

**Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club  
Annual Meeting  
April 17, 2019**

Attendance: Jay Green, John Diebel, Wayne Stordahl, Jason Martin, Mark Kline, Mark Roberts, Susan Stiffler and Keith Meyers. Groomers: John and Colin Pekkala

Jay called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. providing a welcome and introducing the board members, groomer and assistant groomer to the members of the public in attendance. Jay highlighted the great job done by the groomers this year, particularly with the nasty storm, and expressed appreciation for their work. Jay noted the generous donation by the Besse Family Foundation of \$25,000 for the John Deere tractor which will allow for trail improvements we haven't been able to do. Jay noted that we are 95% sure about Colin doing the work instead of farming it out. The Fathers Day flood has impacted on contractors' availability and pricing. Our hope is to construct by-passes to address the river trail closure. Glen Anderson was supportive and Barry the new City Manager is supportive. Financially, we are doing well. John Diebel noted that we are still waiting on the reconciliation on the multi-pass. We are reasonably close to last year. We were off 20% on day passes at the end of the year. We have \$13,000 in the bank that is uncommitted with an annual budget of approximately \$26,000. Jay asked for comments and there were none.

FEMA - Alice from OHM was introduced. The estimate on the River Trail re-route is \$350,000. John noted that the re-route would avoid the bridges. FEMA is supportive of mitigation to avoid future damage. The mitigation contemplated would work with the 2-bridge by-pass bike trail and by going downstream of the current Sisu Bridge and placing a new bridge at a higher slate outcropping. Keith asked about the materials from the existing bridges. Alice noted that disassemble and reassemble may be possible. Colin confirmed that only the middle bridge materials were good. Public concern was registered about the sharp turn at the bottom of Sisu Hill. Jay noted that the city has talked with Paul Tomasi about the sale of land. Paul is waiting for things to settle out with the changes Hancock government. Jay pointed out the verbal agreements with the owners. He noted that we have a written agreement with Superior Sand & Gravel, but that can be cancelled with 30-days notice. Alice noted that the wheels are still turning with FEMA and OHM keeps answering questions. A question from the public was directed to Jay about where Superior Sand & Gravel stops. Jay indicated at the DNR trail. John Diebel mentioned that Wayne had mentioned at one time that there may be a point where what is being excavated will turn to just sand and they won't be interested.

Elections – There are 8 board members currently and we are authorized to have 9. John Diebel moved the current slate of 8 members and Susan seconded the motion. There were no nominations. Jay closed nominations. The 8-member slate was approved unanimously, including: Jay Green, Mark Roberts, John Diebel, Wayne Stordahl, Jason Martin, Susan Stiffler, Mark Kline and Keith Meyers.

Minutes – Jay had corrections to the March minutes. On the Treasurer's Report, Hancock has not billed for the fall brushing. On the budget, it should reflect \$26,500 in annual

revenue/expenses. Under grants in the second sentence it should reflect “pay for mowing, operator and fuel”. Mark Roberts moved, and Keith seconded the approval of the minutes with these amendments. The motion was approved unanimously.

Officers – John Diebel moved the existing set of officers and Wayne provided a second. Jay declined to serve as President, but he will stay on the board. Susan noted that she is too busy at this time. Action on officers was tabled.

The Grizzly – John Diebel – The Grizzly has been sold. It was originally listed for \$7,000 and dropped in late winter to \$5,000 for everything. It sold for \$4,500 to a party from Minnesota including the tracks. The proceeds are to be split with the City after paying for the axle repair with KNESC’s portion going into the equipment repair fund. John noted that the engine had been rebuilt so it was in good shape.

Website – Ryan bought the website KNESC.org. We are continuing to pay so it is possible to get there either way.

Charge Accounts – Jay will get the official names submitted

Budget – Jay and John - \$9,000 taken out for improvements so \$13,000 is good on the cash balance. An emergency fund will be created by setting aside \$1,000 per year until it gets to \$6,000. \$1,000 toward tractor maintenance. We can discuss in greater detail at the next meeting. \$13,142 in the capital campaign. \$1,070 portalette reimbursement to Barry.

Groomers Bonus – Jay indicated this has been \$1,500/\$1,000 in the past. This year will be a different split. \$2,000 lead and \$500 assistant. Jay has discussed this with the groomers. Mark Roberts moved approval of the \$2,000/\$500 bonuses for Colin and John Pekkala and John Diebel seconded the motion. Wayne asked for confirmation that this goes through the city’s payroll under discussion (which it does). Motion passed unanimously.

Summer Work – Approval of the FEMA funding could keep us busy. MGO saying already booked. Talked with Colin, John P. and Barry about having Colin do it for \$15/hour. John did cost estimate. \$6,000 is from the Keweenaw Community Foundation. Need to submit an amendment. Need that approval. Jay indicated he has discussed, and they don’t have a problem. The New River Trail and other work (including Cemetery Hill) would total \$11,500 at \$15/hour and diesel from city. No materials per John Pekkala’s estimate. Given the \$13,000 surplus, Jay recommends authorizing \$12,000 for total project, adding \$3,000. John Diebel will ask city for match. John pointed to the budget projection of \$5,228 in O & M and noted that we could pull the extra funding from there. We will probably have overtime since Colin Can’t start until mid-June. Swedetown pay system was discussed. They start at \$10/hour and increase \$1/hour per year. \$1,500 brushing figure. We will look at that later in summer and go for match now and possibly use to support a higher winter wage. Mark Roberts noted that the priority is to get trails in shape and get going on it. Mark moved approval of \$12,000 for the summer work. Jason seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Jay indicated he will ask for the match by letter and he will talk with Barry about the wage.

Bus Barn – We are being kicked out. Partitioning off the cold storage and insulating and heating has been estimated by MGO at over \$60,000. A Quonset hut on a slab was discussed. John Pekkala confirmed it should be less but will talk to Barry. Another option brought up is the Trolley Barn which is for sale by Superior Sand & Gravel.

Chain Drive – UP Health is sponsoring the event on Fathers Day weekend. The first day is here and the second day is at Michigan Tech.

Next Meeting – May 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Linda Rubin asked about snow bike activity. Mark Kline indicated he was surveying. 30 annual passes were bought. Data will be reviewed and Mark to discuss a potential proposal. John Diebel indicated he had talked with Cynthia McDonald at Swedetown and a snow bike pass is \$25 there.

The meeting was adjourned.