

CARRABASSETT VALLEY OUTDOOR ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING JANUARY 22, 2017

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order @ 1:00 PM by President John Morey, who expressed appreciation of the Alford facility, and the tour of the new building that members had just taken. Fifteen members and one guest were present.

John introduced Mr. Larry Warren, who spoke to the group and provided information as to his history and role in developing recreational opportunities in the Carrabasset Valley area, the progress of the Maine Huts and Trails system, and his new project, the Longfellows Mountain Heritage Trail, a sixty mile long, historical and non-motorized, recreational trail that will span from Kingfield to Coburn Gore. The trail will include the Narrow Gauge Pathway, and closely parallel the Route 27 Scenic Byway. Access from landowners has been obtained through the corridor such as Chain of Ponds, Bigelow Preserve, and construction has started.

Mr. Warren expressed a desire and invitation for CVOA to partner with his non-profit group to get the message out about this trail, and to explore opportunities for leadership/participation in the project.

Member John Chapman proposed that a committee be formed to meet with Mr. Warren to research the project and report back to the Association with more information as to this project, and any possible roles CVOA may wish to play in support of the trail. The motion was moved and seconded. John Morey, Glenn Bickford, and Peggy Bickford volunteered to participate.

Following Mr. Warren's presentation, the following agenda items were addressed:

**Officer and Committee Reports:**

The Secretary's report was read.

Member Betsy Chapman suggested that members who may be interested in attending a future ski trip attend the Telluride Trip post-trip party 3/3 @ the Adaptive Center.

Report was accepted.

The Treasurer's Report was presented.

Gail noted that the previous night's social was a small turnout. \$630.00 was taken in, with the band and other expenses reported as \$ 935.00. The band had been asked to make some modifications as to music choice and length of songs, and these modifications were reported as contributing to an enjoyable dance time.

Gail reported that the 2016 budget came in within 649.00 of what had been budgeted, with a net profit of 11,223.00. She noted that some 2015 bills were not received until 2016.

Gail reported that income from 2017 raffle ticket sales was over 6200.00 so far.

Gail introduced the concept of developing a Finance Committee to set policies for the association as to topics such as a capital reserve fund, who is authorized to approve expenses, etc.

Gail reported she has 2017 budget information, Profit & Loss statements for review, on request. She reported we did not meet our goal for charitable contributions this past year owing to a low number of applications, and a return of previously donated monies to a scout group that was no longer operating.

It was moved to accept the treasurer's report. Member Mary Berger advised that Robert's Rules of Order specify that a non-profit group cannot accept a financial report, and that the correct action should be that the report is "filed for future possible audit."  
It was moved and seconded that the treasurer's report be "filed for future possible audit."

#### Range Report

Neal reported that the range was given the 'go-ahead' for the Five-Stand project at the end of August. Actions taken include purchase of traps, grading of the area, lumber purchases, and 'in-kind' investment by club members and Stratton Lumber to total an investment of over \$30,800.00. Per the 70/30 agreement of the grant, the range should receive a reimbursement of over 21,600.00.

The range has applied for another grant for Berm Improvement; improvements in height and composition of the berms are safety related, and the cost is estimated at 42,000.00, and is also a 70/30 reimbursement plan. Neal added that an application for a 10,000.00 grant from the town of Carrabassett Valley is being pursued as part of the 30% share the range will invest.

The range report was accepted.

#### Adventure Committee

Chairperson Betsy Chapman reported that bowling activities have occurred at the Sugar Bowl, with another event planned in March. She noted the committee was considering ideas that have been presented, such as sky diving, and fly casting lessons. They were working on re-invigorating 'Show & Go' for various activities. Bill Haefle will be arranging some hikes in Acadia National Park.

Betsy suggested that some way to coordinate dinner-dance dates with other organizations should be explored, as there have been some events on the same date as our social, and attendance at our event has been impacted. It was suggested she contact the Sugarloaf events coordinator. Attendance at the Winter Social declined from 120 two years ago to 67 this year. There was some discussion that perhaps a change of bands could be considered.

Betsy will forward the tentative 2017 Calendar of Events to board members for feedback, input, and hopefully volunteers to coordinate events. She hoped to plan events that would draw more people.

The Adventure Committee report was accepted.

#### **New Business**

1. Presentation by Larry Warren, and formation of committee to research and report back to association (see above summary).
2. John clarified that range materials had been moved out of Ray Cloutier's storage facility.

3. John proposed formation of a Finance Committee to set policies and discuss the issues cited by Gail in her Treasurer's Report of appropriate reserves, charitable spending, who is authorized to spend funds, etc.

Make up of such a committee was discussed. The following members volunteered as a Finance Committee: Gail Miller, Joe Loughran, Glenn Bickford, Ray Stone, Betsy Chapman.

4. John suggested we look to the membership for an individual to take charge of marketing our events and promoting activities, such as appearing on WSKI, submitting reports or articles to the Irregular newspaper, and post to the CVOA website. It was suggested to ask member Dan Cassidy.

5. John reported that board member John Pease has donated some stained glass pieces to the association to use in whatever way deemed appropriate. Discussion included possible use of those items as a future fundraiser, perhaps via a silent auction.

6. Joe Loughran reported that plans are underway for the Annual Meeting on March 18 @ the Sugarloaf Inn. Cost will be \$23.00 per person for dinner, the association will pay the ~~\$400.00~~ \$100 facility fee plus speaker fee [corrected per secretary] and Joe is researching a professional Maine story teller to be guest speaker. Noting that the seating capacity is ~~250~~ 120 [corrected per secretary], sign-ups/reservations will be ahead of time. There was some discussion about having a slide show to showcase upcoming 2017 events.

Joe noted that the open officer position for next year is that of vice-president, and he will forward a note to board members for suggestions/nominations to fill the post. It was felt that three expiring board positions would be filled by those currently serving.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy Bickford

Attendees:

John Morey	Glenn Bickford
Joe Loughran	Peggy Bickford
Gail Miller	Mary Berger
Betsy Chapman	Chris Rushton
John Chapman	Bill Haefle
Neal Trask	Jerry Lemieux
Jim Heichel	Dan Cassidy
Ray Stone	guest Larry Warren