

March 20th 2018

NRGTA Board meeting

Greenbrier County meeting at the Greenbrier County Court house 5:00 pm

Board members present:

Bill Wells

Jeff Evans

Andrew Davis

Andrew Forron

Doug Hylton

Gene Kistler

Phil Waidner

Guests: Billy Strasser and Sam Chaber

Bill Wells called the meeting to order (we didn't have a quorum) around 4:30 pm.

We discussed the quorum issue. Bill stated that if achieving a quorum becomes a problem we could suspend those who don't make enough meetings. We do have Board members who haven't attended meetings in awhile. Presently we have board members who have conflicts with the 3rd Tuesday of the month (our present meeting). Bill is polling the board members to see who has conflicts to determine the best day of the month to meet. This is only the 2nd time in three years we haven't had a quorum. Also if the board becomes too big the Board could modify the Board structure in the NRGTA Bylaws to create an Executive board (one representative per county) and a General board. The Executive board would meet and make recommendations to the General Board, which would approve/disapprove, the Executive boards recommendations.

Minutes: There were no additions or corrections but the minutes will have to be approved by email vote because we did not have quorum. Gene K made a motion to approve the minutes by email and the Andy F 2nd the motion. The motioned carried. ***The motion will have to be approved by email.***

Treasurer's report: Bill gave the Treasurer's report. We have a Balance of \$7145.77 in four separate accounts. There was \$582.00 in dues collected. Expenses were \$124.00. Half of the expenses were for the software. There was \$8800.77 paid out of the ARC fund.

Membership Web Site: Phil reports we have 53 memberships (three were new members). Of those 53, three of those have lapsed. And 2 are pending. There are seven of our board members who are not NRGTA members.

Sam requests that we add a Volunteer tab to our nrgta.org website and put the Adopt a Trail handbook (devolved by the NRGTA) on the volunteer tab.

Sam needs an email address for NRGTA business so he doesn't have to use his personal email address. Phil is setting up web site email addresses for specific NRGTA positions to accommodate this request.

Transfer of Summit Bechtel Reserve Trail access agreement from NRBU (New River Bicycle Union was the Fayette Bicycle club):

There was a proposal agreement for the NRGTA to take over the duties of NRBU with Bechtel Summit since NRBU doesn't have enough members.

NRGTA members would get the benefit of riding on the Bechtel Summit if we agree to the proposal. This could increase the NRGTA membership. The Bechtel Summit trails would be in use by the Boy Scouts and not be available for use from September through October. There are 36 miles of trail.

The NRGTA would do trail maintenance in the off-season on the Bechtel Summit trails in return for use of the trails. We probably have two trail maintenance days a year, one in the spring and one in the summer. Having the Bechtel Summit available for use by NRGTA members would be an incentive to join the NRGTA and could increase our membership. The proposal is attached to the minutes.

Andy D. made a motion to have an email vote to enter into agreement with the Bechtel Summit for trail maintenance in exchange for trail use by NRGTA members. Andy F seconded the motion. The motion carried. ***The motion will have to be approved by email.***

Social media: Andy F reports that we need content for our social media (pictures or posts). If you're out riding take some pictures and post them on the NRGTA Facebook page. You can also text or email pictures to Andy F (Andy prefers email). Most board members are administrators on the NRGTA Facebook page.

Phil and Andy D seconded the motion to make Andy F the chair of social media. The NRGTA Board approved the motion unanimously.

NRGTA 6 County Vision Maps: Billy reports that the Vision map is now complete and will be on the NRGTA web site. We have applied for a Flexi grant to make the Vision map an online user-friendly map.

ARC Grant Billy Strasser reports:

We're splitting the ARC grant into two phases. The first phase will be developing Wolf Creek Park with 12 miles of single-track trail and 3 miles of through trail. Phase two would be work outside of Wolf Creek Park. DOH stated they wouldn't be able to break ground till March of 2019. DOH will be doing environmental clearances and bids this year. The URA board has approved going ahead with the appraisal process without the DOH involved. There has to be an MOU between the DOH and Region 4 before the property appraisals are performed.

Phil made a motion to approve the in kind labor work for the ARC grant (Over 500 hours). Jeff 2nd the motion. The motion carried. ***The motion will have to be approved by email.***

Need to close the Go Fund Me account. We could buy some tools with the money.

Maintenance program: Sam reports he has meeting scheduling with Active West Virginia.

We're going to share the Adopt A Trail handbook with them and talk about scheduling some volunteer trail workdays. Trail workdays will be on the weekends. September 8th there is going to be a joint trail maintenance day (NRGTA, Blue Ridge Outdoors and Active West Virginia).

We'll be using community work groups to help with trail workdays too.

Insurance update: Billy talked to six different companies about insurance. John Frisby recommended Lively Insurance in Beckley. The insurance will cost \$2700.00 a year. Jeff made motion to Purchase the insurance from Jim Lively and Andy F 2nd the motion. ***The motion will have to be approved by email.***

Grants Committee: There had been previous discussions to establish a Grant committee to identify grants to pursue that would be in line with the NRGTA Vision. County Representatives are: Doug Hylton Greenbrier county, Elizabeth Belcher Kanawha county, Andy Forron Nicholas county, Gary Moorefield Raleigh county, Gene Kistler Fayette County and Jeff Evans Summers County. Adam Hodges will be the Grants Committee Chair.

The Grants committee will evaluate and select projects submitted for Grant applications through the NRGTA that meet the NRGTA vision. The Grants Committee would recommend which grant to approve to the NRGTA board and the Board would have the final decision.

Membership Fund Raising Committee: We're looking for volunteers for committee and committee chair for the Membership Committee. You don't have to be a NRGTA Board member. Email Bill if you would like to be a part of the Membership Fund Raising Committee.

Social Media Committee: Andy Forrone is the Chair. The NRGTA Facebook page is up now. Anyone who needs can post on the NRGTA Facebook page. We still need content for both the NRGTA Facebook page and the nrgta.org web site.

Doug states they are in the process of receiving one million dollars to repair the 23.2 miles Meador River trail (Fayette to Greenbrier). Most of the money is allocated to replace the trestle bridge.

Elk River trail: The Elk River rail bed is up for sale. The rail bed starts outside of Charleston and goes to beyond Clay (57 miles). Presently the Brite Corporation owns it. The West Virginia connecting Communities is doing an appraisal and applying for a grant to purchase the land. The grant may need to go through the NRGTA. There's no action needed yet.

NRGTA Newsletter: Bill needs content for the next Newsletter.

Old Business: Andy reports that the Beckley area Foundation Grant was granted. It was for \$5000.00 to install bike racks on the New River Transit Authority buses. There are 14 racks for 14 buses. The City of Beckley is receiving the bike racks and funding the installation. The bike racks will become the property of the New River Transit Authority and they will install bike racks on all the Transit buses from this point forward. Funding becomes available April 1st. Each bike rack holds two bicycles.

Email vote:

There were no email votes since our last NRGTA Board meeting.

Bill emailed the NRGTA Board after this meeting with email votes for:

- α Approval of the minutes from the Nicholas County meeting
- α Approval of the Bechtel Summit maintenance and NRGTA trail use agreement
- α Approval of the in Kind hours

All Motions at the Greenbrier County meeting were approved by email vote.

Public meeting: 6:04 pm

We had 9 public guests. Bill welcomed the public guests and asked for their ideas for trails in Greenbrier County.

Billy gave a vision of the trails in Nicholas County and Richwood that are a part of the ARC grant.

Bill gave an explanation to our guests of the NRGTA trail vision using the marked up the six county vision map. Also Bill talked about our agreement with Bechtel Summit to allow cyclist to use the trail.

Visitor: The White Sulphur Springs Mayor wants to build a bike lane alongside US Hwy 60 from White Sulphur Springs to the Greenbrier trail.

There were discussions from the public about the Greenbrier Trails being poorly maintained. Bill pointed out that the NRGTA is also about maintaining trails as well as constructing them.

Doug Hylton talked about the Arts and Recreation committee maintaining the Greenbrier County trails using the Hotels and Motels taxes. Also they are working on adding another 23.2-mile section to the Greenbrier Trail (extending the trail to Ronceverte). They're looking into purchasing and getting right of ways from property owners to extend the trail on.

Next meeting. The May Board meeting of the NRGTA will be held on May 15th, 2018 at the Summers County Memorial building on 1st and James Street (adjacent to the Summers County Courthouse). The Board Meeting will begin at 4:30 PM and the public meeting will start at 6:00 PM. The second Tuesday is the Primary election day.

Submitted by

Jeff Evans

Recording Secretary

Proposal given and discussed at the NRGTA Greenbrier County Meeting on March 20th 2018:

Summit Bechtel Reserve. Trail Alliance partnership proposal

The general plan through an agreement will be for a local trail group to commit to community service work on our trails, while taking responsibility for members being respectful of the SBR property. In exchange, members will be able to ride the SBR mountain bike trails & dirt jumps during scheduled times as outlined below.

Times:

- α Effective as soon as agreement is signed
- α Generally, trails would be open during times that programming and other conflicting events are not happening on site (currently Sept-May)
- α Specific dates will be blocked out as necessary
- α A schedule of open days will be posted and maintained on the NRGTA website

Logistics:

- α Proposal includes all mountain bike trails, including jump trails, pumptracks and mountain bike area dirt jumps; proposal does not include BMX tracks or skate park
- α Participants will come in the North Entrance, Stay on Jack Furst Dr., Park in Jack's Landing East o Vehicles stay on Jack Furst Drive, with obedience to traffic regulations mandatory
- α Only ride open trails and roads as agreed upon
- α All members sign a Summit Waiver and receive an information sheet, the guard shack will keep a list of members who have Summit Waivers on file.
- α Members will have a membership card with the NRGTA logo on it. An example of one such card will be provided to the guard shack. Members will need to show this card either in print form or digital form to gain entry.
- α Gate guards will keep daily count of total rider numbers.
- α Gate guards will provide solo riders with a method of checking back in before they depart.
- α Members will be allowed to use breezeway bathrooms of SVC

Trail work:

- α Two types of maintenance
- α Riding time
- α Trail work projects
- α There will be a kiosk and log book at parking lot to record trails ridden, time and comments
- α 2 special project days per year - i. fall, l- spring
- α Trail work needed will consist mostly of keeping foliage at bay and clearing debris
- α Trail work may also include tread repair under the supervision of approved project leaders.
- α Certain members may be approved to use chain saws
- α There will be a number to call to report down trees and other more intensive trail work needed o There will be certain NRGTA members in charge of planning and recording volunteer days

Risk Management:

- α Risk would be managed like any other trail system open to the public, Members must manage their own risk by not riding above their skill
- α Commit to protecting the progressive trail ethos of the Summit, do not build new trails or trail features, do not work on shaping existing jumps, breams or other features
- α Specific rules forbidding access to other adventure equipment such as climbing areas and zip lines.
- α Riders who have an emergency would call 9L1 like any other riding area
- α Informational kiosk to help guide public, information about risk management and trail info

- α Clear signage to direct from parking to trailheads and signage at high gear jump trails talking about pre-riding features and riding at skill level

NRGTA:

- α Organize and manage volunteer trail work days
- α All members automatically have access to their I.D. cards.
- α Promote and educate members about partnership
- α Commercial General Liability insurance of at least \$1, 000,000 with COI