

Town of Sutton
167 Underpass Rd
Sutton, VT 05867

ATV/UTV Committee Meeting
January 16, 2019

Attendance: Clint Gray, Adam Carlton, Jeannie Powers, Paul Brouha, Carol Brouha, Mark Hall, Shawn Waldron, Danielle Fortin

Motion to open meeting made by Clint at 6:04PM. Seconded by Danielle.

Discussion:

Clint started by reviewing why the committee was formed. Discussed what each person's goal for the committee and where each member stands on this matter.

-The group was formed to give suggestions to the select board on the possible opening or not of roads for ATV/UTV and the benefits the community.

-We are to be objective, open minded, educated and respect and listen to each committee members ideas.

-We are to act as ONE UNIT. If you have a biased, please leave it at the door!!!

ATV ordinances from surrounding towns were passed out: Barton; Sheffield; Wheelock; Brighton and a draft used by VASA as well as the State of Vermont manual for ATV's.

All members are to read each of the handouts and bring back ideas, pros and cons, of each ordinance to form suggestions for recommendations on roads to be opened or not.

-When Clint was getting the ATV ordinance from Sheffield, they informed him that when there is someone abusing their right to use their ATV on their roads or landowner properties, law enforcement is contacted and they go speak with said rider, and if there was a need, punitive action was taken.

Members of the group were reminded that we can only make suggestions for town roads being opened or not for ATV/UTV, but it is up to the Select Board members to make the final decision. The Select Board is the only municipal governing body authorize by state law to open or not to open, either or part of town highways or legal trails.

Clint would like to have a person from the select board from other towns to come to a future meeting so we can here the pros and cons of why they have opened their roads or not opened their roads and to see how opening their roads impacted their towns either positive or negative.

Select board member from a town that is closed to ATV's

Select board member from a town that is open to ATV's

VASA- Danny Hale, Executive of VASA (or a representative)

Law enforcement personnel (Sheriff's Dept.; VSP; VT F & W Dept.)
(Topics for Law Enforcement; Safety for the community, wildlife and domestic animals)

Jeannie suggests having someone teach a safety class to our community members on a yearly basis. The group agrees this may be a good idea.

Paul mentioned Barnet Select Board has an annual review meeting with the community to discuss how things are going and/or what changes that need to be made to their ordinance. i.e. Need for opening additional roads or trails or close all or part of a town road or trail. Looking for positive and negative input from the community.

Next meeting is planned for Wednesday January 30th at 6 pm. Jeannie is going to try to invite a Select board member from Burke to come to this meeting to speak about why they closed their roads and why they will not reconsider opening them.

Motion made to adjourn was made by Clint. Shawn seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24pm.

Minutes taken by Danielle Fortin