

MVTR GENERAL MEETING NOTES - 1 April 2015

Freedom Cycle - Concord

Presiding President Tom Levesque crisply and succinctly called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm with approximately 50-55 members present.

The Classic

VP Glenn Harvey spoke about this year's 35th annual New England Charity Classic for Cystic Fibrosis, sponsored by MVTR. It will be 13-14 June, headquartered at the NH Motor Speedway.

- Tonight the phone bank operated at Freedom Cycle to encourage riders from past years to come out again.
- Saturday will be the southern loop, trail bossed by Chip Fredette.
- Sunday will be the northern loop, trail bossed by Jared Szurley
- The Kid's Classic will be at the Bergeron's Saturday, Hop-Ev Sunday. Trail bosses are Matt Belanger and Jay Lees.
- Dave Mott is trail bossing the Adventure Bike rally on Saturday.
- Glenn will have volunteer signup sheets at the May meeting.

Lisa O'Conner of CF, spoke about the progress that has been made treating CF. 35 years ago the life expectancy of a CF patient was 8 years. Now the life expectancy is 41 years and directly due to the funds raised. Joanne, a CF mother, spoke about what it is like for a family to live with a CF child.

Hopkinton-Everett Riding Area

MVTR Trail Administrators Bruce Starer and Sarah Dynia briefly outlined what has been accomplished since they took over in January:

- The enclosed equipment trailers have been extracted from the snow and have started servicing the equipment inside.
- The London Bridge on the River Loop has been surveyed for re-installation and secured from drifting away during spring floods.
- Plywood backing boards for signs have been cut.
- Many new custom signs have been stenciled.
- Standard signs from Bureau of Trails have been inventoried and additional signs ordered.
- The map kiosk in the parking lot has been removed for repainting.

- The Bureau of Trails has made plans for trash disposal after the trash pickup by MVTR. They are also removing a beaver dam flooding Sugar Hill trail.
- Telephone poles have been obtained to create barriers to prevent ATVs from accessing the single track trails.
- Hang Glider and River Loop have been partially cleared of blow-downs and face slappers.

Before the riding area can re-open, we must still complete these projects:

- The replacement of all informational signs and arrows; conforming to a new sign standard, which includes replacing "W" signs with "Wrong Way, Do Not Enter" signs.
- All bridges on the four ATV trails will be re-decked - some 30 bridges!
- The information kiosk in the parking lot will have its roof re-shingled.
- Improved barriers to prevent ATV access to River Loop, BT, and the Stark Pond sand pit.
- Trash picked up from the parking lot area and access roads.

Given all of the above, Bruce and Sarah are planning to have work parties every Saturday and Sunday from the end of April until the area re-opens. There may be some weekday work parties as well. Bruce and Sarah cannot supervise every work party, and nor should they be permitted to burn-out under the load. MVTR members must step up and volunteer to supervise work parties.

Rocky Mountain Hare Scramble

Due to land owner issues, MVTR will not be hosting the event. This is the primary money maker for the club. At this time the financial impact has not been calculated, but it won't be good. Hopefully another property can be found for the coming year.

Seacoast Trail Riders

- Taylor wants to assist Brian Harjula in the development and maintenance of single track at Jericho State Park.
- The club will host two enduros this year; one at the usual location near Acton, ME. The second will be in Freemont, NH.

NHOHVA and other Politics

- On 20 May NHOHVA will sponsor a breakfast for the state legislature as part of their lobbying effort. ATVs and trail bikes, and adventure bikes will be on display. Tom would appreciate assistance from MVTR members with the bike displays.
- NHOHVA has asked Tom to chair a sub-committee of 4-5 people to develop plans to promote trail bikes and adventure bikes in the North Country. Taylor from the Seacoast Trail riders will participate.
- NHOHVA is proceeding with the financial impact study, gathering data in April-July, with the report to be completed in August. The study is being facilitated by the NH Automobile Dealers Association, of which ATV and motorcycle shops are part of. They are also pursuing study funding from manufacturers such as Bombardier and Polaris. (Note; The NH Auto Association has backed out of the financial support for the Study). A new source of funding is being researched. NETRA has pledged \$2,000.
- Bob Fitzhenry working with the AMA has had them send an e-mail to all AMA members in the North Country to ask for help in opening the Ride the Wilds to trail bikes.
- There will be a Grant in Aid meeting on 11 April as part of the NH Off Highway Vehicle Association Annual meeting. Representatives from MVTR will be in attending.
- Harry Brown is applying pressure to the State as to why they are allowing ATVs and UTVs on state owned land in the North Country, but not trail bikes.

Miscellaneous

NETRA will be encouraging more adventure bike/dual sport events in conjunction with turkey runs. There will also be more vintage enduro classes running with junior enduros.

One new member was present: Greg Hollingsworth from Gilmanston, who rides a KTM 450.

Ron Souza has 14 new MVTR jerseys left to sell.

There was no 50:50 raffle.

Tom crisply and succinctly adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.