

WOHVA Annual Membership Meeting Minutes - 11th Annual

November 6, 2016

Byron Stuck called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM at Snoqualmie Fire Station.

1. Welcome/Introductions (Byron Stuck)

Attendee introductions

2. Approve 2015 Membership Meeting Summary (William Crawley)

The 2015 annual membership meeting minutes can be found on the "Resources Page" of WOHVA.org.

3. Treasurers report (William Crawley)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Beginning balance as of 11/15/2015 | \$16,118.94 |
| • Total income | \$15,754.84 |
| • Total expenses | \$17,307.00 |
| • Balance as of 11/06/2016 | \$14,566.78 |
| • Inventory balance | \$3,327.00 |

4. OHV Statewide Economic Impact (Jon Snyder)

- His title is the Policy Advisor on Outdoor Recreation and Economic Development to Governor Inslee
- Initiative 215 initially created the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO)
- Big Tent was formed in 2010 with WOHVA as a charter member
- Challenges to OHV's in Washington State:
 - Access
 - Funding
 - Cooperative solutions
 - No state tourism promotion
 - Attracting the next generation of enthusiasts and workers for the outdoors
- Outdoor recreation has a huge economic impact in Washington State:
 - 198,000 jobs
 - \$21.6 billion in annual impact
 - Public land ecosystem services: \$115 – \$217 billion
 - 446 million participant days on public land
- Off-roading for recreation
 - \$2.29 billion in expenditures (equipment and trips); can't directly call this 10% of the state as there are many double-counts and overlaps with other sectors
 - More than sightseeing/nature activities, and bicycling
 - Less than hunting, snow/ice activities, non-boating, water activities, and ball sports
- 2016 Work
 - Recreational access provisions, bridge access, and the Columbia River water rights endorsement
 - No child left inside grants
 - SCORP planning process
 - Outreach/manufacturers list
 - 12 action items from 2014 task force

5. Cle Elum Ranger District USFS Update (Barry Collins)

- His title is Recreation Program Manager
- Travel management plan decision is coming in December
 - Appeal period will be in January
- Opens many miles to WAATV
- Trail and over the snow in upcoming phases
- Creating national heritage along I-90; This may adversely affect OHV access
- Yakima Integrated Basin Plan will affect water management and the Teanaway Community Forest
 - Raising dam at Bumping Lake
- His District is applying for grants for a mini-excavator

6. WSTC/NOVA Recipients (Glenn Glover)

- Glenn's title is President of WSTC as well as Statewide recreation manager of DNR
- WSTC
 - Formed in 1999
 - To promote, protect, and enhance statewide trails
 - Includes all user groups
 - Biennial conference most recently just held in the last month
 - It serves to facilitate communications between trail professionals
 - WOHVA has attended these conferences in the past and Glenn urged WOHVA to continue to attend, as well as to seek to assume leadership positions
- DNR
 - Generates \$260 million from their public lands in 2014; this is their prime directive; used for:
 - Public school construction
 - State universities and colleges
 - County services
 - Multiple-use concept supported at all DNR sites; supportive of motorized off road recreation
 - 160+ recreation sites
 - 1,100 miles of trails
 - 11 million annual visits
 - Active OHV projects in:
 - Reiter
 - Elbe Hills
 - Tahuya
 - Green Mountain
 - Yacolt Burn

7. Board Elections (Byron Stuck)

- Nominations
 - Jacob Perry
 - 4x4 user, involved in state legislation, software engineer, volunteer and non-profit board member
 - New, Elected
 - Josh Fisher
 - Electrical and construction procurement, new to WA, business partner with Ben Janin
 - New, Elected
 - Bryan Peterson
 - Re-Elected
 - Paul Yelk
 - Re-Elected
 - Ben Janin
 - Re-Elected
 - Neil Stamp and Willy Crawley are retiring from the Board but will continue to be active; they were both thanked sincerely for their years of service on the Board!

8. Sustainable Trails Construction (Dave Hiatt)

- Dave previously worked with the Oregon Dept. of Forestry managing OHV trails in Tillamook State Forest
- Dave continues to seek out the holy trail; it has to be:
 - Fun and never requires maintenance,
 - In the right location,
 - Water is prevented from obtaining volume or velocity,
 - Nearby water is protected from tread silt runoff,
 - Trail tread is hardened with natural materials when necessary, and
 - Make trail entrances the most difficult part of the trail (create "spode filters"!)
- Remember when you're building a trail, "Turns high, straights low"; "seat time is more important than miles"
- A valuable book from NOHVCC: "Great Trails: Providing Quality OHV Trails and Experiences"
 - written by Dick Dufourd; available at <http://gt.nohvcc.org/>
- A great tool to stretch your manhours over many miles is an ST240 excavator with 6-way blade!
- Contact Dave if you'd like him to present to YOUR group or land manager

9. NMA Update (Rick Dahl, Northwest Motorcycle Association President and original WOHVA Board Chair)

- NMA history and involvement in advocacy and trails in Washington State:
 - Started in the early 70s.
 - Legislative/trail and competition divisions
 - Works with WOHVA to fund lobbyist
 - Volunteers

10. WAATVA Update (Ted Jackson, Washington ATV Association member)

- Ted originally served on the Reiter planning committee
- Big Tent board member
- Sky Valley Recreation Group member
- RTP grant evaluator
- WAATV Association
 - 286 member families
 - 25th annual spring fling in Capital Forest
 - Visit us at www.waatva.org!

11. WOHVA Election 2016 Update (Tod Petersen)

- WOHVA endorses Steve McLaughlin for public lands commissioner as well as a list of others in select districts and areas (please visit our FaceBook page for specifics and the latest information)

12. State of WOHVA Report (Byron Stuck)

- Where are we now?
 - Outstanding membership growth
 - 100% volunteer with a paid lobbyist
 - Our opposition uses funded staff and volunteers
 - Strong 4x4 and dirt bike associations in the state
 - ATV organizations less developed but growing
 - Snow machines not part of our mission (they HAVE a strong association in WSSA)
 - Supportive statewide dealer organization (very!)
 - Outstanding first meet and greet this past August – 275 attended
 - Small but positive fund balance (we're neither broke, nor rich)
 - Not a 501(c)(3); instead we're a 501(c)(4) so we can lobby
 - NOVA funds not stolen lately ... but keep your guard up
 - Held our first legislative day (instead of a rally, great support from Fringe MC)
 - Legal fund exhausted
 - 1/3 of board was new this year
 - Bottom line – cautious optimism; we're making progress but it's slow and not revolutionary
- Board contributions
 - Bryan Peterson – communications, forums, events, membership
 - William Crawley – secretary, treasurer
 - Neil Stamp – Western WA land use, committees, shirts
 - Ben Janin – treasurer, COHVCO liaison, newsletter
 - Paul Yelk – Where to Ride, webmaster, newsletter
 - Shane Fuller – newsletter, Meet & Greet
 - Crystal Crowder – VP, 501(c)(3) project with IRS
 - Dale Gray – Business development, dealer liaison
 - Tod Petersen – Long-time Political Action committee chair, ALWAYS online contributing!
 - Branden Bowie – First-year Land Action committee chair
- Why do we exist?
 - Work statewide to protect and enhance safe, responsible motorized OHV recreation
 - Pursue, promote, and educate responsible OHV use
- 2016 draft strategies – What we talked about doing at LAST years meeting:
 - Put out a second written newsletter with advertising to pay for production and generate income
 - Hold an Olympia Rally on the Capital steps

12. State of WOHVA Report (Byron Stuck) - CONTINUED

- Continue to build business connections
- Go out and visit Clubs to both inform them and listen to what they need from us
- 2016 report card
 - 2nd written newsletter never completed
 - Capitol rally – held first legislative day; no issue “strong enough” to need a rally
 - Business memberships have doubled; Dale has visited dealers
 - Shane organized our first Meet & Greet
 - Working to clarify IRS status
 - Increased club memberships significantly
 - Moving closer to paid staff, but there’s still work to do
 - Overall – solid “B”; didn’t accomplish some of the plan, but DID do other things instead
- Lessons learned
 - Time – don’t underestimate the effort required to accomplish our goals; especially using volunteers
 - Focus – fewer goals, match the energy and timing
 - Follow through – We need to do what we say ... produce a newsletter/conduct club visits
 - Many hands make less work; we need more volunteers involved
 - Leverage investments – tools, knowledge; we already have ez ups and presentation materials; we need to continue to take them out and use ‘em!
 - Leverage connections – industry, clubs, organizations; we know people/have friends; that helps
- 2017 draft strategies; Byron’s suggestions for your reaction and the Board’s future discussion
 - Communications – send bi-monthly e-mails, one big annual newsletter, and hold our 2nd Meet & Greet
 - Olympia legislative day – hold another one unless an issue arises for a Rally on the Steps
 - Businesses/Clubs – continue to increase membership; we’ve done great/keep it coming
 - IRS/Governance – find out where we are, know what is needed and implement it

13. Committee Accomplishments (Tod Petersen, Branden Bowie, Bryan Peterson)

- Legislative – Tod Petersen
 - Fairly quite related to OHVs
 - No overt attacks on OHVs operation or funding
 - NOVA share of gas tax increased which creates more funding in our NOVA funds
- Land Action (Branden Bowie; Looking for new Chair Person as Branden is leaving for other volunteering)
 - Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest
 - Fringe MC assumed single track maintenance
 - New Law Enforcement Officer
 - Colville National Forest
 - Draft revised Forest Plan was released for comments; staff currently reviewing comments
 - Decision expected November 2017
 - Naches Ranger District
 - User groups working with district on maintenance, work parties, etc.
 - Liberty
 - Pine Swauk enhancement project
 - Proposed 23 miles of road closures
 - Elbe Hills
 - Hired full time equipment operator
 - Building new campground
 - Reiter
 - DNR released trail maps
 - Continuing to build trails (MC, ATV and 4x4)
 - Tahuya State Forest
 - New 4x4 trail
 - Teanaway
 - Funding for recreation plan passed

13. Committee Accomplishments (Tod Petersen, Branden Bowie, Bryan Peterson) - CONTINUED

- Riverside ORV Park
 - Plans are in the works to try adding a camping area adjacent to the Beginner Riding Area
- Yacolt Burn
 - Building new trails
 - Lots of grant funding
- Communications – Bryan Peterson
 - Facebook pages have been created for OHV areas
 - Meet & Greet modeled after PNW Jeep; merging the MC, ATV and 4x4 user groups in a low key camp setting with food, raffles and hosted trail rides
 - Possibly Manastash for 2017

14. Open Mic

15. Adjourn

With no other topics the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM.

DRAFT