

MVTR MEETING NOTES 11 July 2018

FREEDOM CYCLE - CONCORD

President Tom Levesque presided over the meeting, calling it to order at 7:05 pm with approximately 55 members present.

The death of Frank Colon

Frank was an active MVTR member, our representative on the NETRA board, a founder of the new Mt. Pisgah OHRV club, a snowmobiler, and a hare scrambler. Most importantly he was a husband and a father. He was killed in a single vehicle trail bike accident on a dirt road without a witness. There wasn't a mechanical failure and he was wearing full protective gear as usual. There was no underlying medical issue – so what happened will always remain a mystery. What we do know is that we lost a friend.

Kim Bergeron, a close friend, spoke of Frank. An obituary will be soon released. A memorial service is scheduled (possibly Thursday, August 16, not yet formalized) in Dublin. Kim spoke of how life can change in an instant, and don't wait to tell those you love that you love them.

The N.E. Classic Charity Ride.

The Classic Committee recently held their post event review; what worked and what needs improving. They summarized for this meeting:

- Bob DeRose; the committee intends to present a brief update at each MVTR general meeting throughout the year.
- Chip Fredette; \$116,532 was the final fund-raising total. Need to recruit volunteers earlier in the year. It was a dry year, which meant faster speeds, more injuries, and more land owner complaints about speed. About 20 volunteers participated in the trail repair work party at Bear Brook State Park and the park manager is very happy with the results.
- Jarrad Szurley; excessive speed complaints on paved roads in Strafford and New Durham. New Durham issues were resolved but a serious problem in Strafford continues with a petition being circulated to completely ban the event from the town.
- Tom Levesque; all participants must actively self-police bad actors. Call them out and take photos of license plates. Notify trail bosses and local police.
- John O'Conner; The kids loved two days at Hopkinton-Everett riding area. No Issues.
- Steve Vanasse; Big Bike Rally – no issues other than many didn't realize it is now a two-day Big Bike ride.
- Andy Anthony; the York rake and the six-wheeler worked extremely well at the Bear Brook work party.

Rock Crusher Weekend

- Trail Boss Lynne Anthony reports that with the large turn outs for work parties the trails are in excellent shape.

- Volunteer access to the site is carefully restricted on the Thursday and Friday before. Volunteers must contact Lynne or Tami for an escort from the gate.
- Numbers are up in general at all NETRA events this year, so they may be up for this event.
- A junior sprint enduro will be held. A second set of sweeps are required to cover the vintage race which starts later in the day.
- Andy Anthony commented that the primary role of the sweeps is to deal with medical issues. Mature judgment is required. John O'Conner suggested that MVTR should pursue a formal EMT or first aid training program for a pool of sweeps during the off-season.
- The vintage course will be a shorter loop than the regular 6-mile hare scramble.
- The direction of travel for racing will be reversed this year as compared to last year, with some new sections added to bypass questionable sections.

Landry Ranch Rides

- Jeff will host an evening ride starting at 4:00pm this Friday.
- Jeff commented that new members have shown up without proper protective riding gear and that such people will not be allowed to ride. Others have not properly hydrated.
- Both Jeff and Tom asked that experienced members coach the new riders on the importance of gear and hydration. If you have old gear you don't use, bring it to club rides to donate to those who need it.

MVTR Executive Committee Meeting

- A meeting was held on 19 June. Events, budgets, and rule changes were discussed.
- The executive committee consists of the elected officers and representatives of the Classic, Competition events, and Hop Everett.
- The Classic and Competition Committees are comprised of volunteers.
- The Competition Committee representative suggested that the MVTR work rule needs the addition of a youth clause, where they must be accompanied by a working parent or guardian. This was to address a situation where a parent attempted to use the work party as a "baby sitting service." It was decided that rather than modifying the work rule, the situation is best addressed on an individual basis by each trail boss.

Competition and Rides

- Satan's Kingdom was hot, dry and dusty. Peyton Preve was promoted to an "A" rider.
- Cherry Bomb was dusty, easy, fast, and with fast crashes.
- John Penton attended the John Penton GNCC race in Ohio where he graciously posed with fans for photographs.
- The GNCC at Snow Shoe W. Virginia was wet and rugged.

MVTR Membership

- The NHOHVA online membership program has brought in a lot of new members. Hopefully it will bring in more volunteers.
- The family membership selection on the website only allows the entry of up to the two adult family members, those who would be registering the bikes.

Spark Arrestors

Are clearly addressed in the OHRV vehicle requirements digest publication as are all equipment requirements.

Boundtree ATV Club

- Tom attended the ATV club's meeting last month with a trail land owner and several MVTR members who live in the area to discuss what can be done to open their trail system back up to trail bikes.
- This is not MVTR's first entreaty in this area; there has been dialog for over a year.
- The land owner had been previously given miss-information regarding state insurance coverage which has been clarified – trail bikes will still be covered on the land.
- Boundtree has a new club president that is more open minded about bikes than the previous president; and is willing to continue to work with the trail bike community. The club is again accepting membership of bike riders.
- The Contoocook ATV club trail system ban on trail bikes is a much more difficult problem to resolve. The club is very closely intertwined with the town government and they have colluded to craft a town ordinance banning trail bikes.
- Buddy Dione (NHOHVA President), Chris Gamache (Bureau of Trails Chief), and Tom have had discussions regarding the purchase of a new OHRV riding area, possibly in the Ossipee or Lebanon area.

MVTR Officer Spending rule

- Tom presented an update to an outdated rule from the 1980s.
 - A purchase more than \$1,000, not in support of a specific event, will require majority support of the Executive Committee and subsequent notification of members in attendance at the next MVTR meeting.
 - A purchase more than \$10,000 will require majority support of the Executive Committee, a formal notification of MVTR members, and a subsequent majority vote of the members at the MVTR meeting following notification.

The rule change passed by a voice vote of the membership.

- Tom presented a proposal to spend approximate \$4k on a 10 X 20' pop-up tent and signage that will be used at MVTR events. This passed by a voice vote of the membership.

There were no new members present. There was no 50:50 raffle.

Tom adjourned the meeting at 9:02pm