



Ascutney
OUTDOORS



November 2021

via email

Dear Friends and Neighbors

This past year marked a turning point for Ascutney Outdoors as we advanced beyond our formative phase to the beginning stages of a mature organization.

With the completion of the Ascutney Discovery Trail, our major capital projects are behind us. We have shifted our focus to long-term planning, especially future staffing requirements and the sustainability of Ascutney Outdoors. Plans were put into action by filling two key positions, a “Facilities Manager” (year-round, part-time) and a “Tubing Lift Manager.” These staff positions will take some of the load off our pro-bono operations team, provide for cross-training, and begin to create a talent pool.

In addition, we were fortunate to come through COVID without any major financial issues. However, we hope to grow our reserves over time through operating profits.

The Board also approved the formation of the “Ascutney Outdoors Legacy Fund,” a long-term fund that is our starting point for an endowment. It was launched with \$25,000 from two families, and it will be professionally managed by the Vermont Community Foundation. The Legacy Fund is described in greater detail on our website. Although we welcome contributions, this year we are giving priority to the Annual Fund Drive.

We remain grounded in our community-driven approach which is designed to engage volunteers and active board members. Our guiding principles and financial discipline remain unchanged.

The sale of daily lift tickets and supporter passes, rental fees for the AOC and venue fees from large events, together cover the direct costs of programs and activities. Our **Annual Fund Drive** sustains us and helps pay for other expenses, including the repair and maintenance of equipment; the upkeep of our facilities; staff expenses; insurance; and modest administrative expenses. Any operating profits will be added to our reserves and contribute to our longer-term sustainability.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of our first “Annual Report”. It includes the highlights from the past year and a snapshot of our sources of income and operating budget.

You’ll see that we have set a goal \$50,000 this year for our Annual Fund Drive.

All of what we do is made possible by you and other supporters just like you! We welcome your comments, questions or concerns – they are important to us.



Your gift - large or small - makes a real difference. Donations to Ascutney Outdoors can be made by check in the enclosed envelope or online through our website www.ascutneyoutdoors.org.

We look forward to another year with you! Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Glenn Seward
Executive Director

Steve Crihfield
On behalf of the Board

*Ascutney Outdoors is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.
Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.*