

CRAG-VT BOARD MEETING

May 7th, 2019 – Vermont Land Trust

In Attendance: Mischa, Roderick, Kris, Andrea, Steve, Emily, Seth, Travis, Tim, Andrew

Absent: Rob

Guests: Dylan Fant; Tucker; John Casari; Dr. Katzman; Kel Rossiter; Pete Clark; McKinley; Phil England; Ben Reller

Start Time: 6:30pm **End Time:** 8:00pm

BOARD BUSINESS AND GREETINGS

- Treasurer's Report
 - Paid property taxes on three properties
 - Paid the Secretary of State for biannual registration as non-profit group
 - Paid for cleanup supplies for graffiti removal, trail sign supplies, and static fixture at Dome
 - Paid for Quarry driveway maintenance
 - Incoming payment from ClimbStuff.com
 - Annual renewal of insurance due May 15th; Seth will call Alliant Insurance to verify the amount of the annual renewal; Related to insurance: Emily will call Alliant Insurance and Cochran's about coverage for festival.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Education and Outreach

- Crag-Rag:
 - Mostly done, waiting on photos and some articles.
 - Content thus far: Choss Pile with plenty of photos; Interview with Ben Blackmore; Q&A with NE Ice Conditions; Infographics from the recent CRAG-VT Survey.
 - Still need: photos; Names/businesses to specifically thank (ClimbStuff.com; Kris had comprehensive list from last Bolton Dome announcement of opening).
- Stickers: Vote to order more CRAG-VT stickers was approved.

Stewardship & Access

- Bolton Quarry: Quarry road looks dry and clear, ready for rope to come down
- Lone Rock Point
 - Signage reveal
 - Pete will work on developing routes; include some recommendations from UVM students' service-learning project, including a biological inventory.
 - New sign-in sheets: what type of pass did you get (day, annual, or "trespass"), are you a CRAG-VT member

- Agency of Natural Resources (ANR)
 - On Wed. May 22nd, ANR meeting is at 2:30pm, included in the agenda is a request for a trail for Marshfield.
 - Travis and Kris will be attending, district land managers, foresters, Bob Zion, would be good to have Petra staff to go to chat about guiding; make sure keep lines of communication open with the state and they have a channel to talk to the climbing community.
- Peregrine closures: Prospect for sure, waiting to see if Upper Upper is confirmed.
- Bolton Dome
 - Parking not yet ready as per lease, waiting for the fill; Horgan is moving cars to make room for climbing parking spots. Kris will propose idea to Horgan: perhaps flip signs “open/closed” for other available spots beyond the 12 allotted to CRAG-VT.
 - Regarding neighbors: We are still getting complaints, the town calls us to let us know they have a complaint, happening every few days.
 - Reminder to climbers: do not park on the northbound side, but instead park on to southbound side of Route 2.
 - Bolton Dome Opening will be focused on trail work, see Upcoming Events.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Bolton Dome Opening, May 18th
 - Keep promotion to a minimum
 - Meet at “Park and Ride” first, discourage parking at Smiley School because they have an event that day; bagels & coffee organized by Dick.
 - Emily: contact Cochran’s Ski Area to see if parking lot is available, commute from there.
 - List of projects, which include:
 - Approach up to Neighborhood ledge, add rock steps
 - Formalize trails to Country Doctor’s Ramble, and dig one down over the ledge.
 - Graffiti removal, install kiosks, scrub Bat Wall, set rocks to section off an area at base of main wall; Greg has asked regarding the gully up to the Neighborhood ledge, there is a 10-foot area that we will need either a ladder like at the upper quarry or metal rungs via ferrata, so yes install via ferrata; vote in favor.
 - Halyard will provide backcountry taproom in the Bolton Quarry
 - Trail work from 9-noon, noon-1pm gathering and thank-yous, cut a ribbon, 2pm to 5pm climb, maybe a tour, OGE providing food to grill and prizes to raffle.
- Third Thursday: Skip this month’s because the Bolton Dome Opening is two days later.
- Fall Festival: Poster graphic was shared, designed by Dylan Fant. If planning on a dyno comp, need an inch of padding per foot of wall. Lauren Greco received crash pads from Metro, could probably use hers; other thoughts: Ninja place, colleges.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bolting: Travis will ask Greg to add a few more bolts to a sport climb Frogs Legs at the Dome

Learning Stations: Discussed concept of installing lowering learning stations as part of May 18th Trail Day, yes if Dennis and Mischa see a spot to install during their prep work for the Trail Day tomorrow, then it will be part of Trail Day.

Quarry and Green Leaf Forestry management plan: Ethan Taperman looked at the Quarry last fall, need forest management by 2020 in our Forest Management Plan, might be good to look at Green Leaf and ask what we need to do to maintain our current use status. They may charge a consulting fee. It's 35 acres at Quarry. Forest inventory was done with our initial use 7 or 8 years ago.

Plans for Payments to Access Fund: Discussed making a payment to Access Fund, owe them \$95,000, interest-free for the first two years. CRAG-VT should consider another payment between \$5,000 and \$10,000 soon, within a year.

Connections to ask for grants – ask Access Fund again. Talk to Joe about this. Missed March deadline for grant to the Access Fund. Comes up again in June or July. Part of job of this project is get conservation easement established.

Emergency planning: Has someone talked to Richmond or Bolton EMS for accessing the Dome in case of emergency? Kris will check to make sure Dome is on that.

Plan for CRAG-VT tee-shirts: Mischa noted it takes about a month to print. Will provide updates soon.