

WNYMBA Board Meeting 8/18/26

In attendance: Sue Watkins, TJ Zydel, Greg Snow, Mike Moscato, Jon Sundquist, Kristian Rieber, Sara Jank

TJ Zydel called the meeting to order at 7:06

Agenda

1. Membership
 - a. 364 members; have remained in the mid-300 range for the last few years
 - b. The IMBA dashboard shows many not renewed but there are duplication issues, changed emails, etc.
 - c. If we want people to work with us, we need to make it fun
2. Treasury
 - a. \$27,022.25
 - b. At our last meeting balance was around \$17K
 - c. Additions include quarterly IMBA deposit of \$4,538 and Give Big CHQ \$4,560
 - d. Spent around \$1,100 for food (pizza party, two breakfasts) at Rooted; have received a donation back of \$1,500
3. Legal
 - a. The Lakeside Bike Park lawsuit is ongoing; may take another year to be resolved
 - b. We have been unable to return Venmo to WNYMBA's control. The historical account is suspended. We have been using Zeffy in the place of Venmo. Zeffy is free for non-profits. Zeffy allows more transparency and multiple users from the organization. The person making the purchase does not need to create an account.
 - c. Insurance policy is due. Should have the price in the next week or two. The policy does not cover any activities involving children.
4. Summer recap and late summer events
 - a. WNYMBA Rips the Rocks was a great success
 - b. WNYMBA supported Rooted by providing the Thursday night pizza party and breakfast on Saturday and Sunday. We also had a table and sold merch. Did a "fire sale" which helped move a decent amount of inventory
 - c. Holimont MTB Festival had a limited turnout
 - i. Question: what holds us back from doing a camping weekend at Spruce Lake as we historically have? There is no single reason that campout ended. May be related to personnel changes, also natural cyclical ebbs and flows. If folks want to organize something it is an option. Would need volunteers to lead/organize.
 - d. CHQ Adventure Weekend

- i. Jake planned this with Dee, Julie added a cornhole tournament, folks had a great time! We donated to the Trails at Loud
 - e. Jake's Rocks Trail Fest
 - i. Sept 17 - 20
 - ii. WNYMBA campfire site is 41
 - f. Roots, Rocks, and Ridges
 - i. Sept 26th and 27th
- 5. EC Fall Fest
 - a. Erie County has asked us to have a table at their Fall Fest, which is Sept 26th at Como Park in Lancaster
 - b. TJ noted that we have had good communication with the county recently and would like to support them
 - c. TJ and Sara will attend, will ask Nik if she will participate
- 6. New Flow Trails - Update
 - a. Brad Boyer has stayed in touch with the DEC; have a meeting on 9/27
 - b. Jon is putting together some maps showing the slope, % of the park used, etc. to support the proposal
- 7. Structure inventory and inspection
 - a. Jon would like to come up with a list of the structures we have, such as bridges and teeter totters, and have something online that indicates the last time we inspected them. Would also help us identify projects that need volunteers. **Jon will take lead on this.**
- 8. Board meeting minutes
 - a. We confirmed that Board minutes are on the website
- 9. Request for a load of crush 1s and 2s to add to HHE
 - a. Approx \$500
 - b. This is under the threshold for requiring Board approval; Thom can work directly with TJ to get this ordered
- 10. Update on the new snow dog
 - a. TJ reviewed the documents and confirmed this has been submitted, the documents include Thom's contact information
 - b. TJ also left a message for the company for an update
- 11. Proposal to sell custom utility cooler bags with the WNYMBA logo and "support local trails"
 - a. Unit cost \$5.96
 - b. Unknown set-up and customization cost
 - c. Would like to have a sample

- d. Noted that the cost is under our approval threshold

12. Request for report on items sold and profit per item

- a. Suggest that we set up a system going forward
- b. We can track sales in Zeffy
- c. Cash sales would require the folks selling keeping track and then updating the master list after the fact
- d. **Sara will take lead on this**

13. Proposal for a graphic designer to create logos and stickers for our trail systems

- a. Suggest they are not MTB specific
- b. Sell stickers to get hikers, cross country skiers, etc. interested in buying them
- c. Sue: opportunity to collaborate with Piper and Culvers Design? TJ noted that he has talked with her about this.
- d. We could give them away as a thank you for volunteering

14. New Business

- a. Is it feasible to explore expansion of trails in Allegany State Park similar to how PA has focused on trail expansion?
 - i. Jon noted that there is another trail approved in the master plan (Kane Hollow) and ready to go in Quaker; this would need to be machine built. This was part of the same approval we received for Stone Tower.
 - ii. Concern is that Stone Tower is underutilized
 - iii. Some negative feedback from trail users who tried to ride before blowdowns had been addressed
 - iv. Jon noted that there have been ecological changes in the park that contribute to trees coming down
 - v. Perhaps we need a better communication strategy to let folks know when trees have been removed, encourage them to get out there and ride
- b. Sprague Brook:
 - i. Big kudos to Rory for stepping up at Sprague Brook!
 - ii. Questioning the balance between having volunteers focus on maintenance vs. new projects
 - iii. Do we want to look into an “adopt a highway” approach to address annual maintenance?
 - iv. TJ is working with the Parks to try to make it easier to have our volunteers there without 4 weeks notice
- c. Darien Lakes State Park:
 - i. This is a very heavy lift and it’s more than Sue and Paul can take on without the club’s significant involvement
 - ii. Multiple people noted that Darien is significantly further away and given that they are unable to utilize it, they are unlikely to come for trail days
 - iii. Suggested that we need to mobilize WNYMBA members who live and/or work closer to park to volunteer

- iv. Sue: We need a dedicated group of people, preferably who live near Darien, who are committed to making it work: similar to the Ellicottville model
- v. How can we get a list of people who ride Darien regularly? **Sue will connect with Nik and get an email campaign going to create a list of volunteers for Darien.** Include a suggested date
- vi. Sean wants to go replace the broken boards; **Sue will email Dori and cc TJ**

Next Membership meeting is TBD in September in Erie County