

Minutes of Nittany Mountain Biking Association

Meeting of Members

October 17, 2011

A meeting of the members of Nittany Mountain Biking Association (NMBA) was held October 17, 2011, at Schlow Memorial Library, State College, PA.

10 members were present at the meeting.

Re-routes

So far this year NMBA has logged 1,350 trail hours, and in the last month around 500 hours alone! Much work has been performed on the following reroutes.

Lonberger – Moved shale to the wet spots of the reroutes. There are still some wet spots on the old part of the trail that could use shale. Brush cutting is also on the agenda.

New Laurel Run – The trail re-route is approximately 75% complete. There is a lot of rock work that needs to be done on this trail. The PSU cycling club will be at our October 30th trail day and the plan is to send them to New Laurel Run to do rock work.

Maguire – The reroute is approximately 80% complete. Much progress was made at the 10/16 trail work day.

Trail work day 10/30/2011

There are 30 people signed up for community service on October 30th. We are in need of members who can lead the trail work for the day or parts of the day (9am-5pm). It is very important to have enough members since the group is going to be split and half sent to the New Laurel trail and the other half to Maguire trail. Additional members are needed to make sure the community service volunteers stay on task. They are not familiar with the flow of a trail and are not able to run the gas powered equipment.

Feedback

There has been some very positive feedback from various people regarding what NMBA is doing. The cycling club at Penn State sent NMBA a letter thanking us for all our hard work and offered to help on the 10/30 trail day. Forestry has contacted several members expressing their gratitude. Forestry has also agreed to lend us some of their tools for the 10/30 trail day.

Future Projects

It was mentioned that a nice future project would be a trail that connects the bottom of Old Laurel Trail with Bald Knob Trail and/or Lower Trail. Lower trail is also in desperate need of a reroute at the bottom of Clemmons.

Galbraith Gap Trail

Clearwater Conservancy received 3 bids (Trail Solutions (IMBA), Penn Trails and Trail Dynamics) to help with the trail design of the Galbraith Gap Trail. Trail Dynamics is not able to start working on the project now (Clearwater would like to have this trail in place in roughly a year). Trail solutions came in with a quote of \$3400, and Penn Trails came in with a quote of \$5800, for the design scope of work and to prepare the cost estimate for construction. NMBA will help Clearwater raise money and offer our assistance in building the trail.

Ray Adams of the TSE is offering to donate \$300.00 to Clearwater towards the Galbraith Gap trail project for each person who registers for the TSE in October. The TSE has already made an \$800.00 donation to Clearwater for the land acquisition.

Trail building videos

On the website there is a link to receive free videos and books on trail building.

Calendar

Bike for Life- Saturday October 22nd. They are still in need of participants and volunteers. The mountain biking option will now be a uphill/downhill race on Tussey's ski slopes.

Trail work at Raystown- Saturday and Sunday, October 22nd and 23rd. Contact Evan at whysinglespeed@gmail.com if interested in attending.

Adopt-A-Highway clean up is scheduled for Friday, October 28th at 5:45pm. Meet in the Forestry lot. Afterwards we will meet at the home of Carol Younkins for Happy Hour. Please bring a dish/beer to share.

Penns Valley Gear Swap - November 13th. Donations are being accepted for the swap. NMBA will receive 75% of the proceeds of what we donate. Please direct donations to Terri. The Bicycle Shop will also be donating items to NMBA for this event.

Raffle License

At this time we are not pursuing a raffle license due to the annual fee. We need to have more money in the bank to pursue this. Possibly we will look at it to help with the Galbraith Gap project.

Winter Riding

Grant Corman of the Bicycle Shop attended the meeting and talked to us about winter riding gear. He brought many items for us to check out for keeping warm while riding. The key is to layer and just slow down to avoid from sweating. Also, rain gear and gore-tex are not good choices since they do not breathe. A weather diary may be helpful noting the temperature and what your wear and your comfort level on the ride. Keeping your knees covered (temps below 65 degrees) will help with the post ride achiness.

Lighting systems – The key to keeping your battery life is to charge it every 45-60 days even if you are not using it. Also disconnect the battery from the light after the ride.

Mail Box

DCNR is constructing a mailbox for NMBA to place at the Galbraith Gap parking lot. They are currently working on their own map of the trails in Rothrock.

Thank you

C3PA thanked NMBA for their support for the Radical Reels event at the State Theatre.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Carol Younkins & Terri Rudy, Secretary & Interim President