



MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 21, 2022



Officers Present: President, Dan Marich; Chair, Tom Stahl; Co-chair Patrick Stahl; Secretary, Dave Houghton; Treasurer, Erin Husmann; Trail coordinator Joe McKenney

Meeting: Meeting called to order at 6:00pm, 35 in attendance

Meeting Minutes: Nov. 16, 2022 minutes approved, (M/S/C) Sharon Johnson/Rick Harding

Treasures Report: Dec. 20, 2022 financial report approved, (M/S/C) Patrick Stahl/Dale Davidson
Main - \$8,477.51 Savings - \$21,933.62 Trail - \$57,814.67 Loan - \$30,040.00

Presidents Report:

- Side Lake to Chisholm trail re-route: explained some of the paperwork he is finishing up with. Signed copies for HibTac records. Important to have St. Louis County sign this since they are our sponsors
- Thanked Joe Marturano from HibTac for all his help and support
- G.I.A. for 2022-2023 season is \$42,148.73. 1st benchmark soon @ \$18,966.xx
- \$75k Federal Grant for ASV, contract is now in hand. We can now order our ASV and brusher. Brusher can be purchased for \$25,500.00 and delivered (included in price) within a week. No ASV available locally, must order.
Motion: Purchase (1) Limb Beaver brush cutting attachment for the cost of \$25,500.00, with delivery to our shop included, from U.S. Equipment located in Brainerd, MN. (M/S/C) Rick Harding/Dan Tarnowski
- Paperwork for a \$7300 grant from St. Louis County sent in and we will receive funds soon. This will be applied to our bathroom project. Our out of pocket cost for this project will be around \$1900.
Motion: Accept the \$7300 grant from St. Louis County for our Club Building Bathroom. This grant is made possible by St. Louis County Board of Directors resolution #22-611 that was brought forth by Commissioner Mike Jugovich. (M/S/C) Steve Carlson/Dan Tarnowski.
- A DNR Land purchase meeting in Tower for trail admin & loggers was held recently. Land purchase for logging will not be affecting our trails for the next year.
- Barrett Ziemer presented some artwork for signage to acknowledge & thank the land owners on our trail system. (we have 9 personal land owners, the rest is state, county, and corp.) Thinking of other ways to thank them (a dinner, gift cards, etc) and a possible banner.
- Reviewed trail updates emailed to Heidi Stang at KBJR's Northern News Now Trail By Trail Report for winter activities in the Northland

Trail Report:

- VERY, VERY UGLY! This last storm with heavy wet snow caused a-lot of work. The entire trail system will have to be brushed again. The trails will have to be packed in to try to get the swamps froze before we can groom.
- Trail work day Dec. 26, 2022 north of Side Lake. This section is the worst and needs lots of attention
- Side Lake to Chisholm re-route is beautiful. Just a couple of signs left to hang.
- The gate on Zakula's property has been installed
- Trail alongside Hwy. 5 has been plowed and complete. Farther off the road this year thanks to the county.
- No grooming few awhile, at least 3 weeks with the current weather
- Logging on the south end of the south trail by the Alborn Grade. Watch for truck traffic.
- A pipeline construction project by Sawmill Road. Use caution.
- DNR was going to try and groom the Tac Trail Dec. 22, 2022
- Discussed renting an ASV or similar tracked skid steer to mount our new brusher to and try to cut down some of the mess on our trails. Or hire out some of the brush cutting for the same cost. Time is very short.
Motion: Allow Joe & Dan to find a skid steer to rent or hire out the brush cutting at the same cost. They will get approval from the board on before ordering. (M/S/C) Dan Marich/Dale Davidson
- Tri-pods are out. More Needed. **Motion:** Have Dave Houghton order 24 more tri-pods from ODC in Buhl. (M/S/C) Dan Marich/Tom Stahl
- Total man hours worked by the club from 8/14/22-12/20/22 (43 days) 215.5hrs.

MnUSA News - DeLyle Pankrantz (absent tonight):

- Peggy Zgonc talked to DeLyle and he wished us all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
- Maps are all delivered. Thanks to Jodi Olson
- MnUSA Winter Rendezvous Feb. 9-11, 2023 at Grand Casino in Hinkley

Old Business:

- Web site is up and running www.pathblazersclub.com.
- Club apparel; Josh Sirjord was absent. More at the next meeting.
- Business Memberships; Insight from some business owners, \$125 & \$250 business memberships soon to be available. Business's able to advertise on our web page, Facebook page, our "Welcome" signs on the trails.
- Raffle calendar monies and unsold calendars (9, 40 ordered) sent back to MnUSA. Drawing Jan. 4, 2023
- **Club Ride - Feb 3, 4, 5, 2023**. North Shore. Leave for North Shore from Hibbing on Friday for those who want to ride there. Staying at Grand Superior Lodge both nights. You don't have to stay 2 nights as required by the motel. Rooms available.
- Maybe a ride-in to our building after the holidays?
- Do something for next years Snowmobile Day Oct. 29, 2023?
- **Safety Training Jan. 7, 2023**, starts at 9am
 - Needs volunteers to be there by 8am. No experience needed
 - DNR C.O. Marc Johnson will be there
 - 20 participants (25 max)
- Club Membership updates: 106 current paid members, 35 in MnUSA, 73 used USPS to register, 33 used online, 55 family memberships, 48 individual memberships, 22 new members
- Got a look at the new PathBlazers Posters. Aaron Bonelli also gave an update on other signage for our trails and equipment.
- Donation (club & pass the hat) total to Autumn Mohawk came to \$2040.00. Dan Marich delivered to Kurt & Gail Mohawk

New Business:

- Keewatin ATV club trail discussion. We were left out of the loop. DNR C.O. Marc Johnson contacted. Meeting after new years with Itasca county trails person (Sara). Lots of assumptions by individuals from St. Louis & Itasca Counties. No current atv trails on U.S. Steel property. Many factors. Trail may be a long way out.
- Mentioned the various upcoming events in the area. An email was sent out.
- Next monthly meeting will be **Wed., Jan. 18, 2023 at The Riverside Inn in Side Lake, MN.**

Communications:

- Special Speaker/Guest, John Eloranta, Dir. of Grants & Projects for 8th District Congressman Pete Stauber. John is from Tower originally. Talked about the commerce of atv & snowmobiling and keeping our lands open to them. Discussed grants, importance of them to us, the cumbersome process, competition with government agencies, and increases in equipment cost compared to the grants available.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion to adjourn at 7:10pm, (M/S/C) Steve Carlson/Patrick Stahl

Christmas Gift Exchange

Next Meeting: January 18, 2023
Riverside Inn in Side Lake
Starts at 6:00pm
Don't Forget Your Non Perishable Food Donation
This months donation goes to The Hibbing Salvation Army

Questions, Concerns, Comments? Contact the following:
Secretary, Dave Houghton - 263-5889 President, Dan Marich - 996-1003 Chair, Tom Stahl - 966-3277
Vice-Chair, Patrick Stahl - 969-3582 Trial Coordinator, Joe McKenney - 969-9717