G.H.O.R.B.A.

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Date: Jan 30, 2025

Location: Spaghetti Western, TC Jester

Board Member Attendance:

Board Member	X if present	if absent was report submitted?	Board Member	X if present	if absent was report submitted?
Ben Drews -President	x		Liz Woodrow- Race Director	x	
Linda Jordaan - Vice President	x		Dan Hellner- Sergeant at Arms	x	
Sunny Oliver- Treasurer	x		Derek Heaton- IT Director	x	
Kristi Vecellio- Secretary	x		Paul Schultz- Director at Large	x	
Kevin Highfield- Advocacy Director		yes	David Cervera- Director at Large	x	
Scott- Dammitt- Trails Director		no	Lisa Biem- Director at Large	x	
Maiella Cunningham- Events Director	x		Davis Ruiz- Director at Large	x	
Carlos Caicedo- Communications Director		no	Total 12		
Additional Attendees: none					
Prior Month Meeting Minutes Approved?	October: Yes November: Yes				

Reports and Meeting Notes

General Updates from President and Executive Committee Reports

a. **celebration**s
   i. New board info out by 2/7/25

b. governance update
   i. Bylaws
      1. Will go out end march

c. finance report
   i. ACCT Balance 54,000
   ii. SLC expenses came in NOV
   iii. 150/month each to storage and Neon
   iv. 180000 Grant- annual renewal is expired, Dan and Sunny will take care of renewal

Director Reports and Committee Updates (old and new business)

- Communications and Events Update

A. Calendar Updates
    1. West Houston Trailfest March 22nd
    2. Timberlane April 26th
    3. Sugarland Classic May 3-4
    4. Welcome to Double Lake June 7th
    5. Lake Houston, Sept 13
B. Event Sheets Status update
    1. Ben is sending each person their event sheet for events through May
C. Newsletter Status update
    1. Goal is 1x/quarter- end of March
D. Retreat update
    1. April 5 Double Lake, Cypress Creek, Memorial??
E. Discussion on increasing posting and better communications

- Membership Update
    A. Need to outline next steps once new By-laws are in place
- Advocacy Update

    Sam Houston National Forest: I've been working on the Forest Service and the Sam Houston Trails Coalition for the last year to support a TPW RTP grant for the "Sam Houston Trail" - something I first drafted in 2015. I submitted the draft grant to the FS in October 2024. After repeated attempts to get a response, I was told "NO" by the FS in mid-January. They also said "No" to the project first drafted in May 2023 to restore some missing links in the forest for connectivity. The FS seems consistent with many other local government landowners in that they seem to hate cyclists. Very disheartening. The SHTC have been supportive and they hope it will go through for the 2026 applications. I will continue to press them.

    Kristi and I will attend a Bike The Woodlands advocacy event on Feb 4th - they are trying to get things going on natural surface trails. There is a lot of opportunity, but The Woodlands Township has proved more difficult than the FS - if you can imagine that!

    No further news on the Flood District agreement - all quiet.

- Trails Update
    A. Lisa and Ben to digitize waiver and TPWD grant and tracking the volunteer hours
        1. we can get grant money
        2. we can show precincts what we are doing
    B. KH comment: Progress on the major bridge failure on the NWCC trail - the SHTC have been pro-active, and GHORBA have supported, a first step in the repair. Core samplings were done last week, which hopefully revealed a firm base to set pilings and repair the bridge. Lisa Biem, Jannis Brunner and several other cycling volunteers were on-site to help. Should do a GHORBA post on this. Also, GHORBA trail stewards continue to work under SHTC on NWCC and Double Lake trails (since SHTC have all agreements and permissions with the FS), and things are working well.
    C. Dig the Roots needs to be set
    D. Sample at c57 is good- Lisa
    E. Working on Sunnyside Bike park- Ben
    F. In a good place with Memorial Park- Ben

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- IT Update
    A. Beefy paid monthly- can be emailed to add to website
    B. New board members and other information needs to be sent to Dan
- Race Update
    A. Linda and Liz to start new action tracker
    B. Kristi and Ben started and after action report but we need to hold a meeting 2024 SLC After Action and 2025 Planning
    C. Liz: sponsors are expressing interest already
    D. Committee
        1. Lisa, Kristi, Liz, LInda, Maiella, Ben, David
    E. Discussion about multi year sponsorship contract, Rain issues, improving communications
    F. Approve meta verification for Liz
    G. Need a communication and responsibility meeting

Opportunity for Director at Large updates/comments

A. Elmo's table being ready for first GNARants ride- Anthills
B. Huntsville: Complete open 2/7 with re routes

Other Committee Reports

- **Dirt Sisters**
- **Bentonville Report.**
  https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-b3k-1GO0bpGV67iiDMPRAUjXXgKZXryoLX1GxT57cA/edit
    - Group Ride Update: We have changed the format. We Will have a once a month group ride at all the different trails. We will also have a once a month ride to a trail not with in out system (Wards, Rocky hill, etc)
    - Plan for Coaching Clinics: I have coached a few ladies already. I plan on having a beginner class in the next few months.
    - I am also going to have a few classes talking about Racing, nutrition, and on trail fix maintenance class.
- GNARkids
    - season starting soon at the Anthills
    -

Close meeting

- Restate/Determine Priority Action items for the month and work time during this meeting
    - event sheet for all events through May
    - announce board
    - announce bylaws and new membership starting
- Confirm next meeting date
    - New board invited Feb 20th
    - March 20th
    - Kristi to call

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