



MEETING MINUTES APRIL 27, 2023



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

Meeting: Meeting called to order at 6:01pm, 29 in attendance

Meeting Minutes: Mar.16, 2023 minutes approved, (M/S/C) Steve Carlson/Patrick Stahl

Treasures Report: April 27, 2023 Financial report approved, (M/S/C) Joe McKenney/Chris Beel
Main - \$4,827.33 Savings - \$11,982.14 Trail - \$62,661.06
Loan Account/Line of Credit \$110,317.00 (Current bal. \$23,049.69 & Avail. bal. \$87,267.31)

Presidents Report:

- News on our Grant, IRRRB grant of \$45k
- Sold BR180 groomer for \$45k
- Purchasing 2007 Piston Bully Trail for \$90k from the Itasca Drift Skipper Club in Grand Rapids, MN. Delivery should be in 10 days after it is released from the insurance company.
- Some maintenance on the BR180 before selling
- 3rd benchmark received from the DNR. 4th benchmark coming soon. \$2107.44
- Pres. Dan Marich/PathBlazers Safety Initiative:
 - CPR/AED training by Eric Jankala to be held. All interested in this training should sign up for Tuesday, May 30th or Wed., May 31st. There is no cost for this training. In return, Eric would like to see some snowmobile training for fire dept. personal.
 - HFD has a rescue sled with removable wheels for winter use. They may purchase a snowmobile for winter rescue. There has been an increase in winter activities in our area in more remote areas.
 - This is a very pro-active move for our club to be equipped with first responder kits & knowing how to use them.
 - AED's are coming soon.
 - Money for medical equipment available through the IRRR, IRRR Tourism & The Owens Foundation
- John Taray & Joe McKenney mentioned there are new safety vests for all to use when working on the trail.
- A day to THANK those that support this club and the sport of snowmobiling. Look at hosting an open house for all the land owners, business' and people that support the PathBlazers. General public also. Normally Oct. 29, 2023 would be used for events like this as it is National Snowmobile Day. A planning meeting will be held in Aug.
Motion: Have an open house on Sept. 30, 2023 at our maintenance building to thank all that support us.
(M/S/C) Rick Harding/Jeff Rootes
- MRTUA (Minnesota Recreational Trail Users Association), looking into what it takes to get on the list of possible replacements for DeLyle Pankratz who will be stepping down after 30 years of service. It would be beneficial to have some one from the area on this board.
- Current membership at years end: 146 members (71 family/72 individual/1 business) 55 of 146 are also MnUSA, 60 of 146 paid online, 35 new members, 26 non-returning members from the previous year.
- Secretary Dave Houghton talked about trouble communicating with MnUSA and memberships.
- Dave Houghton is also having issues with internet and emails on his end, hopefully gets worked out for next season

Trail Report:

- Trail Coordinator Joe McKenney thanked everyone on a great season so far and for all the hard work to make our trails great.
- 324 hours of grooming this year
- Added gates, tripods and signs picked up
- Equipment maintenance: lube & fluids on BR & Big Blue, a closer look at our new machine in Grand Rapids for all who are interested
- Some small trail fixes for next year
- Still waiting on storm relief monies from St. Louis County.

Trail Report (Cont'd)

- Keewatin ATV club trail discussion. Nothing new at this time
- Shelter @ the Day Brook "T", Brad at the DNR is putting together a request to allow this to happen. Shelter would be built from lumber we already have. Seek donations for roof mat'l if need be.
- Joe ran the ASV/Limb Beaver from Green Rock to Day Brook. Worked amazing. A versatile asset to the club.
- Trailer for ASV:
 - Pine River Trailer Sales has a Nova equipment trailer, 15k gross weight, \$8475.00. Discussion
Motion: Purchase Nova equipment trailer for \$8475.00 from Pine River Sales
 - Discussion; Land Pride brusher sale or trade? Outright sale worth \$6k, Lulich would give us \$5k on trade for a Corn Pro equipment trailer (MSRP \$10k) with the same specs as the Nova. Lulich will also take the Land Pride Brusher in on trade for attachments we could use on the ASV. We could wait awhile for the brusher to sell if we sold it ourselves. Dan Tarnowski will be heading to Lulich's w/in the next week. He could check out the Corn Pro.
Revised Motion: Place Land Pride Brusher for sale, Dan T. will check out Corn Pro trailer at Lulich. If the Corn Pro is of good quality, trade Land Pride to Lulich. If not, purchase Nova trailer from Pine River Sales. (M/S/C) Dan Marich/Chris Beel

MnUSA News - DeLyle Pankrantz (absent tonight):

- MnUSA Region 2 Meeting was in Cromwell Saturday, April 1, 2023.
- MnUSA is looking into hiring and assistant for Nancy Hanson.
- News from the legislation, registration numbers will no longer be needed as there will now be a larger sticker.

Old Business:

- Trail Coordinator as a board member position:
 - Should be added because of the responsibilities (equip. cost, purchases, trail costs, operating, etc)
 - 5 board members, 3 needed for a quorum, trail coordinator has always been present at meetings
 - By-laws can be amended
Motion: Add trail coordinator to an officer/board position
 - Discussion; Jack Matthew explained the chair & co-chair positions. These positions were never to have an authority, just there to make a quorum. Further discussed the by-laws of the club (last amended and updated 2014), why not change the co-chair position to the trail coordinator position? This fall are elections for President and co-chair. Now would be the time to do it. Trail admin. would still be a volunteer position.
Revised Motion: Amend by-laws to make the trail coordinator an elected position, abolish the co-chair position, and strike out term limits all together (currently max. 2 terms, or 4 years),
Final Motion: Incorporate the co-chair position to co-chair/trail coordinator position in by-laws, and Article 6 term limits strike from by-laws. (M/S/C) Dan Marich/John Taray
- Club apparel delivered, set up another chance to purchase clothing in the fall for the 2023-2024 season

New Business:

- Read letter from Boys/Girls club of Hibbing, **Motion:** \$100 donation to be given to The Boy & Girls Club of Hibbing (M/S/C) Jamie McKenney/Josh Sirjord
- Gift for Steve Johnson for his hospitality for our groomer in Side Lake. **Motion:** Purchase \$100 gift card for storage and power of our groomer at his place in Side Lake. (M/S/C) Joe McKenney/Chris Beel
- Jodi Olson a tax bill by Representative David Lislegard/Grant Hauschild which could bring N.E. MN. snowmobile clubs some extra monies. Reaching out to our elected officials helped them understand what it takes to maintain trails and keep things going.
- Next monthly meeting will be **Wednesday, September 20, 2023** at Mike's Pub in Hibbing

Communications:

- Pres. Dan Marich set Thank You's out to Ida Rukavina & IRRR members for their support and generosity. Our club secured over \$170K in grants over the past few years.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion to adjourn at 7:28pm, (M/S/C) Chris Beel/Jess Stahl

Next Meeting: Wednesday Sept. 20, 2023

Mike's Pub in Hibbing, Starts at 6:00pm

*Don't Forget Your Non Perishable Food Donation
This month's donation goes to The Chisholm Food Shelf*

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*