

Totara Park Mountain Bike Club Inc

AGM Minutes

Date: Thursday 11th June 2020

Venue: Nathan Homestead, 70 Hill Rd, Manurewa, Auckland



Present:	Martyn Capstick, Kelvin Hieatt, Greg Simmons, Geoff Leckie, Egbert Koekoek, Alan Zuppich, Braden Schultz, Janet Stark, Dave Pizzini, Glen Murphy, Megan Schultz, Robert Bruce, Murray Bates, Campbell Walsh, Colin Stickells, Matt Cable, Andrew Shallard.
Apologies:	Jo Brightwell, Cliff Collins, Nick and Rachel Waters, Kevin Hawke, Glenys Ogg, Paul Allen, Sean Dick, Steve LeGallais
Minutes:	Megan Schultz

	Information
	Meeting Opened – 7:15pm
	A motion to accept the minutes of the 2019 AGM was proposed by Kelvin Hieatt and seconded by Geoff Leckie
1.	Presidents Report Delivered by Martyn Capstick Following on from the opening of Rewa, Mawhitiwhiti and Puhunui tracks in 2018, the next phase of track development was in a paddock on the eastern side of the park below the Pony Club, known as the 4 Gullies project. In conjunction with the planting of native trees in the paddock, the Tom Dick and Harry tracks were opened in July, which added another 3.6km to the overall park trail network. These provide easy grade 3 climbing tracks, fast bermed downhill runs and a few rock drop/log ride features. The trail network is now over 15km. Another highlight was the creation of the Log Cross link which weaves down through established bush to connect to the Scrubber track. Initial design was to use the fallen tree trunk spanning the creek, but Health & Safety requirements no longer made it viable, so a separate bridge was built adjacent to the log. Funding for these tracks was provided by the Trillian Trust and we thank them for their support. The Lazy Sunday race series was held on Sunday afternoons through July, August and September and provided a casual 1 or 2 lap race in wintry conditions, plenty of mud and a bit of rain. The event attracted about 30 riders of all ages, a mix of serious racers and others just out for the ride, but all left with a muddy grin and a story to tell. Spring time arrived and we were able to commence working bees to re surface the track that had suffered through rain waters. This provided a great base to stand up the increasing number of riders throughout summer. About 10 piles of track material were recently trucked in whilst the ground is still firm and this will be ready for working bees after the wet season. Thanks to all who attended the working bees, including last weekend, and hope for a good turnout at the next as it really helps spread the workload, and great progress can be made quickly. Later in the year we welcomed Megan and Braden to the committee. Megan records the minutes at committee meetings, maintains the member database and Braden looks after the social media content. Just after Xmas the club united with 5 other mountain biking clubs in the Auckland region to make a united application for funding that was being offered by the Sports and Recreation Facilities Investment Fund. The total application was \$600K with our share being \$150K. The purpose of this Investment Fund was to assist clubs in developing new tracks to enhance the recreation facilities of the local community, which fitted perfectly with our vision. A big thank-you to Kelvin for persevering with the 30 odd pages of technical details and beneficial outcomes required for the submission.

	<p>This was progressing well through the various stages, and had the approval of the Manurewa local board. Unfortunately Covid19 arrived and all funding grants have been temporarily put on hold, not cancelled, so hopefully will be restarted once the economy has recovered.</p> <p>This would have enabled the phase 3 development of tracks in Valley Y and Anaconda areas which will be discussed later in more detail. Valley Y is the next paddock to be fully planted in native trees later this year so we hope to mark out a trail prior to spades hitting the ground.</p> <p>Starting in February the Summer Race series was held on Thursday evenings, which was a 1 or 2 lap timed race and the course was varied each week to keep the riders focussed. As the first race was held on Waitangi Day we expected similar number of riders to the winter series, but the good weather and a public holiday meant we had approx 100 riders competing. We were overwhelmed with the turnout, and thank-you to members wives for jumping in to help out with registrations. This level of interest was sustained over the 6 weeks and provided very competitive racing on the hard and fast tracks.</p> <p>On another sunny Saturday in March we held the second Totara 360 3 & 6 hour event for team and solo riders with over 100 participants which was slightly up on the first year. After the 2019 event the club presented a cheque for \$1500 to the Totara Hospice and a similar donation will be made again once the accounts are finalised. Thank-you to Tony from MyRide Botany and Shimano for their continued sponsorship of this event, and also to Greg and his band of helpers in putting these events together. Fund raising from events and small grants enabled the club to purchase a pair of radios which have been invaluable for marshalling.</p> <p>Signage is gradually being improved around the park to help new riders navigate their way around the park, but also to discourage walkers from venturing onto the oncoming traffic. An updated map is still on the agenda and hopefully will be added to the sign board in the hub.</p> <p>In summary club is in a good state with a growing membership and Facebook following, and whilst funding maybe tight for new tracks and equipment for the foreseeable future we are well positioned to look after what we already have.</p> <p>Thank-you to the present committee for what has been achieved over the last year.</p> <p>A motion to accept the Presidents Report was proposed by Kelvin Hieatt and seconded by Andrew Shallard. Motion carried</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Treasurers Report Delivered by Greg Simmons</p> <p>Greg ran us through the accounts for the end of 2019/2020 which are looking reasonably healthy for the general running of the club, purchasing new tools and track maintenance. Just over \$87,000 was spent on building new tracks which came from funding obtained in 2019. Due to Covid-19 receiving funding/grants from Sports and Recreation Facilities Investment Fund and Trillion Trust has been put on hold. The planned building of new tracks will have to wait until further funding is received. The large turnouts to both the Summer Series races and Totara360 race have also helped provide some income for the club which was fantastic to see. The council also continue to help with material for maintenance of tracks in the park.</p> <p>A motion to accept the Treasurers Report was proposed by Greg Simmons and seconded by Geoff Leckie. Motion carried</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Membership Report Delivered by Megan Schultz</p> <p>We currently have 333 members which have increased from 235 this time last year. We have a successful social media presence with 2,843 likes and 3,031 followers on Facebook. This has proven a great way to promote events and working bees as well as share general news and concerns from the club. Further discussion is to be had on introducing a membership fee in the future.</p>

<p>4.</p>	<p>Membership Fee Structure</p> <p>The club is looking at charging a membership fee again. A discussion was had within the meeting attendees on what this could be and the benefits/negatives of this. An amount of between ten to twenty dollars was suggested however ten dollars could be too cheap as people see value in an amount (ie. You could get more by in from members if they feel like they paid reasonable money to join the club rather than a small throw away amount). Benefits for members could be free or discounted club race entry fees with a higher rate for non-members. Also it was suggested the club could approach a Local Bike Shop to see if they could support a percentage discount for club members as a benefit for joining. Something else to consider would be to continue with free membership but the club would appreciate a \$25 donation (or other dollar amount to be decided).</p> <p>The Club committee will have further discussion about this at their next meeting to decide if a membership fee will be introduced and if so how much it will be. They will also decide the benefits that will come with being a member.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Council/Local Board</p> <p>Kelvin has developed a very good relationship with council and the club has received volunteer awards for its hard work in the park.</p> <p>A total of \$600,000 of funding from was applied for by United MTB Clubs Auckland from the Sports and Recreation Facilities Investment Fund and of this \$150,000 was endorsed by local board for funding for TPMTBC. This funding will be used for Valley Y and Anaconda new tracks however it is currently on hold due to the Covid-19 financial climate.</p> <p>Kelvin is also working with council in regards to the Grading of the tracks (ie Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced or 1,2,3,4) as well as Health and Safety.</p> <p>City Care has supplied 11 piles of material for surfacing of the tracks and this will be used in future working bees for trail maintenance.</p> <p>The Local Board are currently planning a redesign for the Redoubt Rd carpark with some input being given by TPMTBC such as the need for a toilet block in there with a security camera on it. However this design does depend on the Redoubt Rd upgrade which isn't due to start until late 2022.</p> <p>Janet Stark would like to get Adventure Works (school bike coaching program) using Totara Park but need more than one toilet for this be able to go ahead. So looking at getting a toilet block installed sooner rather than later would be beneficial for the club and the park.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Track Maintenance</p> <p>As mentioned previously there have been 11 piles of material placed around the park from City Care to use for track maintenance. Last weekend many of the committee members and other volunteers helped Trail Pro to resurface Mawhitiwhiti using this material. It was a massive job so thank you to all who were involved.</p> <p>Working bees will start up again as this time of year is ideal for maintenance around the park. It was decided that there will be a working bee on the last Saturday of each month for the next 3-4 months.</p> <p>There was also a discussion on whether to build up the berms to stop them deteriorating and the use of MAP 20 clay based rock to rebuild some of these.</p> <p>With the ever increasing amount of maintenance and work that needs to be done around the park there was talk about the need for a contractor to come in to maintain tracks rather than volunteers for all maintenance. TPMTBC could bring in a subcontractor for 2 days a week, 9 months of the year for maintenance to ease the workload on volunteers.</p>

7.	<p>Health and Safety</p> <p>Volunteer hours and numbers need to be recorded and past back to council.</p>
8.	<p>New Tracks for 2020/21</p> <p>Four new tracks are being looked at under funding from Sport and Recreation. These are:</p> <p>Valley Y: Currently being planted in approximately July and fenced off by council later in the year.</p> <p>Redesign of Anaconda: This will be around 2.5km-3km of track</p> <p>New Uptrack to Zeb Zag</p> <p>Wairere Exit: This would be from the top of Log cross down through bush to the bridle path for people exiting at Wairere Rd.</p>
9.	<p>Events for 2020/21</p> <p>We had an extremely good response to races held over the last year so we will carry on running these events. The Lazy Sunday races will start the end of June and run once a month for four months. We will also run the hugely popular Summer Series again in February and March 2021. The Totara 360 will be held again on Saturday 13th of March 2021 with some of this year's sponsors already offering to help out again next year as they thought it was such a great event in 2020. The club would also like to hold a Funduro event at some stage in the next year with Megan suggesting a women's only race within that.</p>
10.	<p>General Business</p> <p>An attendee of the meeting asked if when building new tracks they could be more technical such as leaving in roots etc. Currently this is not possible due to either lack of trees where tracks are being built or they are native trees and we cannot damage the roots. Also it is a public park and building technical trails brings with it a higher level of risk of injury to riders in the park.</p> <p>A presentation was made by Robert Bruce from Got to Get Out. This is a social enterprise company where for every bike rental purchased one bike rental is donated to a low decile school for a child to learn to ride. Also of the 413 events they run 240 are free. Robert has been working with Kelvin/the club and council to have a trailer set up with bikes for hire in the Redoubt Rd car park. They have a range of Trek Marlins, Giant Trace and Stance's currently for hire. Robert would be looking at starting with weekend rental and possibly expanding from there if there was a need. The person staffing the hire trailer would be able to give basic setup and riding lessons to new comers as well as provide some tools if park users needed assistance. There is also a possibility of mounting a security camera or two to the trailer for safety of the hire bikes and also a view of the car park to help reduce theft and damage to vehicles. Also having a regular presence in the car park during the weekends should deter people from theft. Robert is keen to support the club and the club is enthusiastic in making this plan happen. We are just waiting on approval from council before this can start.</p>

11. Election of Officers

President – Martyn Capstick

Nominated by Greg Simmons and seconded by Geoff Leckie. Unanimous vote.

Vice President – Kelvin Hieatt

Nominated by Martyn Capstick and seconded by Greg Simmons. Unanimous vote.

Treasurer – Greg Simmons

Nominated by Kelvin Hieatt and seconded by Geoff Leckie. Unanimous vote.

Secretary – Megan Schultz

Nominated by Kelvin Hieatt and seconded by Martyn Capstick. Unanimous vote.

Executive Committee – Braden Schultz (nominated to join by Kelvin Hieatt and seconded by Greg Simmons), Geoff Leckie, Egbert Koekoek, Alan Zuppich and Kevin Hawke

All names put forward were accepted. No further voting was undertaken.

Meeting Closed – 9:10pm