

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

Attendance: Jay Green, Mark Roberts, John Diebel, Jason Martin, Mark Klein, Nate Laakonen, Murphy Mallow, and Keith Meyers. Guest: Dean Woodbeck.

Jay called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Agenda: No changes

Minutes: Jay noted that under the Treasurer's Report that it should reflect that Jeff was paid 10 hours for operating the bulldozer and the use of the bulldozer represented 10 hours of in-kind from MJO. The three culverts were installed elsewhere. Under Giving Tuesday, it should note M-203 at the sledding hill. When discussing benching it should reference the Back Country Trail. John noted that under sponsors when discussing Chris Schmidt, it should be "shown" not "show". Nate made the motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mark Roberts provided the second. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Comment: None

Treasurer's Report: John noted that not a lot has changed since last month. There is \$145,780 between checking and savings. Recent expenses have included the domain fees and stamps for Giving Tuesday. John sent a check to Jack Fenton for plowing and there was a \$119 payment to Abe's to replace the leaf blower carburetor. There was a \$321 expense for the excavator track. John noted that Erickson will allow equipment (the excavator and the tractor) to go in cold storage for the winter at the DPW. \$2,700 has been pledged so far on sponsorships. We did not get the Keweenaw Community Foundation grant for the Barnelopet. Nate asked what the deadline is for printing the trifold. John indicated December 10th. John asked the board members to get yes or no answers from the sponsors they have been assigned and he will invoice them. Keith moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report. Mark Roberts provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously.

Tomasi/Wuebben Land Purchase: Paul Tomasi sold all his land (820 acres) to Wuebben Construction. They run Dollar Bay Motor Sports. They recognize the trails as a good amenity for residential development. They have signed off on the FEMA project and have been written in as an additional insured by the city. The land is mostly in Quincy Township (with some in Hancock and piece or two in Franklin Townships) which has been negotiating for utilities. Jay will send a letter offering a meeting along with Mark Roberts and John, then a more formal meeting in the spring.

FEMA: Last Friday, Mark Roberts and John attended the pre-construction meeting. The project has the green light from FEMA. The contract is dated September 8th with an October 28th letter to proceed to MJO. They hope to pour the footings this fall. John pointed out the washed-out hill by the Cemetery as a potential first project to open that trail section. It was pointed out that Kyle

is friends with Jed Wuebben, so all is expected to go well. Mark Roberts indicated that MJO wants to be notified when we start grooming.

Signs, Maps, & PHF Grant: Dean reported that the map has been finalized and Chris Schmidt has finished his work. We will want to get the winter map on the website. The Maasto Hiihto signs have been drafted and have gotten them to Chris. The signs and maps should be completed by April. Chris sent an invoice. An interim report is going into the Portage Health Foundation documenting the intersections and identifying the areas to be improved. The rest of the work will be completed next summer. Dean is amending the budget and collapsing the categories to 4 to 5. Dean is working with Mary Jo Munch at PHF on this. Need to get an invoice from Marc Norton so we can get that portion of the grant spent. Dean is working on priorities for the remaining work. Jay discussed culvert near Tomasi Road for next spring.

Business Sponsors: Already covered by John. Jay encouraged everyone to get this done as soon as possible. Also discussed doing a banner annually including the sponsors for the kiosks.

Giving Tuesday: We will work on the mailing at the conclusion of the meeting. We will discuss again later in the meeting.

Groomers: Kevin is committed for \$2/hour more. We will also pay him to do snowmobile grooming. We need to keep him to 29 hours per week per Mary Babcock. We will provide him a warm bib and boots. John Pekkala and Wolf Meingast will do some of the grooming. Sophia is going to work for Swedetown. Mark Klein will get with Kevin on logistics. The city will buy the bibs (\$160 to \$180) and boots, and we will decide what to do with them at the end of the season. \$500 maximum between both items. On gasoline, the city has a plan. The DPW will have the sexton hauling around gas.

Fall Work: Mud Lake – Jeff Bloom did 10 hours of work with the MJO donated bulldozer. It looks great. The grass seed germinated. John got all the mowing completed with Wolf. Weed whacking still needs to be done in the Gorge, Sidewinder, and Spring Creek as well as clear cutting the top of the hill by the cemetery.

City Representative: It is on the council agenda tomorrow according to Dean. The person can vote if a club member. According to Mark Roberts, the latest version of the By Laws say they won't vote. Jay needs to discuss this with Tammy.

Budget: March meeting – need to figure more expense for grooming

Committees: Fund Raising is not assigned as well as Milwaukee Skiers

KCF Grant: Since this was not successful, we will submit the Barnelopet for Portage Health Foundation sponsorship.

Governance Workshop: John attended this in Calumet. Many groups participated. It focused on best practices. One takeaway John noted was the importance of always calling and thanking donors as well as asking them what motivated them to donate and what more can we do to meet

their expectations. Thank you letters will be completed at the January meeting for those contributing on Giving Tuesday.

By Laws: John, Mark Roberts, and Jay went through Tammy's boilerplate. Jay followed up with Tammy. We need to look at her revised set. Discussed 10% of membership must vote. Family memberships get two votes. 450 total roughly. We can do proxies to make sure we get 10% to get to 45. Dean talked to Roger Woods. They used Simply Voting which is an online service that costs \$300 for 500 names. We need to get with Tammy about incorporating this. There was a discussion about board insurance. Nate offered to talk with the Douglas Agency about a quote.

Kiosk: John checked with the city. The account is closed, and no money is available. We can ask for more next summer. The kiosk measures 85" across. We haven't been able to find cases off the shelf that fits (72" or 36"). Maybe four 36" x 48". Do we want to order? Jay asked about the window material. It is Lexan which is tougher than Plexiglas. The cost would be \$1,860 for four. We will see if the Portage Health Foundation will accept this as a budget amendment on the grant.

Chalet: Teresa Shoope is going to check in weekly to clean the Chalet and is already doing it. Teresa will get with John if there are any issues.

Giving Tuesday: Discussed Ridge Trail as a focus. The board discussed the potential costs of developing a single-track for multi-use running along the ridge from the cemetery to KNCS's 40 acres. Jay mentioned Will Lytle dark sky park in that area. \$15,000 expected from the Klugness Family Foundation. Discussed social media promotion of Giving Tuesday. Mark Klein will develop bullet points.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m. and then the board members worked on the Giving Tuesday mailing.