

**Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club
Board Meeting
November 10, 2020**

Attendance: Jay Green, Mark Roberts, John Diebel, Susan Stiffler, Jason Martin, Mark Klein, Nate Laakonen, Wayne Stordahl, Crissy Gerhart, and Keith Meyers. Guest: Kim Dunnebacke

Jay convened the meeting via Zoom at 7:07 p.m.

Agenda: No changes to what was published.

Minutes: Mark Roberts and Jason Martin had emailed changes to Keith. No other changes were offered. Mark Roberts moved that the minutes be approved as amended. Wayne provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment: Kim Dunnebacke indicated that she was here to learn about KNSC and how to take advantage of it while here.

Treasurer's Report: John noted that there is \$93,344 in checking and savings and that business sponsorships are coming in. \$8,750 has come in from the City of Hancock for the Defender and its warranty. John noted that the track pods had been picked up as well as the signs from Industrial Graphics. Mark Roberts asked about including the land under the assets. John remarked that this is a good comment and will get it added. John noted that the Defender that was sold is now off the books. John noted that the fall trail work has come in at around \$1,000 instead of the \$4,500 originally estimated, commenting that Colin was out over the weekend putting up the post at Barkell Elementary and that Dam Hill to Sidewinder is the only brushing that remains. On business sponsorships, John noted \$500 from Edward Jones and that Wickley and Erickson were still outstanding with invoices sent to both. Mark Klein indicated that he has sent an email to Thermo Analytics. Nate asked if an invoice had gone out to Studio 13. John said no, but he will get it out. Mark Roberts moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report with a second from Susan. During discussion of the motion, John indicated that he was waiting for an invoice from Rock Solid for \$20,000. The motion was approved unanimously.

Groomer: Aaron Maki was interviewed. Good prospect, but he did not work out. Jay discussed another prospect that had a conflict with a winter wolf study in mid-January who otherwise would have been a good fit. Keith mentioned that he had reached out to Nathan Miller and he had said no.

Kiosk: Wayne indicated that there will be no additional effort on the new Kiosk until spring. The old sign has been taken apart. ¾" plywood with a map has been placed on the fence. Wayne noted that a 1980 map was in the old sign. John noted that lumber prices are expected to be down significantly in the spring. Jay asked about when to bid. Wayne said April 1. Jay commented that we should probably look at doing it earlier.

Multi-Pass: Clarification with MTU that we do not require (like Swedetown and Chassell) passes for summer usage was added to the MTU multi-pass sales webpage.

Fall Trail Work: Colin is still planning on doing something. John commented on the Greek Honor Society coming out on Made A Difference Day to remove buckthorn behind the Apostolic Church. They went after the larger plants and they were hauled to the burn pile in Hancock. John noted that everything is mowed. He went on to note that on October 30th, Mark Roberts, Keith, and he weed whacked Mud Lake. John indicated that he had also cleaned up Spring Creek and Diagonal. Dam Hill and Sidewinder are all that remains. Wayne and John got two 10-foot sections of culvert pipe in the small shed. Trail-wise we are in good shape. Wayne brought up the need for a back-up tractor operator, noting that we could have installed pipe on Quincy Trail if one had been available during the good weather and we should be improving the trails over the summer with the tractor. Jay agreed noting that we can keep improving the trails. Mark Roberts indicated that he feels there is a couple of us who can do it. Jay noted we should schedule tractor work at the end of the season.

Business Sponsors: Covered. No questions.

Tri-Fold Maps: John noted that he can start working on it now that the trail work is out of the way. There was discussion about the about the appropriate spelling of Finni Creek. Keith brought up Marc Norton at Copper Island Printing in Calumet. John indicated that he would work with BJ at the Print Shop to see what she can do. Jay indicated that we should repeat last year's total (around 500). On sponsors, John asked if Mark Klein can get with him on Thermo Analytics. Jay indicated that John should drop Swift's unless John hears from Jay. It was agreed that Cross Country Sports should be included.

Hodges Crossing: Wayne indicated that the Hiker/Biker/Ski signs are not up on posts. Crissy noted her availability to help put them up and John volunteered to help. Crissy indicated next week would be good.

Bike Trail: Mark Klein indicated that he sent Rock Solid an email about providing an invoice today. There is a short list of fixes for next week to be performed with hand tools. The trails are good. Terry Kinzel is excited about them. Jay asked about the list. Mark indicated that there is a mud spot not drying up and a couple of other minor issues. Crissy indicated that she has heard very positive comments. Sue Ellen is excited as well.

Vision Committee: Jay indicated there is nothing yet.

Rescue Sleds: The Rescue Boggan and the snowbulance. Jay discussed the need to get them a little more ready if they need to be used and specific elements that need to be addressed to make them available.

Calendar: Luminary Ski will be Saturday, December 26th. The Chalet is closed, so it will be a ski and go home with masks encouraged. No fire or tailgate. Barkell Elementary – the principal is excited about continuing and this will start in January. Retro-Ski – working on a date. Jay will email one to Susan. Barnelopot – Wayne noted that if we cannot use the Chalet, registration will

be a challenge. Maybe a come ski and go home. John suggested online registration. There was discussion of potential options for setting it up. Susan will write it up. Registration in car and call for start. With the Chalet closed there will be no food (possibly bring your own). An extra portalette will be needed. Glide N Gorge – Do we want to do it? Susan suggested doing it with a different name. Crissy suggested putting up clothesline with clipped on candy bards and other individually wrapped items like granola bars and pre-packaged sausage. It was agreed that there would be nothing hot. \$15 for tickets. The date was discussed as being the same weekend as Copper Dog which is February 27th.

Trail Etiquette: Nate indicated that he has sent an email and that is all at this point. Keith brought up the feedback that he had gotten from Chassell Township's insurance provider's risk management (biker's yield to pedestrians). Crissy noted keeping dogs under control (brought up by Mary Babcock).

4 Seasons: Jay/Nate – Nate spoke with Cynthia McDonald. Swedetown made this change and she discussed the process. The board was able to work together to accomplish it. Nate will be getting more details. Need a firm position from all the landowners on this as well. Nate spoke to Nathan Miller with Copper Harbor Trails. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to landowners is effective as long as each agreed. Need to get a sample. The City already has one with Superior Sand & Gravel.

Stockbroker: Steve Zutter will set up an account for KNSC. Jay would like a resolution that we open it with appropriate authority (President, V.P., Treasurer). Susan noted we could handle it at monthly meetings and make decisions as a board. John Diebel moved the resolution that KNSC open an account at Edward Jones (Steve Zutter) with the President, V.P. and Treasurer alone have the authority to functions as agents for the Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club to direct actions related to stock ownership. Wayne seconded the resolution. There was no discussion. The resolution passed unanimously.

FEMA: Hancock will be reimbursed for two surveys of the original route as well as an alternative route. Mark, Jay, and John walked the gorge and flagged the alternative route with Stan Peltó and Alice Roache from OHM. Stan later established GPS control points for the project site surveys performed by two surveyors from the OHM office in Livonia. Alice flagged specific project areas for survey. The surveys will be used to generate cost estimates and bid packages. FEMA has not yet issued project approval for reimbursement.

Jay discussed the letter received from Paul Tomasi in response to our fall letter sending passes back.

60-acre Mud Lake parcel – we are pursuing this in a low-key manner with Matt and talking about the city/township buying with DNR Trust Fund. If purchased this way, it would have to be recreational in perpetuity. Current price is \$2,000/acre. It is a two-year process, and it would have to be acquired at appraised value. A friend of Mark Roberts is interested in making an offer at \$500/acre and this person is conservation minded. The property is seen as not developable due to the steep slope to M-203.

Jay noted that he addressed the snow removal contract by executive decision at the same price as last year with Jack Fenton.

Crissy noted that the road signs to the trails need to be worked with MDOT by the City.

Mark Roberts brought up the hay bale fence as needing to be put in December 1st after the firearm deer season. John will take the lead on this.

Next meeting: December 8th at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

John asked Mark Roberts to check the luminary batteries and that he has the mower blades for Mark Roberts to sharpen.

The board reviewed the new Swedetown Trails map.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.