

Minutes
PaOHV Business Meeting
January 24, 2009
Central Pennsylvania College

Present

George Fetterman, VFTR; Jim Beaver, VFTR; Rob Wimpfheimer, VFTR; Dave Marchese, Mike Babusci, Lynn Probst, Central Mountains; Wayne Yahn, Central Mountains; Jack Clark, Fred Baurele, LVATV; Brian Langer, ATV Traction; Richard Smith, ATV Traction; Bob Connor, Don McClure, S/MARC; Fred Brown, F C Brown Associates

1. INTRODUCTION OF Board MEMBERS: Conducted by Dennis Mann
2. SYNOPSIS OF ASSOCIATION ACTIVITY Denny Mann

Denny Mann reviewed the highlights of the November 1 board meeting and provided a synopsis of some of the Association's activities since. He reported that he and Dick Lepley attended the Four Wheel drive Association meeting in Dubois in November where they made a presentation on OHV recreation. It was learned that the Associations share multiple common interests. A relationship has been established with a new ally.

He reported that the local ordinance in Fairview Township, York County, was resoundingly defeated after PaOHV, SPER and numerous local residents voiced opposition to it. An overflow crowd pressed the issue at the township meeting on December 1 where the measure was defeated unanimously. The Warrington Township, Bucks County, ordinance was withdrawn after pressure from PaOHV.

In a similar vein, Locust Township, Columbia County will take up an ordinance on February 5. This ordinance is poorly written and lumps OHV restriction into a noise ordinance. (see New Business)

Mr. Mann reported that Barry Sheets from Penn State continues work in the Michaux forest trail with the help of PSU students. Improvements to the trail will continue.

He reported that SCORE has been granted a 12 month extension, and \$6,000 will be allotted.

Motorama 2009 will be held in the Farm Show Building on February 21 and 22. PaOHV will operate a SCORE booth.

3. REVIEW PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes approved from November 1, 2008

4. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Dave Marchese

Please accept our apologies, but this is proprietary information and will not be posted publically.

5. ADMINISRTATIVE REPORT: Don McClure

Don McClure reported that the web site is current as of 1/24. The "Where to Ride" section is current as of December 31. However, Bob Connor and others have submitted new information to process. "Where to Ride" changes should be forwarded to Mr. Connor or Mr. McClure as identified.

The Association is generally on track with the Strategic Plan.

Mr. McClure reported that WPPA radio plans a series on OHV recreation beginning in February. Talk show host Kerry Dowd met with Jack Clark, Fred Brown, Denny Mann and Don McClure. Nothing further has been scheduled despite repeated attempts to reach Ms. Dowd.

Grant applications will require a current tax return. Therefore, PaOHV must file a 990 or its equal for 2008 to apply for grants. This barrier cannot be circumvented; therefore, grant applications will wait.

The deadline for Newsletter articles is February 15. All members and parties present are asked to provide substance to complete the Newsletter.

6. POLITICAL ADVISORY REPORT: Fred Brown

Fred Brown reported that elections have produced 101 new legislators in the last two cycles. This is nearly a 45% turnover. More new legislators will enter the General Assembly in the New Year. Now is an exceptional time to introduce members to the sport, its concerns, and its economic development potential.

Rep. Sam Rorr has expressed interest in re-introducing the RULWA bill next year. Utilization of the new right to know law as a vehicle to access ATV registration data should be considered. Mr. Brown suggested that the Association consider the Arizona model for mandatory safety training for OHV law violators as a means to gain meaningful control over rogue riding.

It was also noted that the DCNR is long overdue for their next audit. The last audit (completed in 2005) showed a number of discrepancies. Unfortunately there doesn't appear to be any penalty associated with these discrepancies.

The legislature did pass legislation to increase the ATV weight limit from 800 pounds to 1000 pounds.

7. TRAINING/TECHNICAL REPORT: Robert Conner

Bob Connor reminded the Board to forward changes to "Where to Ride" to him or Mr. McClure. A link will be established on each of the six regions to submit changes.

Mr. Connor reiterated the need for assistance at Motorama's SCORE display. Mike Babusci informed the board that the Allegheny Outdoor Show would present another SCORE opportunity. He would investigate the details for this show.

Fred Baurele distributed SCORE key chains he received from the producers.

Denny Mann assumed the lead on a project to develop a riding area discount card.

8. LEGISLATIVE REPORT: Jack Clark

Jack Clark reported that DCNR's support of SAAC continues to be lax. He attended a planning session in November with Fred Brown, Mike Babusci and representatives from the Snowmobile Association. The group will express its expectation of DCNR that SAAC become the consultative and communications body it was intended to be, that a specific liaison from the Department be appointed, and that issues of import be addressed. These issues include safety training, reciprocity, accident reporting standards, trail expansion, the grant process, use of grant dollars, DCNR SAAC web site currency and accuracy, and discussion of legislative initiatives.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Board Elections

Denny Mann reminded the Board that two Board seats stand for reelection at the next Board meeting. The open seats are the Public Information Director (Bob Abernethy) and the Administrative Director (Roeg Williamson). The incumbents were nominated for reelection. Other nominations will be entertained should there be any. The election will be held at the next meeting.

2. Locust Township Ordinance

Mr. Mann, Mr. Beaver, Mr. Fetterman, and Mr. Wimpfheimer guided an extensive discussion about an ordinance proposed by the Locust Township, Columbia County, Township Supervisors. Mr. Mann reported that this is among the most poorly written ordinances produced to date. The gentlemen from VFTR detailed their extensive efforts to defeat this ordinance by mobilizing citizens of the township and contacting the press. PaOHV readily agreed to provide assistance in voicing opposition to the measure.

Mr. Mann sent a letter to the supervisors expressing opposition. PaOHV is prepared to testify against the ordinance when it is considered on February 5. Furthermore, Mr. Mann reported that he has been in contact with the National organizations to activate their resources.

3. The next meeting will be held on May 2, 2009 at a location to be determined. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.