

Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club
Board Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Mark Roberts at 7:33 p.m.

Board members in attendance: Mark Roberts, Wayne Stordahl, Jason Martin, John Diebel and Keith Meyers

Others in attendance: Susan Stiffler, John Pekkala, Colin Pekkala and Tammy Pekkala

MOU was added to the agenda.

No one had knowledge of the May 15 meeting minutes; it was suggested that the special meeting minutes not be posted since they involved a personnel matter. Keith moved that the special meeting minutes be approved. Wayne seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

John gave the Treasurer's report. \$52,716.62 is in checking and savings. There is no balance on the credit card. Wayne asked if there is a fee. John indicated there is no fee. Jay had provided figures for the budget. It followed last year's budget with new numbers inserted. The projected balance was discussed, based on assumptions including: \$1500 to be collected from the Hancock Elementary Foundation, \$9000 for the trail improvement grant, \$1000 for small bridge and \$6000 to reserve fund. This leaves \$7,161 to work with and \$21,000 in the capital campaign. There were no questions. Jay had looked at more reserve for maintenance and a \$26,500 total budget. Less from businesses and ski passes was estimated. Mark asked if \$7,000 was adequate. It was moved by Jason and seconded by Wayne to approve the Treasurer's report. The motion was approved unanimously.

John and Colin Pekkala are officially on the payroll and will be grooming. Mark asked them for their advice. John noted the \$4,500 in the budget for fall trail work for Colin, indicating that he had done 40 hours per week last fall. Mark said we can round up volunteers and asked Colin to start thinking about it and lining up projects and hold details for the special trail meeting. John and Colin have looked at the trails. Mark suggested a trail meeting within two weeks. John met with Terry and Sue Ellen. She asked about Spring Creek noting that they haven't reached a meeting of the minds. John suggested giving them an opinion. The 100 feet before the bridge is sloughed out and possibly too narrow to groom. It will need dirt work and we all ought to go out and look at it.

We need to work on recruiting new board members. Mark hasn't seen anything from Sandy. It is time to start talking to candidates. We can have up to 11 board members. Mark indicated that we should aim for 3 to 4 more with at least 1 more from the biking community. John mentioned Mark Kline. Jason mentioned Terry Dahl. Susan Stiffler raised by Mark.

Went over the 2018/2019 schedule starting with the day of the month for board meetings. It was agreed to check with Jay on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Next, there was a discussion about a music fund raiser as a good opportunity to recognize the Besse Foundation. Nothing was resolved about whether this would move forward. Other events were scheduled as follows:

December 26, 2018:	Luminary Ski
January 26, 2019:	Heikinpaiva Parade
TBD	Retro Ski (check with Jay)
February 2, 2019:	Barnelopet
March 2, 2019	Glide N Gorge (utilize the River Trail Extension)
April 23, 2019	Annual Meeting
TBD	Bridgefest Parade

Approval of receipt of \$2,000 from the Portage Health Foundation for new mower. The price has come down from \$4,000 to \$3,200 according to John. Need to explore with the City and landowners for summer use permission. Discussed the Tower Loop and a couple of trails in Churning Rapids. It's not a problem with Tomasi and there is nothing to mow at Hodges. Keith moved that we accept the funding and Wayne provided the second. The motion to accept the funding was approved unanimously.

Discussed the CanAm trade. John says it's in the city's budget for cost share up to \$7,000 (ATV II in Jay's document). Funding is available in equipment replacement. Swedetown is interested in the snowmobile. John Pekkala recommended getting rid of the snowmobile and the Grizzly and asked if we would have the CanAm by winter. Mark indicated that if we have the money, we should proceed, especially with Glenn moving on. It has more power and track machines are the way to go. John Diebel noted the city wouldn't write a check to Houghton Power Sports. John indicated he would reach out to the city. Keith made the motion to approve the expenditure for the CanAm with a second from Jason (with the condition that John Diebel will work with the city on funding). The motion was unanimously approved.

Wayne discussed the ski endowment grant opportunity which could be utilized to extend the boardwalk from Tomasi Road by 32 feet. Twenty timbers are available at McGann's for \$2,700. Wayne will ask for the full \$2,500 amount with a match of \$200 to make up the full amount. John Diebel moved that the \$2,500 Keweenaw Community Foundation grant be pursued, and Jason provided the second. The grant proposal is due on August 24. A quick decision is expected with construction by volunteers to take place this fall if we receive the grant. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mark discussed the Besse Foundation Grant. They had seen information about the capital campaign and wanted to help. Mark, John Diebel and Keith met with Cain Besse to discuss the tractor. Mark and John subsequently met with Kevin Store who directed us toward the Keweenaw Community Foundation opportunity. John wrote the KCF proposal for \$15,000 and we would put in \$10,000. Cain Besse asked for a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to include a waiver of liability and publicity. The draft MOU was moved to be approved by Keith and seconded by Jason. Wayne asked if we could do this without city approval. John Diebel said yes, and that Glen said they would title it. John will get with Glen about what titling means for insurance. The proposal was approved unanimously.

No bids have been received on the River Trail grant. John Diebel talked with Rock Solid out of Copper Harbor. They may come down to \$16,000. Mark suggested use of the new tractor and pay the operator (possibly John and/or Colin. We will need to talk with Kevin Store about a scope change on the Portage Health Foundation grant.

Landowner Contacts. Mark, John Diebel, and Keith met with Paul Tomasi. We have an okay to do trail work on his land. Paul is reluctant on an easement. He would prefer to sell to the city. John Diebel advised Glen Anderson who sees this as progress. We may pursue a DNR Trust Fund Grant. Paul is willing to put this in the form of a memorandum of understanding. We need to talk with Ken Hodges. We are continuing to talk with Terry and Sue Ellen. We believe the grooming changes will make a difference. We have discussed the turnaround as being a 50-foot radius circle. Let's have John and Colin Pekkala look at it. Let's continue having discussions with landowners when we can.

Scheduled a trail meeting for August 28 to discuss fall trail work. We need to organize a work group to collect lumber. We need to address the slough below Dam Hill and ones near the cemetery and Sidewinder Pass. We are still waiting on the FEMA team which needs to develop a plan for recovery in 2 weeks. A motion was made by Wayne to approve the \$4,500 for fall trail work for the city and Keith seconded. The board approved this motion unanimously.

The next meeting was scheduled for September 25, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.