

Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)  
ATC 3rd Quarter meeting  
7-11-09

Meeting called to order 10:15

Members present:	Sarah Jones – ATC Chair	Larry Ross
	Charles and Trudy Kincade	Bert Turner
	Jim Gifford	Arron Haney
	Glenn Wortham	Randy Joslin
	Tim Oosterhous	
	John Beneke – ATC Executive Secretary	

Jim Gifford presented his draft of proposed revised ATC by-laws based on the 1979 act that created the ATC. Much of the by-laws remained essentially the same however highlights of significant revisions include:

Article II:

- Section 1: Purpose/activities (referred to in the 1979 act) – the “purpose” was described in more specific terms based on past council discussions.
- Section 2: Objectives – this is a new component adding subcategories that include transportation, wildlife observation and water trails beyond the more traditional wilderness trails. John Beneke described how the Trails Plan relates to the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) toward guiding trail development. Jim stressed the need to involve the press more to “shine the light” on the ATC.

Article III:

- Section 3: Executive Secretary shall maintain Council Distribution List which may include e-mail and postal addresses. Voting members may be deleted from list if not attending over past 2 years. Interested parties may be deleted if not attending over past year.

Article IV:

- Section 2: voting members – change to those attending any two of the last four meetings. Executive Secretary shall determine voting eligibility at meetings.

Article V:

- Section 2: vice-chair shall be automatically nominated for chair but other nominations will be accepted at the 4<sup>th</sup> quarterly meeting.

Article VI:

- Section 1: allows meetings to be held other than the second Saturday of each quarter to accommodate ATC’s current plans to meet during the week for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter meetings.

Article VII:

- Section 1: Arkansas Trails Day will be the responsibility of the ATC Vice-Chair.

Article VIII:

- Section 1: no standing committees are mentioned in the by-laws – the intent is for ad-hoc committees to form to serve a function, ex. membership committee, and continue as the need exists or to disband once objective is accomplished.

Jim noted that the by-laws should be reviewed and revised on an on-going basis.

Future times/locations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter meetings were discussed to be held during the week at a location other than Pinnacle Mountain State Park. Sarah Jones suggested holding the 4<sup>th</sup> quarterly meeting at Lake Fort Smith State Park.

Matters to be discussed during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter meeting include:

- Vote to adopt new by-laws
- ATC Officer Elections
- Discuss Trails Volunteer of the Year and Trails Professional of the Year to be voted at the January 2010 meeting.

Larry Ross has accepted a reassignment on the ONF in Oklahoma and will be responsible for the western end of the Ouachita Trail. Erin Henry will be taking over Larry's duties relating to the OT in the Arkansas.

Larry reported that the "Ridgerunner" program in the Arkansas portion of the OT was very successful with 2 young men having spent 3 months performing maintenance on the trail. He intends to continue this in Oklahoma and hopes it will continue in Arkansas.

Tim Oosterhous reported that Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHV) maps are being worked on through the fall of 2009 and should be available at the end of the year. Other ONF matters include SCA maintaining 80 miles of Eagle Rock loop during 2009.

FoOT will attempt to raise funding over the next several years for 12 new trail shelters to be constructed on the western half of the OT.

Jessieville District of the ONF is proposing that mountain bikes be allowed on the OT from Highway 7 to Highway 9.

John Beneke reported that he will be attending the scoping session for the Buffalo National River General Management Plan and will report next meeting.

Trudy Kincade reported that the Arkansas Trail Riders Association has been heavily involved with maintaining Bear Creek Trail in the Jessieville District of the ONF.

Bert Turner reported that the Arkansas Master Naturalists has two new chapters at Hobbs State Park Conservation Area and at Bull Shoals and that two new water trail routes have been established.

John Beneke reminded the group that the ATC Chair has an important duty to serve on the Recreational Trails Advisory Committee for select projects and funding through the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department. Sarah mentioned that this past cycle had an application for a horse trail and that, for the first time, there was more money applied for than funds available for OHV trail projects.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00