

**Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club
Board Meeting
January 5, 2021**

Attendance: Jay Green, Mark Roberts, John Diebel, Wayne Stordahl, Susan Stiffler, Crissy Gerhart, Mark Klein, Nate Laakonen, and Keith Meyers. Absent: Jason Martin Guests: Barb Wheeler and Connie Julien

Jay convened the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Agenda: Additions: Barkell Elementary School; 40 Acre Parcel; and Snow Bike Snowmobile

Public Comment: Barb Wheeler noted that she had a nice ski on New Year's Eve and that the trails were perfectly groomed for her 18k ski. She noted the Fathers' Day flood's impact on the trail.

Groomers' Report: Jay noted that the groomers have been dragging and grooming. John Pekkala had been waiting for the temperature to stay below freezing and that he was teaching the new groomer (Kevin) how to set tracks today. No snow is projected for the next week and a half (possibly about the 15th). John Pekkala spent a lot of time today dragging snow on Tomasi road to make it skiable. The Barkell drag needs to be moved. Jay asked Wayne to get with the groomers to decide on where to put the trail at Barkell.

Minutes: Jay had two items. Under Candle Luminary Ski, correct "no" to "now". Under Calendar, with reference to March 2nd, clarify by taking out the first one. Mark Roberts moved approval of the minutes. John Diebel seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: John noted that he had made a transfer from checking into savings. The total between the two is \$81,482.11. \$3,253 in sales at Down Wind. MTU went through 1,000 passes. They have never gone through this many. The Rock Solid invoice for \$20,000 came in and has been paid. There were four private donations, including: Ski Tigers, Wolf Meingast, Joe Bossenberger, and Eric Segren. John noted that he has reflected the changes in reserves based upon our discussion during last month's budget discussion. Jay corrected O & M to be \$5,000 less and indicated we would go with the same groomers' bonus. Jay noted that the budget surplus is projected to be around \$6,600. John noted that pass sales are ahead of last year. Susan noted that there have been record sales at the ski hill likely due to Covid.

Candle Luminary Ski: We made approximately \$230 in donations. We received \$75 for the donated boots Susan sold. The expenses are not all in yet. \$70 for the portalette. Jay counted 80 cars at one time with an estimate of between 200 and 300 people participating. Jay asked about the portalette use. Crissy noted there was use. Jay asked if we need two. Wayne asked about Banelopet. Jay said yes. Great weather resulted in a great turnout. It was great seeing so many young families out. John noted, that with the Chalet closed, this was the first time Jeannie had ever hiked it. Crissy noted how much the community embraced the event and that maybe this

could result in more City of Hancock involvement. She noted that better lit signs might help. Jay suggested taping up glow sticks at the arrows to make them more obvious.

Barkell Elementary School: Wayne is in contact with the Principal and physical education teacher. The plan is to start on January 11 and have a four-week schedule running from 8:30 a.m. to 11:05 a.m. with four, 35-minute classes each day. What Colin does this weekend will drive whether it will start on the 11th or the 18th. We need volunteer help with the younger students. Jay noted that he is available any day. John noted that he is available one day a week. Jay asked Barb and she indicated that she could help. Wayne noted that he had a couple other possibilities.

Barnelopet: Wayne noted that it is scheduled for February 7th. Wayne asked about the Heikinpaiva parade as an opportunity to promote it. Jay noted that Heikinpaiva is cancelled this year. Wayne indicated that we need about twenty people to help with registration in cars and on the trails. Wayne has ordered the supplies which includes \$200 for medals. There will be no food this year. Crissy asked about the Chalet. Wayne noted that it is closed to the public. Crissy thought there may be a possibility the city would allow kids. Jay noted that there is about as many adults, so probably not. There will be two portalettes. Everyone will stay in their cars until called for their race. Jay recommended rental of the portalette for a month at \$100 versus a one-day rental for \$70 and bridge the Barnelopet and the Glide-N-Gorge. We will need volunteers identified by the next meeting. John asked Wayne to get with him on publicity. With the Sons of Norway not so active, Jay noted KNSC will be picking this up for the kids. The banner is up at Tomasi and we need to hang one on the fence at the Fairgrounds. Barb will talk with Nancy who handled medical in the past.

Retro-Ski: Jay noted that he is still firming this up and will get something to Susan.

Glide-N-Gorge: Jay suggested that we have a special meeting on the Glide-N-Gorge to discuss the general concepts now. Three stations possible on the trails. No fire pits this year to avoid violating needed social distancing. We will focus on grab-and-go food items and pre-packaged desserts. Possibly bags of pretzels and chips. No pasties per the health department. Discussed that the health department does not have jurisdiction over homemade stuff for charity. Susan indicated that she had spoken to Angela Campioni about re-inventing what we do this year and asked her about pre-packaged cheese and crackers. Angela was okay with it, but she needed to talk with Maria. Keith suggested granola bars and bananas. Small trail mix packets and Slim Jims were also discussed. Jay suggested finding out what Pat's will donate and what they might sell to us at wholesale. It was suggested we get out and look at what they have at the store that would work. John brought up Vollwerth's. Keith suggested that we get with the health department about what they believe would work. We need to come up with a budget. We need to think of activities, see what the health department says, and look at what the stores have. Jay indicated he would get with the health department. It was decided we would do our follow up meeting on Tuesday, January 19th, at 7:00 p.m.

Kiosk/Temporary Chalet Sign: Nothing currently.

Business Sponsors: John noted that we are waiting on two. John noted that Keith had asked him to provide additional information to Steph Olsson at the Wickley Agency. He noted he needed to do the same thing with Rhythm. Jay noted that we are ahead of budget and brought in new ones. Jay is good with the Studio 13 offer to provide design work as part of their support and that we should get with Chris about sketching up a 4-season concept. Nate will get with Chris and bring up the 4-season logo idea. Jay indicated there is no hurry. Susan noted that she sees him on the trails. Nate indicated that these are his favorite trails.

Trifolds: John asked if the snow bike trails need more maps. Mark Klein said he will let John know. John noted that there are extras in the storeroom at the Chalet.

Maps: Hopefully with the work next summer we can come up with a new map file. Marc Norton was discussed. Keith discussed what Marc did for the Chassell Trails taking G's GPS data and laying it into a satellite image.

Hodges Driveway: The signs are up, and it seems to be going well.

Visioning: No report.

Trail Etiquette: Tabled until we have the 4-Season discussion. Crissy noted the TV-6 coverage of Lori Hauswirth on this topic in the Marquette area. Keith discussed how they dealt with this on the new Chassell Trails signs.

4-Season Club: Nothing new.

Chain Drive: Nate noted that the current race director, Troy, will stay on for 2021. The date is set for June 19th (Fathers' Day weekend). Still in the process of determining of what kind of an event given the situation with Covid. Portage will roll over into sponsorship this year.

Stockbroker: Everything is set up with Steve Zutter and the account is in place.

FEMA: John referenced the following email from Michael Markham:

Happy New Year John,

Unfortunately, I don't really have much of an update but will provide you what I have to date.

1. The current FEMA status of the Swedetown Gorge project: The Damage Description and Dimensions (DDD) report has been signed off and approved by the City. This occurred on 12/15/2020 which moved the project into the next step in the FEMA review. The project is currently in Step 2 of the 12 step FEMA process. FEMA (Julie Kokolus) sent an email to Mary requesting timesheet, and equipment information for Force Account work done by C. Pekkala during October of 2018. I need to circle back with Mary to verify if this information was provided to FEMA to keep the project moving forward.
2. Survey Work update: The field data collection was completed. OHM is holding the data until we get the go-ahead to process and start design.

3. Design and or estimating has not been done with the exception of the design and estimating required to complete the DDD report mentioned above.

We have been pushing for updates weekly but responses with the Holidays were limited so hopefully with the new year we can get the project through the 12-step process and start the design for construction next summer.

John went on to note FEMA wanted to know the amount of time Colin spent fixing the Sunset gate (5 hours). This clarification has been provided and it has been worked out.

60-Acre Parcel: Nothing new

40-Acre Parcel: We received the winter tax bill: \$327.62. We will pay it and do an application with the Board of Review to appeal as a non-profit being non-exempt.

Portalette Toilets: dropped from the agenda based on earlier discussions.

Budget: Jay asked if there were any questions noting that he bumped inflation for the drags and rollers.

Snowmobile: The City has agreed to put the registration in their name. Mark Klein asked about the second snowmobile (unregistered) as a back-up, noting that the tracked ATVs are too wide. Mark asked what if we had a snowmobile instead? Jay will get with Mark later.

Jay noted that Connie Julien had joined the meeting as a guest and asked her if she had any comments. She did not.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.