

**Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club
Board Meeting
February 15, 2022**

Attendance: Jay Green, Mark Roberts, John Diebel, Wayne Stordahl, Jason Martin, Mark Klein, Nate Laakonen, and Keith Meyers. Absent: Crissy Gerhart Guest: Dean Woodbeck

Jay convened the meeting shortly after 7:00 p.m.

Agenda: No Changes

Minutes: Mark Roberts moved the approval of the January meetings minutes. Jason provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously.

Groomer: John and Jay had dinner with all the groomers. Double-tracking and best lines were discussed. Where double-tracking will occur will depend on the size of the trail. John is working with Mary Babcock and the DPW Director on an above ground fuel tank for next year. The groomers are currently hauling ten 5-gallon cans of fuel with John pulling it with his own truck.

Treasurer's Report: John reported that he is incorporating the new budget. There is \$119,929 between checking and savings. Cross Country, Downwind, and the Co-op all got in their sponsorships. Finlandia, Rhythm, and Snap Fitness are outstanding. John highlighted \$400+ for pre-season maintenance and fuel for snow biking, and the \$150 delivery fee for the groomer. John noted that we are behind on annual memberships (\$12,715 last year versus \$9,663 this year), but we may catch up once MTU reports. We are doing well on daily passes. We received the \$600 grant for Barnelopet. Expenses were \$319 for bibs and medals, \$147 for the banner, and \$50 to the Gazette for advertising. Event expenses came in at \$6.30 over the revenue. The backhoe bucket is in the budget as well as the planned trail surface smoothing. We have \$6,000 in this year's operating budget with only a little over \$3,000 spent so far. Nate moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report, Mark Roberts provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously.

FEMA: Nothing new since John's email. Michael Markham understands the sense of urgency. Keith expressed concern about bidding as soon as possible due to issues with getting bids and workforce availability.

Vision: No Report

4-Seasons Club: No Report

Signs and Maps: We will include the backhoe bucket with the sign project. Dean reported on the Letter of Inquiry to the Portage Health Foundation. He talked with the Land Trust, and they cannot commit. There are \$300,000 of projects competing for the available \$100,000. Kevin Store is okay with the idea of installing one-half of the signs this year and one-half next year. Metal t-posts would provide a significant cost/time savings. This will include smoothing Mud

Lake north and west and north of Tomasi Road. We will need to talk with the landowners before the final proposal and need to harden up the cost estimates.

Closed Session: The board went off the record for approximately five minutes for a closed session.

Budget: John found mistakes in the math that he has addressed.

Sponsors: Covered during the Treasurer's Report.

Barnelopet: Wayne reported that it went well and that it was the second biggest. One kid got lost and came in 9 minutes ahead of everyone else. The mother called in about it and Wayne followed up with the mother of the actual winner. There were thirty volunteers including 6 Ski Tigers. John did a great job of getting out the word. Everyone got medals and all the bibs were used. Mark Klein reported that the Ski Tigers will make involvement with the Barnelopet part of their program.

Retro Ski: Will take place this Saturday and will be a repeat of 2019's course. Six plan to come from Wisconsin.

Giving Tuesday: We will take care of thank you letters/notes after the meeting.

Grant: Dean has already reviewed this.

WUPPDR: Discussed the non-motorized plan for MDOT. Jay attended the meeting. Bikes on roads was most of the focus with an emphasis on insufficient shoulders and connectivity between trails. The City of Houghton has a plan to completely encircle the city with a plan to have a trail on Huron Creek down to Kestner Park. Franklin Township hosted a meeting on the trail from Ripley to Lake Linden on that night.

Glide-N-Gorge: The route was discussed, and that trail will be marked. Dessert will be served outside. It will be donation only with no charge. Mark Klein suggested adding a stop by the Pedestrian Bridge with a snack. Jay noted an interest in keeping it simple. Send out an email through Keweenaw Trails asking for a reply about what can be provided. We will have fires at both the Pedestrian Bridge and outside the Chalet. Hot chocolate in packets. We will need to determine a number. Discussed having three gallon jugs of water in the gorge and get 250 insulated cups. We will check with the Co-op or on Amazon. We will need a hot plate or hot pot to heat water at the Chalet. On the food at the bridge, John will get with the Co-op about meat and cheese trays. On publicity, John will get with the Gazette.

Annual Meeting: Discussed the possibility of increasing the number of board members with the change to a 4-Seasons Club. The downside of this is that it would also mean having a larger quorum at meetings. Discussed having committees with each committee having at least one board member on each to help spread out the work. We will look to decide on this at our next meeting.

Keith asked about the logo for the 4-seasons club and suggested Copper Country Trails Club. Nate suggested Keweenaw Nordic & Single-Track Club which would allow us to keep KNSC. We will try to address this by the annual meeting.

The next meeting will be on March 15th at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.