

**Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club  
Board Meeting  
September 7, 2021**

**Attendance:** Jay Green, Mark Roberts, John Diebel, Wayne Stordahl, Jason Martin, Mark Klein, Crissy Gerhart, Nate Laakonen, and Keith Meyers

Jay convened the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

**Agenda:** Wayne asked to add liability.

**Minutes:** Jay thought they looked good. Mark Roberts noted two corrections under “dogs.” He noted the correct spelling of Dave Bach’s name and that there are intersection numbers on the bike trails, not on the ski trails. Mark Roberts moved approval of the minutes with those changes. Jay seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment, but Mark Roberts noted that there would be a Keweenaw Land Trust inspection of Churning Rapids on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Treasurer’s Report:** John noted that the only new things since our most recent meeting included a check for \$67 to reimburse for maintaining the domain address and one PayPal membership. Wayne moved that we accept the Treasurer’s Report. Jason seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**FEMA:** John talked to Michael Markham today and they are prepared to talk with FEMA. Paul Tomasi has given tentative approval. He is okay with the bypass around the meadow which will be discussed with FEMA. Otherwise, the route will be the same including replacement of the Guard and Middle Bridges. The former Middle Bridge will be the new Sisu Bridge at its former location.

**Vision Committee:** Nothing new.

**Website:** Keith noted being in contact with Susan Stiffler today on posting the July minutes.

**Signage:** Nate and Mark Klein met with Dean Woodbeck on his plans that he discussed at the last board meeting. Jay noted that he has talked with Dean, and he will be working on the base map with Google Earth as a faded background. Mark Klein discussed continuing the numbering system to the summer intersections. Mark Klein feels it needs to be cohesive for emergency response. John noted Finni Creek interaction with Dean where he is working on Great Oaks Crosscut. John was able to send out GPS data via Drop Box to Dean and Marc Norton (Copper Island Printing). Nate will GPS track his snow bike route, but the single track will not be included. Dean noted a goal of having a new winter map in place. Nate noted that he will GPS on GPX and upload to Drop Box.

**Kiosk:** Wayne noted that school just started so it will be a couple of weeks before the students get started. McGann's and the ISD are on board. John noted that he had talked to Jack Fenton, and they should have everything there.

**Summer/Fall Work:** Jay brought up the St. Urho Trail work. John emailed the consent agreement which includes \$1,875 in materials plus John Pekkala's wages. John spoke with Dave Mattila. Instead of a 22A mixture (which he feels will quickly wash out), milled concrete will be used to hold the hillside better. This will include two 15-yard trucks and two loads/hour (\$85/hr.) resulting in the \$1,875 figure from Dave. They will make several passes with a small compactor. It needs to be done soon or we will have to wait until late October for Mark Roberts and Ken Rubin. John discussed the potential need to adjust the trail coming into the entrance of the dog park. Paul Tomasi is still concerned about people on the gravel haul road. John is securing signage. He has ordered sixteen arrow signs. John talked to Paul about our highlighting the path to Pine Loop to draw people away from the haul road as well as with the River Trail and the Pedestrian Bridge. We may need some 4" x 4" posts. Crissy noted "stay on trail" signs. John responded that we still have it at the Chalet. Crissy noted it being confusing at the gate. Nate brought up "no hiking/no biking" sign and that he would be open to removing it if we got new signs in place. There was discussion of the possibility of a "watch out for trucks" sign. John brought up having a designated crossing. Crissy noted that orange arrows would help. Jay noted the issue with trails not being obvious in the summer.

**Executive Session:** The board went into a brief period of executive session then returned to regular business.

**Budget:** Jay will be making up a new one that will not be significantly different from the current budget.

**Domain Name:** Dean Woodbeck owns Keweenaw Trails. Crissy suggested getting all of them (.net, .com, and .org). They are currently in Dean's name, and we should get them in the Club's name. Jay put the question of obtaining all three to the board at Crissy's recommendation and there was no objection. Mark Roberts advocated for this as well.

**Liability:** Nathan Miller was able to get a quote for \$5M in coverage. We need to talk with Mark Hannula to see what he would charge us since we have no structures like the Copper Harbor Trails has. Keith recommended checking into it. Mark Roberts suggested involving the City of Hancock. Keith explained how Chassell Township includes landowners through Mark Hannula. Jay indicated that we need landowner approval for biking. Keith spoke up for providing landowner coverage. Jay indicated that he would contact Mark Hannula. Nate asked if this would be for year-round coverage. Mark Klein brought the "gross negligence" standard with the complex structures. Nate asked about other insurance providers. Keith noted that Chassell's coverage comes through the township's PAR plan that townships utilize for coverage and that Mark Hannula represents. Jay indicated he will follow up with Nathan Miller and Lori Hauswirth.

**Next Meeting:** Jay indicated that he will be back on October 7 so the next meeting will be on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

John asked about a budget for tractor work. Jay feels the existing budget will provide for it.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.