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Tarheel Trailblazers Monthly General Members Meeting - In-person

Location: Blue Blaze Brewing, 528 S Turner Ave, Charlotte, NC 28208

Thursday December 2, 2021 7:30PM

Call to Order: 7:40 pm

Adjourned: 8:40 pm

Attendance: 25 approx.

Board Members Attending: Bruce Euler (Secretary), Mark Sullivan (Trail Committee Chair), Tom Ambrozevitch (Past President), Ammon Nashshon (VP); Alexis Frishinger (Tres.-EL);; Jessica Thompson (Sec. EL)

Trail Coordinators: Evan S. (CVBP); Mark S. (Fisher); B Euler (MIPT); Patrick Alcisto (ABP); ; Tom A. (ABP); Sanatana ? (BYT); Hank G. (SWDP); Brian M. (ABP); Will. Washam (LNSP)

Special Guests: Sarah Kaufman and Evan St. Clair

Attendees: Matt Stahl, Hans K., Scott P..Jeff, Jeff, Bob,

- **7:45** Ammon opened meeting, presented Agenda, Introductions

Agenda

- Membership and Financials
- 2021 Club Highlights
- Big Bike Awards
- Meck Park and Rec Update
- Rocky Branch Park Update
- Col.Bike Park Update
- Southwest District Park Update
- Upcoming Events
- Open Forum

Membership and Financials: 615 members down from 623 in November



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THTB Funds as of 11/30/21	
2019 NORTH MECK PUMP TRACK	811.78
2019 RBP Donation	34,858.47
2020 Insurance Reimbursement	698.03
Airline Bike Park	295.68
BACK YARD TRAIL FUND	3,684.44
BEATTY FLOOD CONTROL	101.83
BEATTY PUMP FLOW	30,612.49
GENERAL FUND ACCOUNT	12,925.32
MILT 2021	4,500.00
PARKS AND REC FUND 2021	10,000.00
SWDP 2021	2,019.00

2020/2021 Club Highlights (Will Washam)

4 progressive bike park projects and a new community trail system!

- Rocky Branch Park CTT, Green and Blue zones (<http://rockybranchparknc.com/>)
- Cedar Valley Bike Park ,Nervous Breakdown Trail
- Airline Parking lot, soft opening, new blue jump line (Spruce Goose)
- Col. F. Beatty - New map, signage, The Col. Bike park, Trail reroutes and user communication.
- Brown Mill opening!

2020 Goals that were achieved or progress as been made in 2021

- New website: Became active in March
- May and Oct. Membership Drives
- Raise \$100,000+ for Rocky Branch Park
- Apply for 3-5 add'l grants
- Close out 2018 Beatty grant (\$100,000 RPT), Also raised an additional \$18,000 from donations and bike raffle (minus bike cost \$3000).
- GPX all trails to P&R
- Opened Dixie River and added a new jump line.
- Replace stolen equipment

Goals we are still working on:

- Finalize and approve new bylaws
- Full board and committees
- Newsletter run by Membership



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- Work and Camp Trip(s)
- Nov Party/Bike Festival
- Updated MOU
- Priority of projects set by Trails Committee for '21 grants

Five Year Plan/Objectives

Items that have been achieved or progress has been made:

- Capital funding allocated for bike parks from Char-Meck, Gaston, Cabarrus, York Counties
- All MTB trails added to P&R master plans

Items we still have work to do or have not been realized:

- Revamp donor and sponsorship tracking and benefits
- Complete new trails guideline package
- Professionally taught trails maintenance and construction training and certification program for volunteers

Ten Year Plan/Objectives

Items that have been achieved or progress has been made:

- 5 new trail systems totaling no less than 50 miles new trail
- 100 miles of MTB trail connected via greenway, bikeway, or new trail connections
- All trail systems permanently protected
- All trails recognized as a capital asset on local municipality infrastructure inventories

Items we still have work to do or have not been realized:

- Paved pump track
- Buy/protect a property for permanent owned trail asset
- Trailblazer paid staff

Jersey Sale:

New THTB jerseys were ordered mid-November. They will be arriving in 2-3 weeks. Once they come in, pick up arrangements will be announced. Extra shirts were ordered and will be available on a first come, first serve



basis.

Comes in mens (round neck) and womens (V-neck) sizes and styles. Jerseys from Weevil Outdoor Supply Co. Place your orders now (Cost \$68.00)



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Big Bike Mike Awards:

Mark Sullivan presented Evan St. Clair with the BBM award. Evan received the BBM award for his work creating Cedar Valley Bike Park in addition to all the time (over 11 years) and help he has volunteered to the club.

Evan expressed his thanks to the club and all the other volunteers who assisted in making his vision possible.

Will Washam Presented Sarah Kaufman with the BBM award. Sarah received the BBM award for her role in raising over \$480,000 (and counting). This allowed the RBP project to be completed on time and within budget. Sarah continues to raise funds for the RBP project and provides the rest of the club with a blueprint to raise funds for other projects.

Sarah expressed her thanks to the club and all the other RBP committee members.

Trail Updates:

The Colonial Bike Park (Col. Francis Beatty) - (Amnon Nashshon)

- \$113,530 spent
- Successful Bike Raffle raised \$15,000
- First RTP grant reimbursement submitted
- To do: donor wall
 - repair concrete sidewalk
 - progressive drop zone

Rocky Branch Park - (Hans Kaufman)

- CCT and Canopy Trail (green zone) open.
 - Closed wildcat trails that were being created and created a new bypass to allow quicker access to Endro section of Canopy trail.
- Boulder (blue zone) major construction is completed and going through punch list items. Hope to have it open in 2 weeks.
 - Preview ride had about 30 people participate and provide very positive feedback.
- Nature Trails (contractor) is now moving to the Cramerton side of the park to create a new 3/4 mile blue/green trail (to be called Eagle).
 - Looking to open in mid to late Jan.
- Committee is working with NAture Trails to design and propose to Belmont a skills area at the Belmont entrance (where the old pump track is located) of the park.
- Committee is working with Community Trail Design (CTD) to design and plan the next zone of the park. This zone will be an advance zone (larger jumps and features) to allow for continued skills progression.



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- Fundraising campaign to start soon

Southwest District Park - (Hank Gray)

- A lot of changes have been made to the park
- Now close to 5 miles of single track
- Abu Run now open
 - Rock Arch flyover bridge complete (check out facebook page to see how it was made)
 - Raised \$2,500 in donations to help defer cost.
- New loop is starting to be flagged
 - Possible expansion (30 acres)

CVBP - (Evan St. Clair)

- Work on a new parking lot closer to CVBP section of Fisher Farms (initial plan fell through but looking at other options.
- Planning on building a green jump line
 - Need to reconfigure to account for material that did not pan out.
- Evan and Mark met with Davidson P & R representatives to show them the new CVBP. The P & R people were very impressed with the quality of the work and wanted to work more with the THTB to develop more trails in the area.

Airline Bike Park - (Tom A. and Patrick A)

- Very positive feedback on the park
- Planning a new green jump line.
- Working on a start platform for all of the jumplines in the Gravity Terminal.
 - Design concept complete, looking for ways to fund it.
- Planning fundraising and other events to have at the park.
- Looking at ways to fundraise and install an automated entrance gate.

Upcoming Events:

CTT Forum - Dec 5:

- **Summary of CTT Forum (Will W., Bruce E. and Tom A. attended)**
 - RBP project was showcased in opening presentation.
 - Expansion of CTT in Gaston County (connecting RBP, Goat Island, South Fork Trail, Poston/Spencer Mountain)
 - Discussed creating thread trail on Spencer mountain.

Beatty Workday - 12-5-21

- Building a wooden berm and fixing up "Ride the Lighting" decent

Mountain Island Park Trails Workday -12-4 and 12-5-21

- Working on new trail sections to try and get it open.



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January Club Meeting - No general meeting.

January Executive Board meeting time and location TBD.

February Meeting - Committee Meeting, time and location TBD.

Open Forum:

Mountain Creek Park (Catawba County) (Will W.)

P & R donated property, not part of THTB.

Adjourned: 8:40

Special thanks to Owen Mundy ([Sneakaway Studio](#)) for the awesome design.

Open Discussion:

SORBA Annual Meeting:

Bryan attended virtually. Provided a discussion insurance and best practices involved. Mentioned the importance of having waivers signed.

Tom S retired

Year end party:

Wanted to find out what the general feeling was concerning having a year end party. Everyone was in flavor of one but were not sure if there was enough time to plan one.

David K was going to check to see if MD shelter was available.

Date that was thrown out was Dec 11th.

David, Bryan, Jon and Jessica volunteered to plan and put the event together.

Carolina Thread Trail Forum:



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The 14 annual CTT firun will be held on Dec 2 at Charles Mack Citizen Center in Mooresville.

Bruce E. requested that any member of the THTB who attended the forum would have their registration covered by the THTB (\$75.00) if requested to. This was seconded and approved.

8:30 PM

Adjourned