

## MVTR GENERAL MEETING NOTES 7 September 2016 FREEDOM CYCLE - CONCORD

President Tom Levesque called the meeting to order at 7:15pm with approximately 25-30 members present.

### **Grant in Aid (GIA) Funding from NH Bureau of Trails**

- Funding was approved for the purchase of a Bombardier Outlander 6-wheeler. Freedom Cycle will start looking for specific model from manufacturer's inventory with delivery postponed due to cash flow priorities.
- Funding was not approved for the materials transport trailer that Mark Stock was going to build. This trailer is for the transport of long materials on narrow trails, and is based on the design of the trailer we borrowed from Bureau of Trails (BoT). Andre will inquire BoT to determine why funding was denied. It is unlikely this year's decision to deny funding will be reversed, but we want to make a better case in next year's application. *(Editor's note; Upon further investigation GIA for the trailer was approved and we will move forward with the purchase. Expect to have the unit ready for the 2017 Hop Eve maintenance season)*
- MVTR will immediately purchase a heavy duty York rake from Chappell Equipment for \$1700. This will be paid out of the MVTR general fund. It is critical that it be used soon to repair snowmobile trails utilized at this summer's hare scramble.

### **Hopkinton Everett Riding Area**

- The rerouting of the River Loop trail section off of private property has been identified. Trail Administrator Andre will now mark it with ribbons. The new route must be inspected and approved by Shawn Violett (BoT) and a representative from the Army Corp of Engineers (ACE). The inspection has been delayed because the ACE representative has been on an extensive vacation.
- Andre has laid out a new technical single track trail near the Stark Pond trail. Andrea will now mark it with ribbons. The new route must be inspected and approved by BoT and ACE.
- Rogue riders problem. Local riders are short-cutting past the house of the land owner adjacent to River Loop, and down a skidder road on his property to get to the riding area. If the land owner complains to ACE one more time about this, BoT will close River Loop. Andre is not sure of the path they are taking, and will contact the land owner for clarification. A plan for barricades will be investigated. Andre will also contact the Weare Police Department to request stepped up enforcement.
- Despite several conversations with Shawn Violett (BoT), he continues to grade the ATV trails with results that maximize the danger to users. He grades the trails with off-camber corners, deep ditches on the outside of the corners, and large boulders in the ditches. His rationale is that he wants to scare riders into slowing down. Shawn also schedules his grading when it is most convenient to him personally in the year, which also coincides with the maximum erosion potential of loose material. Ideally grading should occur in late fall.

### **Liberty House Charity Ride**

Mark Laflemm is attempting to put together a ride benefiting homeless veterans coordinated with the Hill NH ATV club. The ride will be out of their shop-club house on their trail system the weekend of 8-9 October. (*Editor's note, to not interfere with the SCTR Noble Woods event the date has been moved to Oct.15 and 16, 2016*) Mark is offering primitive camping at his property in Andover - which can connect via trail.

There may also be a Big Bike Adventure route. The land owner is an enthusiast, but doesn't want the trails signed. Mark is looking for pre-riders who can get familiar with the trails and lead small groups. A GPS trace maybe available.

The cost is a \$10 parking donation for the weekend, or \$25 for a one year Hill ATV Club trail pass. Included will be one meal. Proceeds will be split between the Hill ATV Club and Liberty House (a non-profit which provides Veterans with temporary housing).

Mark will create a draft of an event flyer.

### **Mont Vernon Posse Challenge**

Jim Bird is hosting the ride for MVTR and Seacoast Trail Riders on October 1st. The closed course is four miles of tight single track that is very spectator friendly. Following is a pig roast. Space for tent camping will be available.

**Recent Rides** include the State Line hare scramble with new trail, the Meriden Bone Yard, and a turkey run in Rhode Island. All had good reviews.

**Upcoming Rides** include the Buckfield 2-Day put on by Maine's Pine Tree Trail Riders is 24-25 September (registration closes 12 September). The Seacoast Trail Riders Noble Woods turkey run is 9 October.

Tom has invited a KTM representative to next month's meeting.

There were no new members present or a 50:50 raffle.

Tom adjourned the meeting at 8:30pm