

Steven's notes from December 11, 2017 VASA meeting

Guest speaker: Louis Porter Commissioner of Fish & Wildlife

Commissioner Porter gave a verbal update on his proposed items for submission to Governor Scott and commissioners involved to be submitted to legislature for approval. The proposals are as follows and much discussion was had at the meeting, mostly agreeing with his proposals with minor tweaking suggestions.

- 1). Trail decals for usage on all VASA trails and town lands.
- 2). Drivers licenses are not required to operate ATV's, but if you lose drivers license you will not be allowed to operate ATV's on roads.
- 3). Helmet and insurance to be required.
- 4). At this time, the state has a [no pursuit policy regarding ATV's], would like to have numerous check points set up.
- 5). ATV limited ATV usage on state lands.
- 6). ATV's to be required to have brake lights.
- 7). Mufflers to be stock, no modified mufflers.
- 8). 25 MPH speed limit unless posted for less.
- 9). Penalties to be higher for violations.
- 10). Safety course required for all, on an established born after date.
- 11). Farm plates to be issued for farm use only.

1). **Web Site:**

a) Phase two (on line sales) will be finished by the deadline. Testing of on line sale to begin next month

2). **Membership:**

a) Membership is at 3026 at this time.

3) **News Letter:**

a) Next newsletter dead line is the December BOD meeting (12-11-2017), this will also be the Christmas meeting.

4). **Events:**

a) Southern Vermont Trail Riders to be sponsoring 2018 Mt. Washington ride.

5). Grants:

- a) Three RTP grants are being worked on. Bennington, Sheffield & Safety program.

6). Other Organizations:

- a) VOREC – meetings have been completed & recommendations were due 12/4/17.
- b) VTGC – ways to improve act 250 has been groups goal and not working well.

7). Trails:

- a) Please update all landowner permission slips ASAP.
- b) Commerce trails between VT. & N.H. is being worked on.

8) Safety:

- a) Dani is waiting for new version of the safety course to be presented from Fresh Air Inc. and she is gathering all of the Vermont state specific information in the meantime.

9) Old Business:

- a) None at this time.

11) State:

- a) Frank Stanley (VASA Lobbyist) has come on board.

12) New Business:

- a) January meeting will be a long meeting establishing trail policy's and scheduling 2018 trail work. Also in 2018, the completion of 2017 trail work not completed.