



Date: December 14th, 2019
Address: Kleinwood Clubhouse - 16530 Kleinwood Dr, Spring, TX 77379
Time: 11:30am – 2:00pm

Attendees:

Board:

PRESENT

- Kevin Highfield – President (15 years with GHORBA)
- Charlie Gioielli – Communications Director – Jack Brooks
- Rick Kleinsmith – Membership Director (1 year with GHORBA - 2019)
- CJ Bernard – Vice President & Trails Director (4 years with GHORBA)
- Chris Brown – Events Director (17 years with GHORBA)
- Eric Henao – Secretary (3 years with GHORBA - 2016)

NOT PRESENT

- Gene Ronchetto – Treasurer

Additional People

Jason Burton – Volunteer Crested Butte winner

Jon Power - Huntsville TS

Linda Jordan – Anthills Rep

Russ Mester – Cypresswoods TS

Paul Shultz – TS of Timberlane

Matt Pigden – Memorial Park TS

Jim Mackey – TS for Double Lakes (20 years)

Ricardo – CCMTB / Conroe/Flintridge

Scott Dammitt – CCMTB

AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Formal GHORBA board reports:
 - a. Minutes of last meeting – Reading & approval
 - b. Membership
 - c. Treasurer
 - d. Communications
 - e. Events
 - f. Trails
 - g. Advocacy
 - h. President
3. GHORBA Advisory Board Discussion
 - a. Introduction and background
 - b. Discussion
4. Elections

Pizza and drinks 11:30-12:00



Roll Call

Ricky

membership - 185 currently
Letters and 2020 stickers have been sent out
Regular stickers available
Website not updated yet
Membership renew problem still not fixed
Mailing list is 1800 – non bounce, opens?
Email for GHORBA jerseys – two weeks to order

Gene – Treasurer

Accounts for Nov
\$87,200 in account (includes cash grants)
Accept the 2020 budget

Charlie

Good interaction with the 20yr anniversary event
About 180 people that were not employees of vendors
Vendors and manufactures very excited about the event and want to do again

Chris

20th event huge success. Good time. Lots of old timers who came out.
Looking to making it a bigger and better event in the future

CJ – Trails

Budget – for the TS. Need to be referred to CJ. Also need to project for next years budget please convey to CJ.

Woodlands deal – Waiting on woodlands. Agreement still waiting to be seen, Jan 2020 to the woodlands group. Trail building is approved, but the agreement needs to be seen and approved. Walking through the potential layout of the trail. Make it a big event for when it begins. Turn it into a PR event, have a opening party/celebration. – Maybe March/April of 2020.

Kevin – Advocacy

Pctn 1 Harris County – meet with them at Eisenhower Park with volunteers to build a new trail system down there. 150 acres. 5 miles of trail possible. Survey and Plan to be coming. Maybe connect with Santa Cruz Paydirt program.

Pctn 1 Hill at Simms Bayou. UCI world cup course desire to be built there.

Harris Country Flood Control district – Matt Lopez Pctn 3, Steven Dorman pctn 3 parks director, Eldrige to dairy ashford. Steve Radick retiring – legacy project?

Pctn 4 Spring Gulley, Will Sherman

New Board Development

The goal of this meeting is to set the course for the future of the off-road cycling community in our region to learn from our collective experience, to build on our strengths and learn from our weaknesses. The key weakness of GHORBA is a failure to connect as a club – our membership is tiny compared to the



number of riders and we have failed to put on community events, besides the BRC race and the singular exception of the recently successful 20th Anniversary event at Memorial Park.

We have several key strengths in our organization:

- Financial strength – GHORBA has been successful in fund raising from donations, grants and the BRC race, among other things;
- Advocacy – GHORBA has a good name among land managers and we continue to leverage this with new trail development opportunities;
- Community - the growing communities developed around individual trails, each with its own Facebook group.

The broad plan is to convert GHORBA into a coalition of these groups, each with its own identity and autonomy, but still working together under the GHORBA umbrella. GHORBA will continue to manage the routine, but important, issues of membership, finance, insurance and oversight of advocacy.

Advocacy is one area that each group needs to have increased authority. There are many opportunities and issues – too many for a single person on the GHORBA board. The key thing is to advocate according to unified guidelines on our business model and mode of operation – we need to be consistent about what we can and cannot do.

The organization will be based on a formally elected board with the basic number of members – covering President, VP, trails, secretary, treasurer, membership, advocacy, events, communications. The advisory board will comprise representatives from each main trail group – the list will be developed at this meeting, though it can be adjusted at any time. We would like two (2) reps from each group, but each trail has one vote. Decisions on GHORBA matters will be made with the consensus of the advisory board, but formalized by the “executive” board. In the event of ties, or conflicts, then the executive board must have the final say – though this should be a rare event.

Do we want FB MBA to have a rep with GHORBA?

Input from the TS on a monthly basis (skype) with a quarterly meeting face to face, clubhouse.

Get on the GHORBA BOD Facebook group

TS Groups / Advisory Groups

Sam Houston / Double Lake

Flintridge/ Burroughs/

Timberlane / Lake Houston

Cypress Creek / CCMTB – Bruce Litton / Scott Dammitt

Cypress Wood / CW – Gary

Anthills - Fefo

Jackbrooks

Memorial – Matt

Bridgeland – Josh [Private land owned] (guest observer)

Sugar Land – FB MBA (guest observer)

BRC – Date is in conflict with the MS150 this year. Still trying to decide how to figure it out.

Election for passing the advisory board to be added to the GHORBA board.



FORMAL BOARD ELECTIONS:

President – RICKY KLEINSMITH

Treasurer – ?

VP/TRAILS – CJ

SECRETARY – ERIC HENAO

MEMBERSHIP – CHRIS BROWN

EVENTS – CHARLIE GIOIELLI

COMMUNICATIONS – JASON BURTON

AT LARGE / Advocacy – Kevin Highfield

RACE – Hired position

RICK HOUDEK

Getting the TS to post about the open positions

Get elections in the new year

Have another face to face meeting with all new elected personnel.

Meeting adjourned.