



MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 15, 2023



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 6:02pm, 28 in attendance

Meeting Minutes: Jan. 18 ,2023 minutes approved, (M/S/C) Steve Carlson/Chris Beel

Treasures Report: Financial report approved, (M/S/C) Joe McKenney/Dale Davidson
Main - \$7,283.30 Savings - \$21,961.57 Trail - \$37,243.72 Loan - \$22,136.01
Note: Monies wired for ASV purchase; Federal grant for \$75k should show today or tomorrow; working off of a line of credit; some of the loan will be turned into a 5 yr. note. More banking being done tomorrow.

Presidents Report:

- Membership note; we have been doing very well promoting our club and the web site has helped. Membership is up and many are new to our club
- All the benchmark paperwork is in and we should be seeing our next benchmark from the state soon.
- An official copy from HibTac/Cleveland Cliffs showed up making our new trail from Chisholm to Side Lake complete and official.
- We received an official copy for land use from Riverside Inn. This completes all criteria required by the DNR for our trails. At last years audit, The Riverside Inn was the only permit missing, and it has taken a long time to get completed.
- Insurance has been placed on our new ASV and the Limb Beaver attachment
- IRR has some grants available that are of interest to us that we can apply to our ASV/Limb Beaver purchase
- Upcoming Events:
 - Feb. 18, 2023, D.A.V. Vintage Iron Ride, Palmers Tavern to Keewatin VFW & back
 - Feb. 25, 2023, Snowmobile Safety Training at our building in Chisholm

Trail Report:

- Trails are good, continue with our current grooming schedule
- Recent rain didn't hurt trails.
- John Taray put up New signage. Thank you John.
- Jack Matthew & Ken Knutsen completed brushing on our south trail. Thanks guys.
- Logging on the south end of the south trail by the Alborn Grade. Watch for truck traffic.
- ASV purchase; Almost complete. About \$20k more than last years quote. We will be picking it up soon from dealership in Cloquet, MN.
- Dec. Storm relief monies; trail coordinator Joe McKenney is working on the paperwork for reimbursement from damages caused by the Dec. snow storm. Joe is working with Josh Brinkman from St. Louis County. Everything must be accounted for. The club could be seeing about \$15k in reimbursement
- Keewatin ATV club trail discussion. We are going to do our homework. No guarantees from KeeTac/US Steel on trail retention under a shared trail plan.

MnUSA News - DeLyle Pankrantz (absent tonight):

- Not much to report at this time
- DeLyle is being honored after 53 years of service to snowmobiling he will have the Laurentian Trail dedicated to him on Feb. 18th & the Ely Lake Spur on Feb. 25th. Well deserved. Emails will go out to our club for these events.

Old Business:

- Web site is up and running www.pathblazersclub.com. It is working well and people are using it. Webmaster Barrett Ziemer will look into adding business partners logo & link to our website for those using our business membership option. (\$125/yr)
- Club apparel - Apparel is complete thanks to Josh Sirjord. Looked at e-commerce on our website (Barrett Ziemer) but not recommended at this time due to cost (\$800 to incorporate). Recommend to see how first orders turn out and take orders again in 6 months. Secretary Dave Houghton will be getting something together and taking orders
- Club Ride - Feb 3-5 to the North Shore was a great time. Very cold start Friday morning. Great trails. Over 450 miles put in. 21 people participated.
- Club Membership - 135 total, 42 MnUSA, Trying to get ahold of Nancy at MnUSA for an updated membership list so we can pay dues for this year. Emailed three times since end of January.
- The Black Woods ALS Blizzard Tour - A great success and the group was very pleased with the accommodations and reception of the PathBlazers & City of Chisholm on this leg of their tour. They want to make a stop here next year. Thanks to all who helped out. Thanks to John Taray for getting the signage up. PathBlazers members Mark Anderson and his wife joined the Blackwoods tour later that night in Grand Rapids for dinner. \$1.8 million+ was raised through this event. Note for next year: more bathrooms, have on hand some rider needs and minor maintenance things for the sleds.

New Business:

- New Groomer - Itasca Drift Skippers are selling their 2007 Piston Bully groomer. Asking price of \$90k. We have viewed it and it is in incredible shape with tons of maintenance records. Drift skippers must know soon if we are interested as they must commit to their order of a new one. After discussion, our club is going to pursue the purchase of this groomer. President Dan Marich will be looking into grant monies to help fund this purchase. Further discussion about our equipment at the March meeting. (groomers, brushing equip., future plans)
- The Riverside Inn inquired about using our bridge by his place to display docks. We are checking into liability but we didn't think there would be an issue seeing the gates are closed on the south side of the bridge.
- Feb. 18, 2023 The Virginia club will be having a hot dog cookout at the Loran Filter shelter. All are welcome.
- **Club Ride - Feb. 25, 2023**, A second PathBlazers club ride will be taking place to the White Oak Inn & Suites in Deer River, MN. Planning to leave after the Snowmobile Safety Training (about 12-12:30pm) from our building in Chisholm.
- Next monthly meeting will be **Thursday, March 16, 2023 at Bimbo's Octagon in Side Lake, MN**. Meeting starts at 6:00pm. **Note the day change!!**
- Organize a club ride to meetings for those that would like to ride can ride in a group.
- DNR C.O. Marc Johnson has been out & about in our area and we would like to thank him for all he does to support our club. Thank You Marc!

Communications:

- MnUSA Region 2 will be having a meeting hosted by The Cromwell Sno-Gophers Saturday, April 1, 2023. RSVP by March 18th if you plan to attend. More info call Troy Johnson @ 218-390-0046 or Tina Johnson @ 218-464-8070. Reg. on Saturday is at 2:30pm. Cost is \$30. BYOB.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion to adjourn at 6:58pm, (M/S/C) Ken Knutsen/Chris Beel

Next Meeting: Thursday March 16, 2023
Bimbo's Octagon 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