

VASA Board of Directors Minutes  
April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
VASA HQ

Lloyd Church calls the meeting to order at 6:00pm

**Roll Call: Voting Representatives**

Present in Office—

BoD Reps: Steve Mosher, Gordon Pirie, Mike Pero, Spencer Leggett, Dennis Goyette, George Barton, Steve Bean, Mike Small, Fred Elliot

E-Board: Lloyd Church, Gary Nolan, Doug Stone

Staff (non-voting): Ethan Hill, Jim Dwinell, Carson Anderson

Present Online—

BoD Reps: Dorrان Dougherty, Joe Pelkey, Bart Howes, Chris Hill, Jessica Tatro, Chris Putney, Bill Huff

Staff (non-voting): Danny Hale

Guests Present in Office and Online—

Maureen Mosher, Ryan Aiken, Tim Joyal, Laura Champagne, Rob Bouchard, Tom Nazzewski

**Secretary's Report:** It is asked if there are any questions of changes needed. Nothing is brought up, Steve Mosher motions to accept the Secretary's Report as written, seconded by Fred Elliot. All in favor, none opposed, motion carries.

**Treasurer's Report and Q1 Mileage:** It is asked if there are any questions of changes needed. Nothing is brought up, Fred Elliot motions to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Steve Mosher. All in favor, none opposed, motion carries.

Staff Reports—

**Systems Consultant:** TAD sales are going well, as of today we are at just under 10% of total 2021 sales. There is now a link on the forms page of the VASA website for the sign store, if you haven't gotten an account yet we can get you set up so you can order signs for this year. We are still looking for clubs to respond to the estimated trail mileage request, if you have any questions about it, please reach out.

*Mike Small asks about putting something such as a club sticker in the TAD mailings.*

Putting specific items in specific envelopes makes things more complicated. It is already a lengthy process, adding more to it would just make it more complex. If you would like to send things out to membership it is best to use their emails and refer to the list of members sent with TAD sales reports each month.

**Trails Coordinator:** Anyone who hasn't gotten their kiosk maps, they are here for pickup. We have finished servicing equipment and it is all ready for the start of the season. We will be offering trail mowing this year, please submit a VTMP application for this just like with any other trail work. We are waiting for RTP grant applications to be available, should be soon, we have two in the works for this year. If any clubs are interested in creating points of interest on Polaris Ride Command, we can get started. They can be food, gas, lodging, scenic lookouts, waterfalls, etc.

**Executive Director:** BLRR has declined to host the annual meeting this year, we need to make a plan for the business meeting and a potential ride.

*It is suggested that we include the annual meeting in the June BoD meeting on Monday, June 13th and the following Saturday each club can host their own events as they see fit.*

Mike Pero motions to accept this plan, seconded by Dennis Goyette. All in favor, none opposed, motion carries.

We have some policy updates to look at, one for town trail managers for communities where a VASA club is not present and one for the formation of new VASA clubs to set guidelines and expectations. Bart Howes motions to accept the policies as written, seconded by Steve Mosher. All in favor, none opposed, motion carries.

Lajeunesse Construction is the firm we have chosen for the HQ addition project, we will have a final contractor proposal and financing plans to review next meeting. In the meantime, we need

approval to continue with the financing of this project. VASA's loan request for \$360,000 to refinance the existing Union Bank first mortgage and obtain \$287,087 for construction of the new project was approved Friday, April 8, 2022. The loan will be fixed at the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston (FHLBB) 5 Yr Classic Amort. Adv. Rate (3.09% as of today) + 2.50%, with a floor of 5.25%, adjusting every 60 months. The current combination is 5.59%; however, given the volatility of interest rates at this time, we cannot lock in the rate until 3 days prior to closing. There will be a prepayment penalty if the loan is refinanced with another financial institution during the first five years of 1.5% of the outstanding principal balance at the time of refinance. A \$1,000.00 fee will be charged at closing. Spencer Leggett motions to continue the financing of the HQ addition project, seconded by Fred Elliot. All in favor, none opposed, motion carries.

There has been discussion in the past about deducting from club TAD sales for money owed to VASA, we have decided against doing so. The money from TAD sales is the clubs, we do not want to take that money, it should all be going to the clubs. It also makes for easier money tracking, both on our end and they clubs' end. We will deposit all TAD sales money as we have been and invoice for any money owed to VASA.

The USDA track truck grant has cleared the first round and moved on to the next step in the process. The announcement date has been moved back to July; we will update everyone when we have more information. Our two RTP grants will move onto the full application process, unfortunately the grant cycle timeline has been pushed back once again, we still hope to complete the work this season.

VASA policy for trail opening dates is May 15<sup>th</sup> or later, we ask clubs to adhere to this policy. We are working on getting the AOT opening and closing dates to line up with ours, they currently are a couple weeks off from what ours are which makes things a bit confusing. We would like to simplify everything for the membership, so all state highway and VASA trail opens and closes at the same time.

**Old Business:** We are still looking for a new secretary, if nobody volunteers someone will have to be appointed. It does not have to be a current board of directors representative, if there is someone at a club that would fit the role, we would welcome a new person.

**New Business:** We are working on putting together a spring newsletter, if you haven't gotten information to the office please do so.

Gary may not be running for reelection to the treasurer's position, if there is anyone who would like to run for the position this this this year they would be welcomed.

Tim Joyal talked about resizing the TAD paperwork so it is the same size as the registration.

Unfortunately, that would take quite a bit of work to source new paper and reformat all the processes to make that happen.

Dorran Dougherty asked about the helmet law in side by sides.

It is a Vermont state law that we do not foresee changing, whether you are on a traditional ATV or in a side by side helmets are required for all riders and passengers.

Steve Mosher motions to adjourn the meeting at 6:43pm. All in favor, none opposed, motion carries.