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

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Date: March 6th, 2024 6PM to 10PM

Address: Saffron Indian Kitchen, 8045 North Sam Houston Pkwy W, Houston, Tx 77064

Attendees:

Board:

- Ben Drews- President
- Linda Jordaan - Vice President
- Sunny Oliver - Treasurer
- Kristi Vecellio - Secretary
- Kevin Highfield- Director of Advocacy and Outreach
- Derek Heaton - Director of IT
- Scott Dammitt - Trails Director
- Maiella Cunningham - Events Director
- Carlos Caicedo- Communications Director
- Vacant - Race Director
- Dan Hellner - Sergeant at Arms
- Liz Woodrow - Membership Director
- Paul Schultz – Director at Large (Timberlane)
- David Ruiz – Director at Large (Anthills)
- David Cervera- Director at Large (Anthills)
- Lisa Biem - Director at Large (Huntsville, C-57)

Guests:

- Dennis Duarte

Attendance:

14 Present / 13 Board Members / Have Quorum yes

Agenda

- Dennis and Russell our outgoing President and Vice President will address the group
- New President Address
    1. submit agenda items 1 week in advance
    2. consultant work in process and Ben will update us
    3. Board members ideas about roles
        1. ambassadors and inclusivity
        2. promoting events, races, people, stewards
            1. spread more rides across Houston in general (consider underrepresented ones)
        3. Good relations with community, bike rides
        4. expand beyond mtb in the community
            1. this may impact Liz to shift from membership to sponsorship mgmt since membership will be free/open
        5. “GHORBA Builds communities that build trails”
        6. “Trickle down Advocacy”
        7. more trails and pump tracks
        8. Unite local trail systems

9. Involve ALL trails and more trail support events
10. Everyone has a place

4. Goals for the year
    1. timely meetings
    2. grow rides and ladies rides
    3. More funding for infrastructure
    4. Grow GNARkids and Dirt Sisters
    5. Increase revenue
    6. more merchandise
    7. Quarterly whole community meetings
    8. Discussion around social media
    9. Girl Scout incorporation
    10. Events
        1. meetings planned in advance
        2. using spreadsheets
    11. Increase users, optimize digital communication channels
    12. more trails sanctioned
    13. more trails involved in events
    14. more clinics- mini trail fest and group rides
    15. Land use with Harris County
    16. Deal with trees dead from drought
    17. extend trails for connectability
    18. New Trails in the Sam Houston
    19. Race Success
    20. New Membership Transition with Patrons
    21. Replace Sunny in treasury role, add committee member
    22. Replace Derek

- Director Reports:
    - Treasurer Update
        - A. status of Accounts
            1. Chase account has been reviewed
            2. Paypal account balance = $2,239
        - B. status of activities
            1. Trails - $967, Anthills, Jack Brooks, Cypress Creek
            2. Events - $1,065, Anthills trail fest (Need to check on restroom invoice)
            3. Membership - $550, 19 renewals/join
            4. Merch - ($680) dirt sisters shirts
            5. Unbudgeted -
        - C. Grant Status
            1. TPWL grant, no new updates
    - Trails Updates

A. Build a new Trail Committee(Paul Schulz)

- Communications Update
  A. No Report

- Events Update
  A. TRAILFEST (Anthills) 3rd Annual West Houston Trail Fest.xlsx
     1. GHORBA Board please arrive 11 if possible
     2. Ben reviewed schedule
     3. We need someone for schwag and membership
     4. Active Cycling is coming, Trek is coming
     5. What will we do with rain
  B. TRAILFEST (Timberlane)
     1. Book ADA compliant bathroom
  C. SLC SLC 2024 Event Sheet 1-1-2024.xlsx
- Membership Update
  A. No Report
- Advocacy Update
  A. Ben will update on the status of the HCFCD agreement - Currently the agreement is back with us (GHORBA), and the biggest concern is in relation to the requirement to pay all of the county and precinct's legal fees.
  B. Precinct 3: We had a meeting with P3 Parks (not sure if I reported on this) - about makeup trails for the pending loss of Cypresswood Trail to detention ponds. Any progress in this regard is very much dependent on the agreement in Point 1 above.
  C. Cypresswood Trail: I have requested an update on the detention ponds as we haven't heard anything in a while. Last we heard, the big pond east of TC Jester was going out to bid about now. I'll update the board when I hear further.
  D. SHNF: I had a meeting with the District Ranger at the last SHTC meeting in January and he gave me a new form to fill out which basically puts the project for the connecting routes back to square one - after almost one year of sitting on it. I will forward the reply I sent for the benefit of the new board.
  E. Woodlands: I discussed the new park on Spring Creek / Gosling Road with John Zgourides (of "Bike The Woodlands" advocacy group). I want them to partner with us in more trails in this new park and The Woodlands. The Woodlands Township Parks have been as difficult as the National Forest Service in getting anything done.
  F. TPW Grant: My apologies, I should have already drafted a budget for this grant, but am way behind. I'll try and get it done in the next week. The contract is active and we can start spending money, but we must have a plan on how it is to be done.
  G. Ben and Scott- Cypress Creek agreement (discussion with Jeremy)
     1. Liability, it is improved but we are still not satisfied with language of the agreement
     2. Maiella: Friday morning, big event at Rice University about getting kids active, including the bike community, she would like more information to take to this event.

- IT
    A. Additional users to be added to the website calendar input.

- Committees
    A. Dirt Sisters
        1. New DS Racers and attendees at Women's Empowerment Ride- RHR
        2. Local Group rides happening (Lisa, Dana- kindness ride)
        3. Shirts store is open
            1. https://jakroo.com/store-front?storeId=ByMAERvoT...

    B. Sugarland Classic
        1. RACE ACTION LIST
        2. We are looking for more committee members to help
        3. Liz has taken roles as Race Director for this year so that she can be primary point of contact
        4. Carlos, Maiella to join race committee

- Old Business
    - Proposal from 3rd party company on 501c growth and profitability
    - How we develop committees in 2024
    - Funding for Dirt Sisters Shirts pre-order
        - Board voted in favor of 44 preorders for Timberlane and Sugarland
        - Scott Dammitt motioned to vote to support and Liz Woodrow seconded. The board voted unanimously minus Kevin and Lisa to support.
    - Nicole and Lisa and Reimbursement for scholarship?
- New Business
    1. Identify 5 main priorities for the year (from surveys) and then identify the top 3 for GHORBA 2024
        1. Newsletter
        2.
    2. Adding additional marketing support for the SLC classic
        1. integrating with Sweet Beats
        2.
    3. Establish Standards of Conduct and Communication for board meetings and chats (to become role of Sergeant at Arms to support/enforce)
    4. Set meetings for the year, REMINDER 2 and 1 week out for agendas dues
        1. April 10th, in person
        2. May 15th, online
        3. June 12, online
    5. Texas Flatlanders Demo ride- charge $1000
        1. Vote passed to pay for them to be at Timberlane Trailfest
            1. question about what is happening if it is rained out?
    6. Tour De Houston- need bodies on April 7th to represent MTB

7. New IT committee (Scott, Maiella, Linda, Carlos to be added), Emmanual to take over
    1. want to send Derek all Biking events
8. Intros from New Board Members