

Carrabassett Valley Outdoor Association
Board and Member Meeting - June 26, 2016
At the Carrabassett Valley Town Park

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m, following a noon-time pot-luck BBQ which was run by Joe Loughran, who was recognized for his efforts.

Present: Board members: John Morey, Joe Loughran, Cindy Foster, Neal Trask, Nancy Perry, Diane Stone, Glenn Bickford, Mary Berger, Betsy Chapman and Ray Stone; webmaster Pat McBrien; and 16 members-at-large.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Cindy Foster)

- The minutes from the Annual Meeting were dispensed with the reading, and accepted by a unanimous vote.
- We have approximately 450 memberships, which includes about 800 members; about half of the memberships include at least one range member. For the 2016 membership year, since October 1, 2015, CVOA has collected \$13,885 in membership and range fees. About \$8,000 of that total are from range fees at \$20 per range member.
- We continue to have a remarkable 58-60% rate of members opening the monthly newsletters.
- Cindy introduced our new webmaster, Pat McBrien to the group, and he was welcomed.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Joe Loughran presented Gail Miller's report as she was quite indisposed at home)

- After moving our assets into a savings account, we have earned \$200 in interest.
- Comparing 2015 Year to Date to 2016 YTD:
 - Net dues is up \$850
 - Net range is up \$2710
 - Net income is up \$5296
 - It appears that we are on track with respect to our budget.
- Greg Foster asked what our current assets are, and Joe was able to report a total of \$61,000.

RANGE REPORT (Neal Trask)

- Sugarloaf donated the use and operator for a large Volvo excavator, and the field area at the range was leveled.
- Neal reported on the latest Range Project, the addition of 5-stand shooting.
 - Early in 2016, CVOA submitted a grant application to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for funds to support the 5-stand project. The grant awards 70% of the cost of the project, and CVOA is responsible for 30% of the cost. In round numbers, the complete project cost is \$67,000. The grant would pay 70% which is \$47,000. CVOA will be responsible for \$20,000; the Town of Carrabassett Valley will contribute \$15,000 in matching funds, leaving \$5,000 – this amount will be easily covered by in-kind donations of materials and volunteer labor.
 - CVOA has received a letter saying that the grant has been awarded to CVOA, pending final environmental and land trust approval. Neal anticipates the process will be finalized in the next few weeks.

OLD BUSINESS:

Camp North Woods (Glenn Bickford)

- Camp North Woods is sponsored by the Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife at the University of Maine 4-H Camp at Bryant Pond. The camp is designed to introduce and 8-12 year olds to many outdoor activities, and to teach them related skills. The state pays \$225 of the camper's cost, and the camper's family pays \$400. The campers are selected through a lottery process.
- Cindy Foster gave some history – last fall CVOA received a letter from Camp North Woods soliciting \$400 to help provide camperships. At the January 2016 meeting, the item was tabled until we have more information, which Glenn Bickford offered to source. He learned that it is not possible to designate a \$400 donation to North Woods to apply toward a camper who is local to our area.
- Glenn made us aware that a Kingfield girl was selected for the camp this summer, and that from what he has learned, it would be appropriate for CVOA to award her a campership.
- A motion was made and seconded that CVOA authorizes Glenn to pursue awarding up to a \$400 scholarship to the camper's family, the Swain family. The motion was passed unanimously.

ADVENTURE COMMITTEE (Betsy Chapman)

- The Adventure Committee met this morning from 10:30 to noon.
- The Montreal Bike trip was a huge success with 29 members on the trip, led by Glenn and Peggy Bickford. They will consider doing the trip next year, or possibly a similar trip to a new location.
- Yesterday's Lac Megantic golf outing saw 12 golfers participating, and they had a great time, reported Nancy Perry. Elise Gebhardt and Sandy Osterrieder were the trip leaders.
- Show 'N Go hiking – Peg Bickford is working on setting up a system for notifying interested members when there is a short-notice hike offered. Kayaking, Fishing, and Bicycling events could use a similar arrangement.
- The next event in the July 16 Cove day at the Fosters' in South Bristol; details will be in the next newsletter. Although Cindy reported that Greg says "we are having lobster".
- The Maine Huts & Trails weekend, run by Nancy Perry, has 24 signed up, of the 30 available beds. We will promote it in the July newsletter, and a "Reminder Email" a week before the July 15 payment deadline.
- Betsy Chapman reported that 6 members have signed up for the Victory Chimes trip, and the remaining rooms are available to the public. There are 2 rooms available.
- Betsy will work on getting pieces and info onto WSKI this summer.
- Betsy suggested that trip leaders seek out outdoor and adventure clubs in the areas they go to, such as at Telluride. Cindy will check into that.
- Cindy Foster, Telluride trip leader, reported that there are already 68 people signed up for the 2017 trip, with only 10 airplane seats left. We are limited to 35 seats per flight, so have one group traveling Thursday, and one on Friday.

NEW BUSINESS

- It was noted that it is unclear what the policy is for contributing money and/or good to an event such as today's BBQ. In general, the policy is that members should either bring a dish to share OR pay \$5 into the treasury. If an event is to be handled otherwise, it will be noted in promotions of the event.
- Merchandise – Linda Trueworthy has made many efforts to sell our promotional goods such as hats and aprons. Sales have been minimal. In order to liquidate our inventory, Linda would like to give 2016 trip leaders an item with our thanks. She will still make items available for sale until they are gone. We have 27 hats and 9 aprons in stock. A motion was made to have Linda handle the inventory as she suggests, and it passed unanimously.
- Trip Leader subsidy – in 2015 we voted to have every participant in an overnight trip contribute \$5 per person to help pay for the trip leader's lodging. This is to be in effect for 2016. Discussion about raising

the rate, or adjusting it for multiple nights, was held. This item was tabled for further discussion at the next meeting, when a policy for 2017 can be adopted.

- Telluride free trips – As is typical in the industry, Great Events & Escapes, our tour operator, gives one free trip for every 20 trips purchased; the 21st, 42nd, 63rd etc. person travels for no cost. For the 2016 Whistler trip, three free trips were earned, and CVOA voted to give the trip leader, Cindy Foster, one and a half free trips (the half trip was applied to Cindy's husband's trip) and CVOA was given a check for the value of one and a half trips. At today's meeting, Cindy explained this to the group, and the 2017 Telluride trip will earn three free trips. There was discussion about changing the distribution for the 2017 Telluride free trips, and a motion was made to give the trip leader one and a half free trips, and to have CVOA receive the value of one and a half trips from Great Events & Escapes. The motion was passed overwhelmingly. Cindy and Greg Foster abstained from the vote.
- John was given approval to pay the band \$900 for their gig at our 2017 Annual Winter Social.
- Bill Haeefele told the story of his good friend Ed Brackett who died at sea while guiding a man and woman in kayaks off Mt. Desert Island. In spite of Ed's extensive experience and safety measures, a weather anomaly resulted in his death along with the death of the man. All three were wearing PFD's. The woman barely survived and most likely only because she had tied a rope from the overturned kayak around her arm, which kept her attached to the kayak.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Foster, Secretary