

Carrabassett Valley Outdoor Association
Board and Member Meeting – August 22, 2015
At the Carrabassett Valley Town Park Pavilion

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m.

Present: Board members: Nancy Perry, John Morey, Cindy Foster, Gail Miller, Don Fowler, Neal Trask, Sandy Jamison, John McCatherin, Glenn Bickford and Jim Heichel. 15 members-at-large were also in attendance.

Secretary's Report/Minutes (Cindy Foster)

- The new attendees were welcomed.
- From the minutes of the last meeting, mention was made of the change in by-laws to have the membership year be based on the calendar year.
- A motion was made and accepted to dispense with reading of the minutes. The minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report (Gail Miller)

- Gail presented the current CVOA Profit and Loss Statement, which shows a net income of negative \$17,140. She explained that a request for reimbursement from the range state grant has been made, and income of \$13,000 will be forthcoming. Also, we will have significant income in the fourth quarter from membership renewals.
- Gail summarized the treasury funds.
- A motion was made and accepted to accept the treasurer's report.

Range Report (John McCatherin)

- The new building at the range was fully framed today by a group of very capable volunteers, led by Greg Roux and Tim Richards, using lumber supplied by Peter Weston.
- A reimbursement request for \$13,000 (of the granted \$19,000) has been made, matched by the required matching funds, all of which has been in-kind donations of labor and materials. The total value of the building will be approximately \$32,000; of that amount, approximately \$6,800 in CVOA monies will be used.
- The range buildings are owned by CVOA, and are on land that is leased from the town of Carrabassett Valley.
- A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Range report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Picnic Table Project:

- Glenn Bickford reported that he, along with Paul Trueworthy and Doug Andrews, rebuilt most of the tables that CVOA placed along the Narrow Gauge ten years ago. The bottom of the rotted legs were trimmed off and placed atop cement blocks. Most of the table required some rebuilding and replacing of boards. One table was removed and repaired off-site.
- All of the Gauge table materials were donated by the town. The Crommett Overlook table will be replaced with a new table, for which CVOA will pay the materials cost.
- Those present at the meeting voted to thank Glenn, Paul and Doug for their outstanding work.

2015 Fall/Winter Activities

- Nancy reported that Little Lyford trip has 30 people going, our group will be the only people at the camp, and there are a few openings left.
- Hiking the Bigelows: Peggy Bickford summarized the three “B-Team” hikes: Sept. 26 – Cranberry Peak, Stratton Brook, the loop; October 11 – Little Bigelow; October 24 – Fire Warden’s Trail, Avery Peak, West Peak.
- Holiday Hike/Cookie Swap: The Bickfords expressed interest in hosting the event.
- Whistler – Cindy reported that 66 of 72 slots are filled.

Hiking Guides – “Take a Hike”

- Nancy reported that we are once again almost sold out, and Nancy will order another 100 copies; the order will bring our total sold to about 700 copies.

NEW BUSINESS:

Charitable Contributions Policy (Gail Miller)

- The committee comprised of Gail, Glenn Bickford, Betsy Chapman and Mary Berger has written a policy for contributions by CVOA to local organizations. There was thoughtful questions and discussion about various aspects of the policy. It was noted that this is a policy that can be changed as needed. The committee was sincerely thanked for putting in place the long overdue policy.
- Here is the policy as it was approved by the membership:

CVOA Donation Policy

It is the intention of CVOA to support local organizations that reflect the CVOA mission statement:

“To foster and promote the conservation of our natural resources and the creation of recreational opportunities in our region.”

CVOA will donate up to 20% of the previous year net income to local groups that help support our mission. Donations will include cash donations as well as expenses incurred for activities for the benefit of the local community.

Additional donations may be approved by the board for requests for funds for emergency needs.

Donations of up to \$100 can be approved by the executive board. Donations in excess of \$100 must be approved by the board of directors.

Organizations must meet several criteria to qualify:

- They must be established in the state of Maine with activities focused in the Western Mountain area.
- They must complete an application form.
- They must submit an “after action report” detailing how the money was spent and who benefitted.

Requests for donations from CVOA may be brought to the executive board at any time by the local organizations or requests may be submitted by a member of CVOA. The board of directors may also choose to identify organizations that should receive a donation from CVOA on an annual basis. All donations must be reviewed annually by the board.

A report of all donations will be included in the CVOA annual report.

As of August 27, 2015

Budget Process for 2016 (Gail Miller)

- Gail is working with board members on a budget for the 2016, and asked for support in giving her relevant information. The budget will be sent to the Board of Directors for approval.

Quebec City Bike Trip

- The bike trip incurred credit card foreign country charges for trip leader Bob Brickley; CVOA has reimbursed Bob for those charges. In the future, anyone going on a trip outside of the USA can be reminded to check the policy for foreign country processing fees with their credit card company.

Homecoming (Nancy Perry)

- Nancy is working on filling the time slots for volunteers at the CVOA table. It was agreed that a committee was not needed, and Nancy will get help from CVOA members for setup, manning the booth, and takedowns.
- The Range will have the annual BBQ at noon on Sunday, along with youth activities. John McCatherin will not be able to do the annual raffle this year; 15 years is long enough.
- Jeannette Parker offered to make up a gift basket of goodies to be raffled off at the BBQ; tickets will be sold at the Homecoming table and at the BBQ.
- Events for the weekend include the range BBQ (led by Ray and Diane Stone) and a Bigelows hike with Peggy Bickford.

2016 Adventure Calendar (John Morey)

- John reported that he has received a few ideas, but not yet any leaders. The Adventure Committee will put together a calendar for 2016 of events and leaders.
- During the meeting, Elise Gebhardt talked about a golf day for 2016, which will be planned ahead so tee-times are reserved. She will be the leader for the event, and will put together contests and prizes.
- Nancy Perry will lead the Flagstaff Lake paddle with on overnight at the MH&T Grand Falls Hut.

We have held the required four meetings in 2015; the next meeting will be in January of 2016, date and location to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m. in memory of member Bob Allard, who very recently passed away suddenly of natural causes while on a trip in Alaska.

The meeting was followed by a potluck BBQ, including outstanding smoked brisket and pork loin, smoked to perfection by Rob Marshall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Foster, Secretary