florida), petitioned for approval of a new SORBA chapter. Scott discussed issues related to mountain biking in the Tallahassee area including a 10 mile Forest Service trail ready to be adopted, if the chapter is approved by SORBA, strong contacts with Forest Service and potential for growth. A motion to approve the petition and accept the Tallahassee chapter was moved and seconded. All present voted in favor of accepting the motion. Welcome Fat of the Land bike club to SORBA.

Officer nominations for 2007 were discussed. Paul Farrow of CSRA made a motion to re-elect the existing officers, which was seconded by Ken Camp of PAS. Executive Director Tom Sauret reiterated the need for a Treasurer as the position has been vacant for a while. A discussion ensued on encouraging representatives from outside Georgia to become officers and the challenges involved. Voting for the 2007 officers will take place at the November Board meeting. Any additional nominations can be sent to secretary@sorba.org.

The Access report was handled by President Owen and ED Sauret as Keith McFadden was absent. SORBA recently met with the Forest Service to discuss the issues related to Stonewall Falls. The meeting was a positive one and the Forest Service continues to work towards reopening Stonewall Falls. Further discussion included pending work with the Army Corps of Engineers on Lake Hartwell, inviting local Forest Service and other folks to future Board meetings, assistance on

drafting a MOA for TORC, Woodstock noting a local college will be opening trails soon and the potential for new college members. SORBA staff will work on potential options for high school, youth, and college memberships and a report will be presented at the November Board meeting.

Walt Bready provided a report on the Trails Educations Specialist position. Fall trail school is coming up. IMBA Trail Solutions books were available for pick-up. Walt gave a report on the recent IMBA summit. Discussion ensued on setting up a program to deliver the SORBA trail school to chapters outside of Georgia (the Georgia RTP program funds this position, so the school has to be located in Georgia), including regional schools, subcontracting with qualified SORBA members or entities, and the need to have some one in each state or at least in SORBA dedicated to seeking RTP grant funds as well as other funds.

Jeff Gandy gave a presentation on the new, on-line membership database that should be available at the end of August. The new database will allow reports to be downloaded to Excel, provide for live access instead of monthly reports and the ability to do an email list blast. Further discussion on other features ensued.

The membership report was conducted by Walt and Tom as Robin Allen was busy working on the next Fat Tire Times. SORBA membership has continued to increase even after the dues were increased. So far, the numbers are up 5% over the same period as last year. Daniel Elzey has become SORBA's second employee (SORBA's first employee is Tom Sauret) through a generous grant from Chicopee Woods and will be handling some of the membership duties as well as Mountain Bike Patrol and kid's education.

Tom Sauret presented the Executive Director's report next. A memorial fund for a young racer (Stephen Jordan) will be set up through SORBA by Stephen's father Guy. The 2005 audit is complete but journal entries are still being completed. The income statement is correct, but there are still problems with classifying expenses. Current financial reporting of multiple bank accounts is slowing the audit process down. SORBA is asking chapters with bank accounts to close those bank accounts and use SORBA main to handle paying any invoices. Tom made it clear that closing chapter bank accounts by the end of the year would make the audit process go smoother and overall administration by SORBA easier. A discussion on how this would be implemented ensued. SORBA will continue to flesh this out and for the time being, no new chapter bank accounts will be allowed. The budget that was passed in March has since become irrelevant as revenue as increased by 45% with membership dues increasing by \$8,000. Because of this and because of the generous donations to the annual fund SORBA will be providing travel funds to future BOD meetings and matching up to \$500 in travel to the next IMBA summit. Tom reminded the chapters to continue to grow their membership and SORBA still needs a treasurer and a fundraiser.

Keith Owen then followed up with a discussion on the survey that was completed in March. An additional survey on SORBA's IMBA affiliation was passed out to be completed by the chapters.

In the Old/New Business section the following discussions occurred: the posting of non-SORBA clinics on the website and liability issues; chainsaw and CPR certifications required to work on Forest Service property; ordering quality canopies for chapters to use at events; working at the Sope Creek IMBA TCC visit will allow you to bring home the tools you use thanks to a REI grant;

collection of spare parts to build up bikes to send to the troops overseas; having SORBA join the NMBP rather than individual chapters; and RTP grants.

There being no further business, President Owen adjourned the business portion of the meeting at 12:38 p.m. for lunch. Following lunch was a keynote speech by Jim Hasenauer, one of the founders of IMBA, and a presentation on fundraising by Bob Greico of RAMBO.

Keith Owen, President

Eric Hunter, Secretary