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## Minutes of the Meeting of the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association August 18, 2007

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held on August 18, 2007 at Dupont State Forest in Brevard, North Carolina. 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, Chattanooga, SORBA Freeride (SOFA), Gainesville, Middle Georgia, Middle Tennessee, and Tallahassee, FL. All other chapters had a voting member present. A quorum was not met at the start of the meeting, so issues requiring a quorum were held until enough members were present.

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

Chapter representatives introduced themselves.

### **New Chapter Petitions:**

There were two new chapter petitions: Appalachian Mountain Bike Club located in Knoxville, TN and Upstate South Carolina Chapter located in Greenville. Each petition was accompanied by discussion of the potential for each new chapter. Upon achieving a quorum individual motions were made and seconded to accept both new chapters. All present voted in favor of approving both new chapter petitions.

### **Staff Reports:**

Tom Sauret handled the reports for SORBA staff. He asked that everyone get their 2008 events to Robin to prepare the calendar for Interbike. Daniel is working with several chapters for First Aid training and Bike Patrol training. Tom reminded everyone to promote the Subaru program as sales have been down this year. He also reminded everyone of the Optic Nerve and Primal Wear promotions that save members cash and benefit SORBA. Also, don't forget that next year is SORBA's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary so keep an eye out for a special jersey design.

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

Tom Sauret presented the Executive Director's report next. Tom discussed the growth of SORBA and the challenges a growing organization presents including communication issues. Those will be addressed as SORBA moves forward.

The audit has been completed and the results were good. Chapters still need to get their financial reports in on time and complete for calendar year 2007. SORBA also needs a treasurer for the Executive Board.

Pro Trails is getting set up with a DUNS number so it can bid out for work with the Forest Service and continues to generate revenue. Stephen Mullins is heading up the Pro Trails effort and requested that when chapters are working with land managers they should discuss the option of hiring Pro Trails instead of relying on all volunteers. Utilizing grant funds to pay for Pro Trails is also an option.

Tom also noted that IMBA would be moving towards marketing mountain biking as an activity rather than trails. The idea is to start involving families in mountain biking.

Tom requested that chapters work towards engaging new members for rides and make the rides accessible to new members.

The annual fund is doing well and all funds are being set aside to help chapters with various projects. Approximately 90% of the funds generated by the annual fund drive come from Georgia while last year almost 100% of the funds were distributed out of state.

### **President's Report:**

Keith Owen provided the following report:

- A motion to approve the March 2007 minutes was made and seconded. All present voted in favor of the motion.
- An emphasis was placed on financial reporting to insure SORBA maintains its 501(c)(3) status.
- The new 5 year plan will be in process by the November BOD meeting.
- The BOD officers will be voted on at the November BOD meeting. The following nominations were made:
  - President: Eric Hunter
  - Vice President: Angela Allen
  - Secretary: Renee Martinez
  - Treasurer:
  - A motion was made and seconded for the above slate. All present voted in favor of the current nominations
  - Any other nominations should be forwarded to Eric Hunter.

A 55 minute lunch break was called at 12:25 p.m.

### **IMBA Affiliation:**

Following the lunch break, Tom led a discussion on the IMBA affiliation. The following issues were discussed:

- Family membership level
- Tools IMBA will be providing to SORBA
- SORBA will continue to operate as its own 501(c)(3) with existing structure

- There are roughly 3,000 folks in the SORBA database and about the same number in the IMBA database for the region, with only about 400 overlapping names
- All members will become SORBA/IMBA members once the affiliation process is complete.
- The cost share with IMBA will be as follows:
  - 35% IMBA
  - 30% SORBA main
  - 10% Chapters
  - 25% Membership Delivery (overhead)
- New affiliation will allow SORBA to hire a full time paid Executive Director
- Mike Van Abel was at Trek the day of the BOD meeting to request funds to help pay for this plan
- SORBA will be focusing on grass roots efforts and turning BOD meetings into mini-festivals, as well as continuing with its existing projects and programs
- Elimination of overlap
- SORBA will still have to do its own fundraising and financial reporting
- The deal will initially be structured to be a 3 year agreement to allow enough time before an evaluation is made
- Will need to make sure SORBA's brand is protected
- How IMBA affiliate clubs in areas that SORBA clubs aren't currently located will be incorporated
- Need to define SORBA's region: current states, Mississippi will probably be next and Louisiana and Arkansas are in the hopper
- Adding new clubs will follow the current method
- How to deal with at large memberships (assign to club and let them opt out?)
- Address the costs of the National Mountain Bike Patrol members
- How has this set up worked in Nor Cal
- How will the Executive Director position be funded? Membership \$ from SORBA + IMBA + Industry \$ for 3 year trial
- How will the Executive Director position be filled? Either hire Tom or Tom turns over to interim director while Board selects new ED
- Review organizational structure and by-laws
- More emphasis on youth group involvement
- SORBA ED will not be a member of IMBA BOD, but will work to insure SORBA representation on the IMBA BOD

A motion was made and seconded to move forward with the IMBA affiliation process. All present plus TORC (in absentia) voted for the motion. It is anticipated that the process will be completed in the October/November timeframe.

There being no further business, President Owen adjourned the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

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Keith Owen, President

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Eric Hunter, Secretary