

VASA Board of Directors Minutes

April 13th, 2020

14 Don Camp Dr

Barre, VT 05641

Board of Directors Present: Mike Smith, Tim Joyal, Dave Taft, Bill Ortlieb, Steve Bean, Fred Elliot, Adam Lane, Gary Nolan, Cathy Keller, Doug Wheeler, Jeff Curtis, Doug Stone, Reynold Sicotte, Scott Jenness, John Hull.

Guests Present: None.

Staff Present: Danny Hale, Ethan Hill, Emily Hale, Frank Stanley.

Adam Lane calls the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Secretary's Report: Adam Lane asks if there are any questions or changes needed for the Secretary's Report. Hearing none, *Mike Smith makes a motion to accept the Secretary's report as written. Bill Ortlieb seconds the motion. All in favor, none opposed; motion carries.*

Treasurer's Report: *Mike Smith makes a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as written. Bill Ortlieb seconds the motion. All in favor, none opposed; motion carries.*

Staff Report: We are making progress on the maps but they're still a little while out. Fred Elliot asks about selling memberships without the maps. Danny states we most likely won't have them before the start of our membership sales. Dave Taft lets Danny know that RATS won't be able to fully fill out the website form as they have some open seats for officers right now but they'll get us what they have. Danny and Scott have been talking and have decided the best plan is to postpone the Annual Meeting. We're unsure of a new date right now but will be working on a new plan asap. Danny mentions we're working with Polaris to get a grant from them and we'll be sharing our trail data with them for ride command. Bill Ortlieb asks if the Polaris grant is a result of us giving them our trail data, or was that going to happen anyway. Danny responds saying that anybody can use it and it's not Polaris's only. Polaris offers two grants a year, we use to get two a year, but in order to qualify for that grant you have to share your data with them. We should be eligible for two grants a year now.

The office has applied for the federal Paycheck Protection Program to help with our salaries during this time. With the way things are going we're not going to have much membership income coming in the next few months so this program will help us moving forward. We've put hiring a new employee on hold. We were just getting to the interview stage before this virus took hold and we decided it wasn't the best to try and hire someone with all the unknowns. As of now Emily and Ethan have done a great job stepping up. Luckily right now it's not a very busy time of year. This newsletter is the invitation to the Annual Meeting usually. The newsletter is going to be pretty skinny right now as many clubs haven't sent an article to the office. With that Danny suggests that we just produce a small online newsletter this time, and then we can send something out later in August/September for the Annual Meeting. Everyone agrees that we should save the money and just put out a small newsletter/statement on social media come early May instead of producing a full newsletter. Reynold Sicotte asks Emily if the mileage checks will be mailed out since the meeting is being held over the phone. Emily states that she'll be sending them out in the mail due to the circumstances but this is not our usual policy rule. Danny mentions that when the staff sends out an email to the BOD that doesn't mean post it on social media. What's discussed with the BOD isn't always for the public view on social media but instead decisions to be discussed among the board before moving forward and posting something on social media. A good rule of thumb is if it's not posted on VASA's social media than it shouldn't be posted on club's social media if coming from a BOD email.

Doug Wheeler asks if this is going to impact the budget and our end of year. Danny responds mentioning that we're going to look a little short because we're not going to have the April/May membership sales that we normally do. Gary Nolan agrees that will have some affect but feels that some other things will help offset that by not doing as much trail work, etc. Danny mentions that we have a line of credit with our bank for cash flow and that it's time to renew it. We generally use it for the purchase of equipment and then pay it off with reimbursements. *Bill Ortlieb makes a motion to renew our line of credit with Union Bank and authorize Danny Hale as the signer. Mike Smith seconds that motion. All in favor, none opposed; motion carries. Mike Smith makes a motion for VASA to apply for the Paycheck Protection Program through Union Bank and authorize Danny Hale as the signer. Jeff Curtis seconds the motion. All in favor, none opposed; motion carries.*

Old Business: None.

New Business: Lost Nation's raffle will be postponed.

Legislative Update: Frank gives an update on what's going on in the state house. Just like everything else the legislature is a mess right now. They shut down almost a month ago, about a week later they started meeting remotely which has been very difficult to track. The million dollar question is what's the legislature going to end up doing and no one really knows. They're talking about if they're going to pass the COVID bills and adjourn, or are they going to continue on remotely, adjourn remotely and come back in the summer and go into the fall. So there is no real answer to that yet like everything else. Our two main bills, the transportation bill, we had our language in it was passed by the committee and sent to the house floor has since been come into some problems. Same with the DMV bill, which had the weight for the ATV definition change in it. The senate asked for a stripped down version with only sections that are must need for this session and they're also working on making changes because of what's going on, so our language was stripped out but it's still in play because the new version of the bill has not actually been finalized yet and still on the house floor. It's going to depend whether the house chair of transportation asks for the bill back from the floor. If the legislature is going to move forward I've already talked to AOT and the Governor's office we're going to request our language get put back in the T bill. The Act 250 bill is basically dead sitting in Senate of Natural Resources. The chair of that committee has no intention of bringing it up because it's too big of a bill.

Mike Smith makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bill Ortlieb seconds the motion. All in favor, none opposed; meeting is adjourned at 6:48 pm.