

BMRA Operations Committee

Minutes of meeting September 11, 2007

Meeting was held at Rick Hawkinberry's Home complex in East Mountain

Meeting was called to order by Tom Mitchell at 7:10pm

Committee Members Present	Absent Members	Others Present
Tom Mitchell	Dick Stuart	Gary Hazel
Rick Hawkinberry	Jimmy Jones	Lawton Watts
John Harris	Chris Jester	Richard Williams
	George Caraway	

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Approved minutes will be posted to the web site.

There being no quorum present for the election of officers, the following were selected by acclamation of all present:

Rick Hawkinberry – Liaison to the Property Manager
Jimmy Jones – Treasurer
Tom Mitchell – President
Chris Jester – Vice President
Dick Stuart – Scheduler of Events and Keeper of the Calendar
John Harris -- Secretary
Dick Stuart and George Caraway – Jeep Trail Coordinators
John Harris and Chris Jester -- Motorcycle Trail Coordinators

We will attempt to correlate Barnwell operations with the Minutes. Witness the problems with the recent take over of Binder Camp by Toyota group. This situation has been smoothed over and that campsite will be shared on October 10th.

A discussion of having designated tent camping areas was held with no resolution.

Committee agreed that there should be no designated camping area in the Far East of the Barnwell property because there can be no emergency access and no sanitary access either. This site has been discussed and denied by previous TMTC committees, but one site there is still being used for camping.

A long discussion was held about noisy camp sites and late nights at the Old Camp Site. Some environmental damage to the area around Old Camp has been reported because of the making of unauthorized trails. Old Camp seems to be the choice location for loud, all niters. Lots of courses of action were discussed among them were renaming Old Camp to Animal Camp. The consensus seemed to be to warn families not to use Old Camp and to have lax enforcement of quiet time there since it was isolated from other camp sites.

Our work day is October 28th. There was a discussion of the relative failure of previous work days, but we will work to make this one a success:

Todd Isabel, a TMTC member, is a helicopter herbicide applicator and has graciously agreed to supply Arsenal (a defoliant) for the motorcycle trails. This will be applied under his license and direction as a trial application for general use on the property. The Committee agreed to purchase four backpack sprayers at about \$65 each for this application on the motorcycle trails on work day. Motorcycle riders will walk and spray the trails. Each spraying person will wear boots, socks, long sleeves and goggles.

Dick Stuart and George Caraway will be in charge of work on the Jeep Trails and neither was present at this meeting.

Rick Hawkinberry will be in charge of general property work on the work weekend. Like cutting dead trees in three areas and hauling off junk tires.

Rick is to ready our Mountain equipment before the work day: Both Honda 4 wheelers running, chain saws and trimmers running, etc.

Day passes for workers to be passed out by crew chiefs for 4 – 5 hours diligent work.

Richard Williams volunteered to make slips to promote the work weekend and have them available for passing out to Park visitors between now and then.

Tony Eeds, TMTC President, is coming for the work weekend and Gary Hazel is going to ask him to coordinate the food for work day.

Chipman is not available for swap meet on work weekend—suggested to list goods and prices on a sheet and get some jeep lady to be bookkeeper.

A discussion was held about the late night attendant that we had posted over Labor Day Weekend. For the three nights we paid the attendant \$168.00. There were twelve late night arrival parties. Lawton collected from 9 of them and the Committee agreed that some of these would have paid on their own, but that the attendant was cost efficient and that the Campers like the added security at the Park. Improvements to the process were discussed including video surveillance, but it was decided to ask for identification and write a description of the vehicle in addition to the vehicle license number and names, etc that were on the Labor Day sheets. It was decided to have a late night attendant each weekend beginning the first weekend in October. Lawton Watts was given permission to release the attendant if it was raining or Park attendance was very low or expected to be very low.

The Committee appreciates Dick Stuart's efforts in leasing out the Park, but he does not need to act alone and the Committee needs to research and suggest a fee schedule that he can use for guidelines. The fee schedule should have different rates for different sized groups (wear on the Property and utility use) and the time of the year, i.e. spring and fall should have higher rates because of the higher use and nicer climates.

Reversing the motorcycle trail brings problems for trail users and needs input by multiple trail users. Chris Jester is the main force behind this reversal. The actual reversal will not happen until there is agreement and sufficient manpower available to reverse it in one day.

Gary Hazel brought up that a major off road equipment manufacturer wants to use Barnwell for a new product introduction in early 2008. The Committee agreed to allow them a weekday use for free, hoping for wide ranging publicity from the event.

Superlift at the Mountain will be November 9, 10, & 11, 2007. Hazel has sent the letter confirming this to Dick Stuart for the calendar. Superlift is not bringing prizes for the raffles as in the past—this notification has been forwarded to Jack Brinks.

KTM Talk (not the Company) wants to have 5-7 days in the park for camping and racing. The Committee asked Chris Jester to investigate and see what they needed and are willing to pay and to ask about their insurance.

Some members of the Committee are interested in having motorcycle racing again at the Mountain. Nobody wants the TCCRA back. GNCC will not be back because it is too far from their competitor base. Hazel suggested that BMRA should be the promoter for any future racing events. Perhaps the TORCS or TORO series would be interested. Rick Hawkinberry is to contact them and others to possibly have racing at the Mountain again.

Signs—we need arrows on trails and designations for easy loops for jeeps and motorcycles. We must have signs to keep off the pipeline right of ways for legal and safety reasons. The sign tab will be about \$300 to \$400 according to Tom Mitchell. Then they have to be erected and noted on maps.

This Committee needs about \$1000 immediately to spend on urgent maintenance needs. The Committee asked Rick Hawkinberry to talk to TMTC Treasurer, Leslie Ramirez, to ask her to get that authorization from the executive committee.

Mr. Sellers that installed the automatic main gate needs to be called to modify the base for the angle strip is cutting into the asphalt. Tom Mitchell is getting the phone numbers from Gary Hazel.

Water well house for freeze protection and visibility needs to be built before freezing weather.

Gary Hazel has the mapping program and data on his computer, but he does not have proper access codes. He will try to get them so we can have access to the mapping data we worked so hard to record earlier with TP&W. New maps will enable us to do better serve the members by better information and also have better safety access to the Park.

We need to get rid of old Jeep Truck that the Mountain owns. It is worth about \$3500. A sale will not give us enough money for a new vehicle, but we need to be rid of it before it becomes uneconomic to repair again. Can we raffle it off on the work weekend? The Committee authorized Rick Hawkinberry to place an advertisement in the Thrifty Nickel to try to sell it. Then we can save money for a newer and more utilitarian vehicle.

The Committee believes that we need a new survey of users of the Mountain for better direction and priorities for the Property. The committee members are asked to think about questions for the survey. The Secretary will compile them as they are emailed to the BMRA Ops Group Blog. Next meeting we will agree to refine the list of possible questions. The final survey will be given to members and guests who attend the Mountain and it will also be posted on the website.

The Barnwell website is getting better and The Committee thanked Rick Hawkinberry for his diligent efforts.

The exhaust fan for the back room of the Quonset hut office has not been installed yet. Rick Hawkinberry is still looking for an appropriate exhaust fan with flaps that will close outside when it is not in use.

Lawton Watts reported that the picnic table on the entrance road needs to be removed. It is a constant source of unauthorized use and attracts non members who are often undesirable. It serves no currently useful purpose. The Committee took no action on this request.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John Harris, Secretary to the Committee