

MVTR GENERAL MEETING NOTES 2 May 2018

FREEDOM CYCLE - CONCORD

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

MVTR Elections

A slate of officers was presented:

- Tom Levesque – President
- Steve Semuskie – Vice President
- Ron Sousa – Treasurer
- John Mesick – Secretary
- Art Pepin - Membership

The slate of officers was elected by a voice vote.

Andre Marois and Steve Semuskie will continue their volunteer positions at the Hop-Ev riding area. Art Pepin wishes to give up maintenance of the MVTR.org website. We hope a web-savvy volunteer will step forward as it is still an important portal and point of contact for the general public and reference point for members.

Tom's observations of MVTR as an organization

- Long serving officers provide a tribal memory of history, club culture and why certain things are done a certain way.
- The club has several member segments: Folks dedicated to the Classic Charity Ride, Hop-Ev maintenance, competitive riders, Rock Crusher facilitators, and the recreational trail rider. He pointed out that it is important that groups recognize the Club is made up of all members and their individual priorities and we must recognize and work together across the segments for what unites us all "riding trails".
- Tom wants to remind our membership of the different club segments and encourage interaction between these segments and members.
- Tom wanted to share a few of the backroom challenges that the Club faces that are not always known by the general membership. For example the Manchester Fisher Cats approached MVTR for a joint promotional event to benefit the CF Foundation. It could not consummate due to restrictions from the National CF Foundation. Or a State Agency recently sent a letter to the Classic Committee asking to change the date of the Classic because of a particular plant blooming in a certain area this time of year.

Legislative Feedback

A bill was recently defeated in the state legislature that would have risen the minimum age for an OHRV rider on public roads (where ATVs are permitted) from 12 to 14 years. The same bill would have risen the age of the required accompanying adult from 18 to 24 years. This bill was defeated in part due to effective lobbying from NHOHVA. Tom represents MVTR's interests at NHOHVA, and although it is after the fact of the bill's defeat; he wanted to gauge his general understanding of our membership's feeling towards this type of legislation in general. It seems that MVTR members are most concerned about the loss of existing rights: Could the age then creep from 14 to 16 years, and then 16 plus a driver's license... "Don't give an inch without a fight!"

Public Riding Area Creation

Tom was recently contacted by an individual inquiring about how to develop a new public riding area within the State and how were other public areas purchased and are maintained. A portion of OHRV registration monies go to a Grant-in-Aid Land Acquisition Fund. This fund purchased the Jericho area. Hop-Ev is leased from the Army Corp of Engineers with the same fund. The town of Merrimack's area is town property, and restricted to use by town residents. The town of Hill's property is open to all who purchase a town permit.

Boundtree and Contoocook ATV clubs

These clubs are located in Hopkinton and ban trail bikes from their trail systems. Trail bikes were using both trail systems long before either ATV club formed. The Contoocook ATV club banned trail bikes since their beginning. Last year Boundtree decided to ban bikes from their trails, allegedly due to landowner pressure. It has come to light that this may not be the case, and that some land owners may have told the club that they want trail bikes to use the trails on their land. Tom would like help from MVTR members in chasing down these rumors. Any members who have anecdotes, examples of anti bike activity, and other information can share it with Tom at Squeracing@aol.com.

Mt. Pisgah Trail Riders

A new club has formed out in the Keene area. They are applying with the Bureau of Trails to maintain/sponsor the state's Mt. Pisgah OHRV riding area. Membership is made up by both ATV riders and trail bikes. Several MVTR members who live in the area have joined the club and were graciously accepted and intend on being active. This is a bike friendly club! MVTR is willing to share our experiences with them.

MVTR Active Wear

Tami Preve presented her design: MVTR blue with the MVTR logo over the heart. Cotton tees are \$8, performance tees are \$11, crewneck sweatshirts are \$16, hoodies are \$25, and women's hoodies are \$32. Add \$2 for 2XL and 3XL. Tami will collect money at the next meeting to place an order.

Down the You Tube Rabbit Hole

Tom has been watching the "Trail Jesters" videos of local riders competing in the GNCC series and recommends the videos to members.

The N.E. Classic Charity Ride.

Mark Stock: Needs 6-7 people to act as “muscle” for the first mile or so of the ride. He did not want to disclose at this time their mission. He has volunteer sign-up sheets for a variety of duties and asks that people not wait until the last minute to volunteer.

Jared Szurley: He will have his first northern loop work party Sunday 6 May. Meet at the old dog track in Belmont at 9:00 am. Also, if you want to be a sweep rider, you must attend a pre-event work party to familiarize yourself with the route. A sweep rider dealing with a mechanical or a medical who doesn't know where he is, is a hindrance, not a help.

Jason Lees: The Kids Classic will be at Hop-Ev both days. The sign up deadline is 29 May – no exceptions. Contact the CF office for registration packages.

Tom: Starting this year it will be mandatory to show a driver's license for proof of age and M/C endorsement at the NHMS check-in. Last year a situation was encountered where unlicensed, underage kids were on public roads because their parents lied about their age and “not having their license with them.”

Setup at NHMS will start on the Thursday before, volunteers are needed.

Competition

Andy and Jeremy Anthony recently road a six hour enduro in Delaware that was a mud bath. Lynne commented that she needed to rent a vehicle while there, and found a good deal at Ryder – a full size cargo van for \$19 a day. Even with the \$0.79 per mile adder, the total for the weekend was still under \$60.

Art Pepin has been to three J-Days. Each event had 700-800 riders. Art will be riding at Southwick.

Hopkinton Everett Riding Area

- Andre Marois will have his first scouting party Sunday, 6 May. Meet at the parking lot at 9:00 am. It is Ok to bring your bike, but no joy riding – you must work with Andre. The area has been flooded with high water twice since the last time Andre was there, so he doesn't know what to expect.
- One of the projects Andre has received from the State is the installation of Geo-mesh on several trails. The state will install the mesh, and MVTR will backfill it with gravel. The mesh has been purchased but not yet delivered. Andre needs volunteers to meet the delivery truck and help unload.
- A second project is redecking the swinging (suspension?) bridge on River Loop.

Weare Winter Wanderers

Andy Anthony has negotiated with the Weare Winter Wanderers snowmobile club for us to store our trail maintenance enclosed equipment trailers on their property.

In lieu of working the Weare Winter Wanders Pat's Pike Hill Climb for 2018 as payment for storage space, MVTR will donate \$500 this year to the WWW Easter Seals Camp Sno Mo Project. \$250 from the general treasury was approved by membership vote, another \$250 will be donated from the Rock Crusher event. The snowmobile club has provided tremendous support of our Rock Crusher event.

Tires

Tom displayed three examples of Kenda tires that are popular in the GNCC series.

- The "Washougal" is a "hard" rear knobby. A "hard" tire means it has hard rubber best suited for traction in soft soil. Hard tires generally last longer, especially on pavement.
- The "Triple" is a multi-compound front. Softer rubber in the middle knobs, and progressively harder rubber on the side knobs. Tom thinks it would be a good all around NE tire (hard and soft soils, rocks, roots, and mud).
- The "Ibex" is a "soft" knobby rear. The soft rubber produces near trails tire traction on hard surfaces, but the big knobs produce traction in soft soils and mud. It could be a fast wearing tire.
- Many club members responded that the Bridgestone M59 front and Pirelli MT16 rear are the best all around NE tires.
- Some people like the Dunlop 803 trials tire in the rear
- A number of folks expressed pleasure with the Dunlap AT81s. Plenty to choose from.

There was no 50:50 raffle. No new members were introduced.

Tom adjourned the meeting at 8:40pm