

Southern Sierra Fat Tire Association (SSFTA)
Advisory Team/ Board Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2009

1.0 Opening / Roll Call (by sign in)/ Minutes

- Roll call taken by the sign-in sheet.
- Once a quorum was established, the meeting called to order at 6:15 pm.
- The meeting was held at Cataldo's Pizza.

Advisory Team/ Board Members Present: Eddie Gonzalez, Susie Pence, Melissa Hoyt, Jim McWhorter, Brad DeWitt, Courtland Keith, Earl Norcross, Tim Strem, Bob Sughrue, Jack Van Bindsbergen, Alan Yama, Mike (Jethro) McGuire

Members: Tim Hoyt, LaVonne Watson

Guests: Andrew Van Bindsbergen

Welcome and Introductions/ Review Ground Rules

1.3 Minutes

- The minutes from the November 11, 2008 meeting were read and approved. Brad DeWitt moved to approve the minutes, and Tim Strem seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2.0 Reports

2.1 Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Susie Pence said that we did purchase Quickbooks Pro Non-Profit software, and she and LaVonne are going to schedule a time to meet to get the new version up to date. There is currently \$7453.83 in SSFTA account.

2.2 Membership Report

Membership Coordinator Melissa Hoyt reported current membership numbers: **62** current memberships (51 single memberships and 11 family memberships). \$38.24 was put in SSFTA bank account from Paypal, and Tim Strem has all other membership money.

New Members since November report: Bryan Rury, Kari Fabrizio and Frank Evans.

Renewing Members since November report: Mike Scott and Family, Adam and Kimmie Rae Graehl, Sally and Danny Temple, Larry Evans, John Beard, Susan Bowen, Richard Holtermann, Jerry Anthony and Dale Northrup.

2.3 Website Report

Website Administrator Ben Oakley (via email) reported that website traffic has steadily increased from 887 unique hits in June to 1,025 in December- and climbing. The website has collected \$730 since it began accepting online membership fees. The previous website, while updated frequently, was updated

by only one person. After hearing SSFTA members request more features at club meetings last year, Ben Oakley volunteered to update the website. He spent many hours setting up a website that would allow increased participation from members through article postings, comments, user accounts and forums; that would allow club members to post photos from rides through a flickr account; and would allow the club to receive membership dues online. If the Advisory Team is dissatisfied with the website, Ben Oakley will release the domain; however, he encourages the Team to first carefully evaluate the new features (and the cost) a proposed website will offer.

Melissa Hoyt reported that there are 5 administrators managing the site (Ben Oakley, Jim McWhorter, Jack Van Bindsbergen, Mark Bledsoe, and Melissa Hoyt) and 45 registered users. Any member who wants to post on the site and is not already signed up needs to notify Melissa Hoyt, and she will set up that person's account. All members are welcome and encouraged to post on the website. Melissa Hoyt continues to send emails highlighting postings on the site, but will try to limit the number of these emails. She welcomes any feedback on this.

2.4 SSFTA General Report

Member-At-Large Jim McWhorter thanked everyone for stepping in and helping out to make a difference in the club. The club is in a good position right now, and many of the problems of the past have been resolved. The club is set up to do whatever the members want to do. We don't have any outstanding obligations right now besides helping out with Keyesville. SSFTA is a fun club.

3.0 Old Business

3.1 Review Parliamentary Procedure

Handouts were provided and parliamentary procedure was reviewed briefly.

3.2 Review Board Member Roles

Handouts were provided.

4.0 New Business

4.1 2009 Meeting Dates, Location and Time

It was agreed that the second Tuesday of the month will be the day for the SSFTA meetings, beginning in February 2009. Meetings will start at 7:00 pm at Cataldo's Pizza. The room will be reserved from 6-8pm, and everyone is welcome to arrive 6pm or later to eat; meetings will run from 7-8 pm.

4.2 Budget

4.2.1 Stamps?

Thus far, Melissa Hoyt has used 190 stamps (around \$80) for membership purposes (mailing out renewal letters, t-shirts, membership packets). She does not want to be reimbursed for these; however, she would like stamps to be purchased. She requests 5 books of stamps (100 stamps), and she will only use them for membership packets and renewal notices. T-shirts will have to be

picked up at SSFTA headquarters: PIP Printing. It was agreed that Susie Pence will purchase stamps and distribute to herself and Melissa Hoyt.

4.2.2 Large T-Shirts?

Melissa Hoyt reported that we are out of Large T-shirts. Do we want to purchase more at this point, or simply push the small, mediums, extra large and double extra larges? Susie Pence motions to purchase 15 more large t-shirts; Jim McWhorter seconds the motion. Motion carries. Tim Strem will order and be responsible for distribution.

4.3 Update SSFTA By-Laws

4.3.1 SSFTA Mission Statement

Current mission statement is on website: "A non-profit organization of mountain bike enthusiasts in Kern County, California committed to serving the community and promoting the sport of mountain biking." Arin Resnicke sample of a mission statement for the SSFTA: "Advancing the development of mountain biking in Central California, advocating ecology by exhibiting responsible cycling, addressing land issues through a shared use concept, and educating the general populace concerning safe cycling."

Next steps: ask on website why people joined SSFTA, what they would like to accomplish and go from there to find an appropriate Mission Statement. Jack Van Bindsbergen will post on website, and we will revisit at February meeting.

4.3.2 SSFTA Goals and Purposes

Page two of the By-Laws states SSFTA Goals and Purposes. Discussion followed. Jack Van Bindsbergen and Courtland Keith voiced concern about becoming more active and involved in trail maintenance, specifically with Kern Canyon Trail and Kern River Trails.

Next steps: establish monthly trail maintenance day, and we need to find a trail maintenance supervisor. We will revisit this at February meeting.

Discussion followed on what the goals of the club should be for 2009. Jack Van Bindsbergen motions to keep the current by-laws Goals and Purposes; Bob Sughrue seconds. Motion carries.

4.3 Website Changes

Courtland Keith suggested posting rotating pictures on the website. Tim Strem suggests a solid website foundation in order to communicate information more effectively. Jim McWhorter and Earl Norcross think the website is solid. Next steps: Courtland Keith will get information on getting website rebuilt. Jim Bittel will obtain information on website as well. Earl Norcross cautions us to get all details up front and how much money everything will cost. Jack Van Bindsbergen will see what can be done with current site.

5.0 Announcements

5.1 Public Comments

Earl Norcross: showed group "Bay Area Bike Rides Deck," a group of 50+ mountain biking and road biking trails, maps on one side, step-by-step directions on the back (sell for \$14.99). The cards show all the different cycle rides you can

do around the Bay Area. Kern Country Board of trade may put up money for this. Earl Norcross would like to gather information on investigating how we might do this or how something like this may be put together.

Wind Wolves Preserves: an area outside of Old River Road, by 166, a road up in a canyon, has made provisions for mountain bikes. Earl Norcross talked to this organization, and they are willing to work on tours. Earl Norcross will schedule a tour for Saturday, January 24, 2009.

Jetrho McGuire went out to SSFTA storage, and 95% of the items contained are related to Keyesville. He recommends paying for storage for this year, and then wait until after Keyesville to decide how to proceed. There are two bob trailers, tables, and everything that has been hauled up for Keyesville.

Jack Van Bindsbergen: found information on Albertson's Community Partners program. Melissa Hoyt will follow up on registering SSFTA.

Jim McWhorter: check signers need to be changed. Eddie Gonzalez needs to be put onto the account.

5.2 NiteRider Ridgecrest Ride: 1-10-09

5.3 Rio Bravo Rumble: 1-17-09

6.0 Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.
- Courtland Keith motioned to adjourn; Brad DeWitt seconded the motion. All approved.

The next SSFTA Advisory Team/ Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 10 at 7pm at Cataldo's.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Hoyt
SSFTA Secretary

Eddie Gonzalez
SSFTA President/ Chairperson