

Carrabassett Valley Outdoor Association
Board and Member Meeting –March 4, 2018
at the Carrabassett Valley Town office

The meeting was called to order at 1:04pm by President Joe Loughran.

Present: Board members: Joe Loughran, Bonnie Farrar, Neil Trask, Al Sleight, Mary Berger; Manager: Steve Smith; members-at-large: Elise Gebhardt, Jeannette Parker, Douglas Andrews, Linda Treworthy, Paul Treworthy.

Joe reported that due to a lack of quorum today, there will be another full board meeting in two months.

Those in attendance voted to suspend reading but approve the minutes of 9/17/17. It was suggested to include a link to the minutes in the newsletter.

Joe introduced the treasurer nominee, Elise Gebhardt. Elise reported that she has met with Cindy Foster and that they have filed the annual financial report. Elise also is working on filing federal taxes and just needs to clarify the user name/password before she submits it. The treasurer report was filed for future potential auditing.

RANGE REPORT: NEIL TRASK

- Neil has applied to the town for a portion of the \$15,000 matching grant fund for the 5 stand and received \$3,047.50. Funds have been used for clay storage, tractor and trap machine covers. The town has fully supported this project.
- Material for the berm project has been delivered at a cost of \$19,563, which will be offset by the town's portion of the grant.
- Activity at the range late fall of 2017 was very busy but had to be suspended when it got cold. Neil has gotten estimates for insulating the clubhouse at \$800 for insulation. It could then be covered with pine lumber which was donated by Peter Weston.
- The current woodstove is outdated. Neil estimated a propane monitor heater would be about \$2000. Al Sleight asked about using electric heat since we already use electric for the bathroom, which Neil shuts off when the range closes for the winter.
- Neil reported that the plan is to have the 5 stand open on Saturdays and trap shoot on Sundays.
- Joe reported that a subcommittee has met to discuss the future management of the range and to try to lessen what Neil has to do. They have discussed many ideas including:
 - Hiring a part-time manager
 - Identifying specific tasks the manager would do
 - Expenses
 - Looking at what larger ranges do
- Seven people went for range safety training in October, one rep was from Sugarloaf.
- The members present discussed the request from Sugarloaf to be able to include the range on their list of activities for guests at the resort. Of greatest concern was liability, followed by staffing and financial responsibility, safety and instruction, and the suggestion that Sugarloaf just rent our facility but do everything themselves. All agreed that it is potentially a great partnership, but that liability definitely needs to be worked out.

- Neil and Joe will attend an upcoming subcommittee meeting and will continue to iron out details before presenting information to the Board in April for further discussion. Joe will check out how much the Scarborough range pays their manager.

ACTIVITIES: JOE LOUGHRAN

- Joe reported that about 100 people had taken advantage of the three ski trips offered by CVOA this winter: Copper Mountain, Banff/Lake Louise, and Quebec. Responses have been very favorable about each of the trips. On a survey after the Banff/Lake Louise trip, the response was very positive about splitting the week between two different hotels. Joe said the transition was seamless, probably due to the fact that the hotels were owned by the same company.
- Friday, April 6th is the date set for the post ski-trip party, the location is yet to be determined but will be posted in the April newsletter. Next year's destinations will be decided and with such high numbers of participation, it was agreed that 2-3 trips are really necessary.
- Bob Brickley is accepting reservations for the Quebec bike trip in June. More details will be in the April newsletter.
- Mary Berger mentioned the Sky Lodge trip, which was very popular last year, will be June 14 weekend this year. The cost is \$125/pp and is limited to about 25 people. More in the April newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Joe reviewed the work last summer at the Outdoor Center Pond which was stocked with trout and then evaluated with help from CVOA. The town is financing the project and CVOA is helping with the labor. The big question will be how the stock survived the winter.
- The Hiking Guide was discussed again. Paul Treworthy mentioned that the original intent had been to provide information for local hikes because at the time there was nothing out there. Linda added that the guide's creation and updating took a lot of members' time to do each hike and then report on them. It was agreed that there is no need to update and/or reprint the guide at this time because of the many guides available. Al Sleight suggested adding an online version of the book to our website as well as providing additional links to hiking information for the area. He will check with Patrick McBrien, our webmaster on how to do this. Al will research the sites and see if Patrick can insert the links on our website.

NEW BUSINESS:

- CVOA received a request from the Adaptive Outdoor Education Center for \$500. The money would be used by their Horizons Adaptive Climbing Program to help them upgrade their belaying devices to ones with auto-brake systems (The cost for 5 devices is \$300). Al described to the members how an auto-brake system is much quicker in response to falls vs. human reaction time for traditional devices. There would also be \$200 for climbing scholarships to provide adults and children the opportunity to take part in the sport of climbing at a local recreational facility that they might not otherwise have used. Members all agreed this was a worthy cause for our organization, but we could not take a vote without a quorum, so an email vote will be taken.
- Al Sleight suggested a non-motorized boat be kept at the dock on the Outdoor Center Pond for people to use. (The town owns the pond which it leases to the mountain). It was agreed that it

would be a great idea, but once again liability became the deciding factor that it would probably not work out.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:28pm.

The next meeting will be at a date and location to be determined later.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bonnie Farrar, CVOA VP