



CATARAQUI TRAIL MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES

From the meeting held at The Canadian Legion Branch 231 in Portland at 7:00 pm on Thursday June 25, 2015.

Members present: Doug Good (Chair), Jim Hase (Vice Chair), Graeme McDonald (Secretary), Bob Cavanagh (Treasurer), Jeremy Statham, Norm Ruttan, Pat McNamee, Dawn Quinn, Jeremy Statham, Allen Brown, Rich Ludlow, Tina-Marie Gourley, Jeff Holtz, Kent Mainse, Robert Charest, Doug Weese, Claire Gunnewiek and Ross Sutherland.

Regrets: Doug Davison, Don Coulter, Paul Rappell, Linda Carr, John McDougall

CRCA Staff present: Steve Knechtel, Rob Gerritsen, Jason Hynes & Krista Fazackerley.

Guests: Ray Elliston

- 1. Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.**
- 2. Introduction of CTMB members, CRCA staff & 1 visitor.**
- 3. Approval of agenda.**
Motion to approve the agenda was made by Ross Sutherland and seconded by Doug Weese - Motion Carried
- 4. There was no declaration of conflict of interest.**
- 5. To allow our guest to make his presentation and leave before the meeting began, Mr. Ray Elliston, a 35 year Canadian Forces veteran from Appleton, Ontario was introduced. He is the coordinator for the Kingston to Ottawa portion of a Trans-Canada trail ride on horseback that began in Victoria, BC on April 11th. The rider for the entire trip is Paul Nichols (being joined by different riders for segments across the country) and is sponsored by Communities For Veterans (<http://communitiesforveterans.ca>). The purpose of the ride across Canada is to raise awareness of the challenges and issues facing Canadian veterans.**

When he investigated possible routes for the ride to go from Kingston to Ottawa, the Cataraqi Trail was identified as the best route to take. He asked if they could have (non-exclusive) use of the trail between Perth Road and Smiths Falls between Aug 24-26.

Rob Gerritsen asked what, if any, support vehicles would require access to the Cat Trail to which the response was none and that it would be a total of 4 riders on horseback with the support vehicle/s taking the roads around to meet them at various trailheads.

Pat McNamee made a motion to officially sanction this use of the trail which was 2nd by Tina-Marie Gourley – Motion carried.

- 6. Confirming of minutes of the May 28, 2015 Management Board Meeting.**
Motion to approve Minutes was moved by Allen Brown and seconded by Bob Cavanagh - Motion carried.

7. Report of Committees

-**Executive Committee** had not met.

-**Finance Committee.**

The financial statement for the month of May 2015 was presented by Bob Cavanagh which included some small expenses for the several information boxes which have been placed at popular junctions along the trail. Also, the 5K donation from Rideau Lakes had appeared on the statement.

Claire Gunnewiek suggested a letter to The Township of Rideau Lakes would be in order. **Rob Gerritsen stated the CRCA would send letters of thanks to both The Township of Rideau Lakes and Stone Mills Townships. The CTMB Secretary will produce a letter of thanks to be sent to OMYA corporation for their donation of services and materials.**

Motion to accept the Financial Report was moved by Bob Cavanagh and seconded by Rich Ludlow – Motion carried.

-**Trail Development and Maintenance Committee (CTDC).**

There had been no meeting of the CTDC since the previous CTMB meeting in May.

Pat McNamee reported that the fringes of the trail would be mowed from west of Sydenham to Hwy 15 between July 7-9 and that the MNR would be providing some “Young Rangers” to help with trail work on the Leeds & Grenville portion of the trail on July 10, 13&14. Pat M also said he is in touch with a contractor to clean out the culvert on the trail portion between Stone Rd and Charland Rd.

Jason Hynes reported that the Canada 150th application for 45K in matching funds has been submitted with receipt of the completed paperwork confirmed. This is for work on the the 6 KM stretch from the Stone Mills boundary to the K&P Trail.

Jason H further reported on the project planned for ditching, culverts and resurfacing from Golf Club Rd into Smiths Falls and presented options to make up the approximately 10K+ shortfall in funding for that particular project and that decisions would need to be made in the next few weeks on how to close the funding gap through:

- CTMB Funds
- Neighbouring Township
- Snowmobile Club
- L&G County
- Reduce the scope of the project

Rob G reported that the CRCA biologist is examining options to deal with the invasive species problems along the trail and that further work was required to document the key affected locations to be able to monitor the spread. The option for cutting is being examined and what equipment would be most appropriate. Cutting would need to ideally happen in the early summer before plants go to seed. Chemical spot treatments could also be used and are being looked at. Test trials are ongoing with chemical treatment options.

Allen Brown asked what the Trail Maintenance Committee can do to assist to which Rob G replied that reporting to the CRCA key locations using KM markers and documenting the spread would be helpful. **Rob G said the CRCA would come back to the CTMB with further reports and recommendations.**

-Membership, Marketing and Promotions Committee.

The MMP committee had met and the minutes from that meeting were distributed with the agenda for this meeting.

Opinicon wrap up - Krista said that we still needed some names addresses to send donation slips for the Opinicon dinner. Steve Knechtel said the same goes for those that bought silent auction items. The final wrap up for the Opinicon fundraiser was 110 tickets with approx. \$20 profit per ticket and \$500 from the silent auction for a total of \$2700. Jim H said that the Cat Trail hats and shirts sales netted a further \$150-\$200 at the fundraiser.

The Chair put out the question of whether we should do something like this again and Bob C responded we should, if The Opinicon will have us. Jim H suggested possibly doing this in the fall and combining a trail walk before dinner with the fall colours to view. The MMP Committee had discussed the possibility fall event to include wagon rides along the trail and a lunch at The Opinicon.

Sydenham Canada Day – Jim said that Cat Trail brochures were going to be distributed at this event.

Sydenham Triathlon – This event is slated for July 12th. Rob G said the permit is in the works and the event is going ahead. It was pointed out that last year they donated nothing back to The Trail for its use. Ross S. pointed out that this is a “for profit” event and that the trail should be able to see some money for being used. Rob G said that he would work out a way to see some money from the event (presumably prior to and in exchange for the permit).

Bike or Hike – Aug 29th in Chaffey’s Lock. MMP Committee meets on July 20th and will discuss final details. Doug G will approach Kudrinko’s. We are going ahead with silent auction and **all members of the CTMB are asked to solicit for donations from complimentary area businesses.**

Trying to get the Bike or Hike event on the 150th calendar for Frontenac County.

Allen B will invite Chaffey’s Lock Historical Society and Geocachers to the Bike or Hike event.

Krista F reported that new brochures are complete and at the printers for pick up.

-Communications

Website - Bob Cavanagh is doing tweaks to the site (<http://test.cattrail.ca>) and asked for feedback and comments from the CTMB.

7. Business Carried Forward From Previous Meetings

Google Streetview – under review by CRCA.

Provincial Trail Legislations – Rob G said the CRCA supports the positive changes being proposed re: The Trespass Act and provincial trail strategies.

E-Bikes – Under review by the CRCA

Trail Passes – Have been distributed to the CTDC and CRCA passes to CTMB that so requested.

Jason H reported that the policy to formalize the **commemorative program** has been adopted by the CRCA Board.

8. New Business

The Chair raised the issue of the amount of matching funds the CTMB needs to come up with to be able to take advantage of the grants we have gone after and that we have a real challenge ahead of us to find more money. Norm Ruttan asked if the 150th grant precludes other grants and Jason H confirmed only other federal grants.

Doug G pointed out that Frontenac County has not contributed anything to the trail at this point.

The question was raised on what we have received from the L&G Snowmobile Association. Doug G confirmed that we are having difficulty dealing with the Rideau Ridge Runners and that they do not respond to communication and stated that they have use of the trail for approx. 6 months each year, but will not come to the table with any form of contributions to the trail.

Kent clarified that the Leeds & Grenville Snowmobile Association is comprised of 4 separate clubs, of which the Rideau Ridge Runners are just one of and he suggested approaching the greater association directly to address this issue.

Jeff Holtz said that the L&A Ridge Runners are still waiting on news of any grants or funding coming their way.

Regarding any work to be done with the 150th money, Jason H confirmed that it would not be able to commence until April 1st 2016 and would need to be completed by the end of March 2018.

9. Next Meeting

The next CTMB meeting is set for 7 PM on August 13th at the CRCA offices.

Roundtable-

Allen B asked what we should do with photos of vehicles on the trail and Rob G asked for them to be forwarded to him and if repeat offenders are identified, then we can press charges.

Jeff H said the L&A Ridge Runners have procured 2 outhouses and will donate one to the trail. Doug G suggested Forfar Station would be a good location for that.

Doug W reported that the individual caught on the trail with a motorized vehicle plead guilty to DUI and driving without a license and received a \$1000 fine and a further year driving suspension.

Dawn Quinn thanked the CTMB for their support for showing up in great numbers at the meeting that night in Portland.

Motion to adjourn by Ross Sutherland at 8:26 PM.

Graeme McDonald
CTMB Secretary