



GHORBA Board Meeting

October 28, 2013

Meeting called to order

In attendance: Marcus, Chris, Russell, Ben, Suzanne, Steve, Bill B., Bill R., Eric

Welcome new board members/Goodbye old board members:

- New BOD
 - Marcus Jennings, President
 - Chris Brown, VP of Trails
 - Russell Adams, Treasurer
 - Benjamin Marshall, Secretary
 - Suzanne Menn, Membership Director
 - Steve Booker, Member at Large
 - Bill Begnaud, Member at Large
 - David Cervera, Member at Large

Treasury Report:

Operating grant acct. - approx. 24,000

Regular checking - approx. 21,000

Payroll - approx. 3,000

We have a grant for reimbursable 36,000

Pre-agenda Business:

- Property down south (Galveston) approx. 150 acres, looking for guidance, support, etc.
- Next trail building clinic - lots of interest, but no date, confirmation, etc. Need to get people from P3 involved. Makes sense to put it off until Dec. or Jan.
- Changes made to BOD email list - old members off, new members on
 - BOD emails- directors@ghorba.org

Agenda:

1. Website-discussion of changes/improvements. WRR/all
 - Not the time to fix, but need to get the ball rolling.
 - Need to get ideas on how to improve the website
 - Streamline ability to communicate - ex. Threads
 - Be able to publish directly to FB
 - Money issue
 - What will it cost to transition, bottom line costs
 - Is Peter the right resource for website development?
 - Technical aspects – yes
 - Is anybody willing to take over webmaster role?
 - Need somebody to manage the content



- Need to be able to send mass email message through GHORBA site for events, general meetings, etc.
 - Google docs. - need to organize so BOD can reference
 - Anthills trail page - need multiple OPEN/CLOSED buttons for lower and upper trails
 - User video/pictures
2. Streamlining/improving communication w/ members. Ties in with #1. WRR/all
 3. Memorial master plan meeting and addressing our role. RA/all
 - People are encouraged to show up to meeting tomorrow
 - Meeting agenda
 - User information contribution/ feedback
 - User groups - 26 groups
 - Public comment period
 - GHORBA needs to maintain a presence
 4. Update on Flintridge grant. BB
 - Grant to extend Flintridge, Bayouland Conservancy wants to take over grant and six foot trail width
 - Jennifer Lorenz is spearheading the project
 - BB recommended 2 ft bed and 6 ft cleared foliage; BOD thought a 4 ft cleared foliage area would be easier maintained
 - There may be bridges. NOTE: anything over \$8,000 likely needs engineering
 - BB recommend we meet at her selected trail (Montgomery County preserve)
 - Recommended we show her a GHORBA trail example
 - New trail likely will not professionally built; built by Bayouland Conservancy
 - Bayouland alleges they have Springcreek greenway, but no MOU
 - Wants to take workload off of Precinct 3
 - Woodlands township is willing to give \$33,000 to Precinct 3 towards matching funds, subject to their approval
 - GHORBA and Jennifer will present the trail proposal to Woodlands township
 - Letter from bike advisory to Woodlands township needs to be supplied to Bayouland Conservancy.
 - Need to meet with Jennifer on “her” proposed trail location, and highly recommend her seeing the GHORBA maintained trail
 - Chris recommended getting feedback from a trail-building company
 - Need to attend Bayouland Gala to show support and have a GHORBA presence (week before Thanksgiving, need to confirm date)
 5. Update on Jack Brooks/City of Galveston. SB
 - City of Galveston - want to develop boardwalk, hard pack trails, crushed granite, and natural trails, if possible
 - Could be a good place for fat bikes, walkers, birding, etc.
 - Good for housing development
 - No other facilities anticipated
 - Jack Brooks
 - Galveston county - need a writing that the BOD has changed, etc.
 - SB is fairly optimistic about new county reps.
 - Trying to work on expanding into new acreage.
 6. STS and BRC-CB/all.



- BRC
 - Need sponsor package, go through contract with Raphael and figure out responsibilities
 - Missed dates
 - Chris will look at obligations
 - Chris agreed to take responsibility over BRC - Chris is the liaison between BOD and Raph
 - Chris will need lot of assistance and will divvy up tasks
 - David is not interested in leading BRC this year
- STS
 - “Speed bumps” have made STS difficult or impossible to carry out this year
 - Need to shut down the trail system where the race is held, no users at all, and must monitor all entrances
 - Raphael agreed to coordinate STS with Chris’ feedback and guidance
 - Recommended 100 acres wood or Flintridge as a possible course
 - STS will likely be pushed into next year

Questions left open:

- How much on Cypresswood improper (Cypress Creek, 100 acre woods) is on legal trails?
- Do the GHORBA girls still exist? How can BOD get women more involved?
- Skills clinic for women

Meeting Adjourned