

FORC Board Meeting

March 6th, 2023

The following Board members were present:

Aaron G	President
Zachary B	Vice President
Mandy G	Race Director
Drew H	Web Director, Trail Steward for Illiniwek/Dorrance
Dave B	Secretary

Also present was Andrew N, Trail Steward for Sunderbruch.

Mandy started the meeting with a discussion of the upcoming Sylvan Island Stampede (SIS) and Take a Kid Mountain Biking:

Mandy presented a proposed course for SIS which takes the riders in the reverse direction from previous years. Some minor trail maintenance will be required but the Board agreed with the proposed change. Rudy's will cater the event, which (so far) has 20 plus riders registered.

April 1st is Take a Kid Mountain Biking (for 17 and under) on Sylvan Island, followed by Mountain Bike 101 (for older participants) in the afternoon. We will follow up that afternoon with course cleanup and markup for SIS the following day.

There is considerable trash on the trails which will have to be cleaned up. We will organize a trail day to get this done.

Andrew will burn trophies similar to those he prepared for FONDO. Mandy has rotors to use as bases if needed.

Mandy handed out flyers with upcoming events, to be posted in local businesses.

The Board held a discussion regarding the FORC Side Thrill ride. The Board is dropping this race for this year in favor of the 12-hour event we discussed at the last meeting and which, following discussion with the SCP Rangers, we cannot hold at SCP. After discussion the Board decided to pursue this event at Westbrook Park. Dave took the action to contact the DeWitt Park Organization to reserve the park for this event and avoid holding it at the same time as any baseball tournaments (to avoid clogging the parking lots with cyclists and ball players at the same time). Aaron proposed reducing the 12 hour event to an eight or ten hour event. No decision was made regarding that proposal.

The Swap Meet and Membership Party will be April 8th at the Village Theatre in the Village of East Davenport. We will begin setup at 1230; the Swap Meet officially starts at 1:00 and ends at 3:00; following clean-up the Membership Party will start at 4:00 and run until 8:00. Aaron will smoke pork butts and FORC will provide sides (cole slaw, beans, chips). Attendees are encouraged to bring additional sides and desserts. The theatre will open the bar for us; members will be encouraged to BYOB as well.

Aaron noted we are still awaiting engineering before we can pour the concrete for the pavilion on Sylvan Island.

Treasurer Glen was not present but reported finances are essentially unchanged from the February meeting.

Aaron asked for trail updates:

Drew provided an update on the proposed new trail system near Illiniwek. Drew recently learned from the Rangers the area in question has undergone an archaeological survey and there are several Native American sites located on the property; any proposed trails must avoid these sites. This change reduces the potential trails to about 3 ½ miles. After discussion the Board decided to hold off on any new trail development on this property and focus instead on maintaining and upgrading existing trail systems. Drew noted there is a second property, also near Illiniwek, which has not been surveyed and would be available for trail development in about a year.

Illiniwek and Dorrance are wet with downed trees; those parks will remain closed.

Andrew reported he's completed a berm at Sunderbruch and is looking to complete the LT extension, which could make that trail as much as two miles long. In the meantime the trails are muddy and there are trees to be removed before the park can be opened for riders.

Dave reported the SCP crew is digging out a re-route of the green trail between Turtle Bridge and Jumbo, and the trails in general need cleanup following recent storms. The trails are still quite soft and won't be opened anytime soon.

In total 14 individuals attended the Membership Meeting following the board meeting.

The next Board meeting will be March 27th, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. with the membership meeting to start immediately following at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Bowman, Secretary.