

2018 Annual General Meeting Minutes
Saturday, March 30
Meewasin Valley Authority
402 Third Avenue South, Saskatoon, SK

Attendees: Allan Otterbein, Andrew Exelby, Curt Schroeder, David Powell, Dorothy Rhead, Jeff Dudar, Jeff Hehn, Joe Milligan, John Meed, Kate Germin, Pat Rediger, Randy Chapman, Robert Kirschman, Russ Hodgins, Ryan Goolevitch, Saul Lipton, Sharon Elder, Todd Johnson, Trish German, Warren Dudar

I. Welcome from STA Vice President David Powell on behalf of President Saul Lipton

II. Welcome and Introduction/Members Roundtable

Each attendee indicated who they were, the organization they represented and any updates on their trail projects.

III. Presentation on the Churchill River Water Trail Legacy Project by Joe Milligan, Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport

The project will take place on Treaty 6 land that includes: the historic Churchill River system, Lac La Ronge Provincial Park and adjoining Crown land. The Churchill is a world class destination for thousands of canoeist, kayakers and anglers from across the world. It is also home to multiple First Nations communities whose people continue to use the land and waterways as they have for thousands of years.

With all of this activity one of the biggest challenges is dealing with human waste. After extensive research into these challenges, a realistic and cost effective solution was found in using Urine Diverting Vermicomposting Toilets (UDVT) manufactured by Toilet Tech Solutions (TTS). The technology separates the waste streams to allow for successful composting and has been proven to work through peer reviewed academic research and in the field by the people who have to maintain the systems. The TTS system is innovative, leading edge and most of all it works. TTS systems are currently being used successfully in very harsh environments throughout North and South America including alpine and coastal environments.

This project, a partnership between Saskatchewan's Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, the Saskatchewan Trails Association, and local community members - would see UDVT systems installed along a popular canoe routes in Lac La Ronge Provincial Park and adjacent Crown land. Saskatchewan Parks has committed to installing two UDVT, and related infrastructure, in the park at Little Stanley Rapids and at Robertson Falls during the summer of 2019. The STA would like to add 2 or 3 UDVTtoilets along this popular canoe route. How to Use' signs in English, Cree and pictograms will be developed in cooperation with staff from the Lac La Ronge Indian Band to be posted at all locations. Maintenance of the park locations will be undertaken by parks staff and by Bands members under contract. Location on Crown land will be looked after by local volunteers. Initial outhouse design will be created by Saskatchewan Parks staff with other buildings constructed by students at La Ronge High School.

11:15 – 11: 45 a.m. Presentation on Prairie Sky Running on the development of the Beaver Flat 50 Trail Run in Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park by Jeff and Warren Dudar

Over 500 people from across Canada and even the United States are expected to travel to Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park to participate in the Beaver Flat 50 this year on September 14. The Beaver Flat 50 is an ultramarathon that is 50 kilometres long but features 20-kilometre, 10-kilometre, and five-kilometre run for those who don't want to run the full 50 kilometres. The marathon features a 2,300 metre gain over the 50 kilometres which adds up to almost 8,000 feet of total climb. The event is organized by Prairie Sky Running, which is owned and operated by Warren Dudar and his brother Jeff Dudar.

Jeff said that the event doesn't have a big mountain to run up. Instead the race has hills which you have to go up and down, which runners describe as relentless. Warren and Jeff would often train at Saskatchewan Landing because of the hills as well as the scenery. One day the conversation evolved to organize a run since it's such a good location. They wanted to start a race that was a really high-quality experience for runners - something that could measure up to some of the runs that we had been out to.

This event is not just for the experienced runners, it's for anyone and everyone. They have a 50km, 20 km, 10 km, 5km, and kids fun run. There will be a volunteer trail maintenance day on July 6. It is an extremely popular race and MEC has ranked it within the top 20 bucket list trail races in Canada.

The Dudars also noted the positive reaction they have received from Parks staff and that the park appreciates the effort they have taken to mark the trails.

LUNCH

BUSINESS PORTION

- I. Call to Order: David called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.
- II. Approval of Agenda
Trish/Dorothy: Motion to Approve the agenda as presented: Carried
- III. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes
Sharon/Curt: Motion to Approve the Previous Meeting Minutes as presented: Carried
- IV. Business Arising From the Minutes
There was no business arising from the minutes.

V. President's Report (David on behalf of Saul)

Over the past year, the STA spent considerable effort in the planning process. We worked in partnership with the Faculty of Business Administration at the University of Regina on the creation of a strategic plan to guide the direction of our organization. The U of R conducted environment scanning and led consultations with key stakeholders and then assisted in the preparation of a report that outlined their research findings. The STA board reviewed the report and created a plan of action for 2019-24. The strategic plan was released in December 2018 and includes four strategic priorities for the STA. You can read about these priorities in your copy on the annual report.

The STA was very active on social media over the past year, sharing information on trails that people should visit and illustrating these posts with videos, photos and the perspectives of people who have visited them. You may have noticed our photo contest – Give Us Your Best Shot – pop up on your social feeds. The contest was promoted through sponsored advertising thanks to a \$500 grant from the S.P.R.A.'s June is Recreation & Parks Month program. We reached nearly 150,000 people through this contest and received more than 100 entries. Another special promotion we undertook this year was a Trail Story Contest, with the winner being Chloe Hunchak, who described her family trail experiences in Prince Albert National Park.

We were pleased to continue providing trail builders and operators with much-needed funding for their projects through the STA Member Trail Grant program. We provided \$1,000 in funding for the Fatlanders Fat Tire Brigade and \$500 for the Timber Trail Sno Riders Snowmobile Club. Partnerships continued to play a key role in the STA's operations. Over the past year, we partnered with the U of R's Community Research Unit to begin research on a State of Saskatchewan Trails report. The report strives to determine what the current state of trails is in the province, identify existing gaps, and develop potential solutions. The project is slated to be completed this year.

Another key area we're focused on is engaging youth through our social media photo contests and by inviting them to share their stories. We are also proud to provide employment to summer students. This past summer, we worked with two summer students. These students had the opportunity to work on our State of Saskatchewan Trails report, helping us develop questions for our surveys and coordinating ethics approval with the U of R. The students also had the chance to manage our social media accounts, create blog posts and lay out a few editions of our e-newsletter. On occasion, our summer students even have the opportunity to go outside, explore trails and blog about their experiences.

To complete my report, I would like to thank Saskatchewan Lotteries, the Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association and the U of R Community Research Unit for their outstanding support of trails in Saskatchewan.

David/Ryan: Motion to approve the President's Report as presented. Carried

VI. Approval of Financial Statements

Sharon/Dorothy: Motion to approve the financial statements as presented. Carried

VII. Approval of Auditor

Trish/Sharon: Motion to re-appoint Stewart Gee as the auditors for the Saskatchewan Trails Association for 2019 fiscal year Carried

VIII. Bylaw Amendments

The bylaw amendments are attached.

John/Curt: Motion to approve the bylaw amendments as amended during the meeting. Carried

IX. Resolutions

Support for the Churchill River Water Trail Legacy Project

Curt/John: Motion that the following resolution be passed:

Whereas: The Church River canoe routes are considered a world class destination for thousands of canoeists, kayakers and adventurers as well as local residents; and that there is a significant challenge to maintaining these routes due to human waste; and that vermicomposting toilets offer a realistic solution for addressing this issue;

Be it resolved that the association supports the work of the Churchill River Water Trail Legacy Project and any related partnerships that arise from this support; and be it further resolved that the President submit a letter of support for this project to the Minister of Parks, Culture and Recreation.

Carried

Support for ATV Registration

John/Russ: Motion that the following resolution be passed:

Whereas there is an increasing number of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) being operated on urban municipal roadways to access public lands including municipal park land, urban reserves, urban trails, and riverbeds;

and Whereas the operating of an ATV on public lands in and around urban centres is a nuisance, and often leads to public safety hazards, injuries or deaths to ATV operators, and damage to the environment and public lands;

and Whereas enforcement of unsafe and non-compliant use of ATVs is very limited due to the difficulty in identifying ATVs and their operators;

and Whereas registration of ATVs would enable authorities and residents to efficiently identify ATVs, leading to effective enforcement of provincial and federal regulations regarding the illegal operation of ATVs on public roads and public lands, and improved identification and recovery of stolen ATVs;

and Whereas a registration process would enable the province to mandate ATV operation training, resulting in increased operator safety and responsible use of ATVs, while minimizing injuries and damage to public lands.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the association provide a letter of support to the Minister of SGI on behalf of the Saskatchewan All-Terrain Vehicle Association to create an effective ATV registration process.

Carried

X. Board of Directors Election

The following individuals resigned from the board: Paul Cutting, Sharon Elder and Saul Lipton. The directors were thanked for their time and effort on behalf of trails in the province.

The following individuals were nominated to the board for a two-year period: John Meed, David Powell, Curt Schroeder and Chris Exner.

Curt/Trish: Motion for nominations to cease. Carried
All nominations were appointed to the board by acclamation.

XI. New Business
There was no new business.

XII. Adjournment
Motion Dorothy: To adjourn the meeting at 2:30 p.m. Carried