



MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 16, 2024



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

Meeting: Meeting called to order at 6:30pm, 40 in attendance

Meeting Minutes: Sept 18, 2024 minutes approved with following changes, (M/S/C) Ken Knutsen/Chris Beel
Under **Trail Report: \$25K from storm damage**, correction, The \$25K is part of bond monies that were allocated for clubs in Legislative Dist. 7A & 7B sponsored by legislators Lislegard & Hauschild. Change noted and corrected.

Treasures Report: Oct. 16, 2024 Financial report approved, (M/S/C) Pat Stahl/Rick Harding
Main - \$2,946.47 Savings - \$115,238.41 Trail - \$22,137.94
Outstanding Items: NBC CD Maturing 10/22/24 - \$127,000.00
\$30K line of credit taken out as a safeguard, small loan taken out to payoff groomer as the \$10K & \$50K grants are reimbursement grants

Guest Speaker: Mn DNR Conservation Officer Marc Johnson

- Shared some thoughts & updates
- Changes in registration decals
- Spoke about new snowmobile exhaust rules
- This district will be fully staffed with officers for the first time in years
- Brought up trespassing
- Backs 100% the Snowmobile Safety programs we hold. Loves to see these programs blossom
- Q&A

'24-'25 Board Elections - Voting

- Chair
Nominated: Jodi Olson by Tom Dougherty, second by Greg Schweiss. Other nominations (3calls), none. Unopposed.
Vote: In favor - All, Opposed - none.
So moved, Jodi Olson voted to the PathBlazers Board of Directors as Chair for 1 term (2 years)
- Secretary
Nominated: Dave Houghton by Jodi Olson, second by Tim Maki. Other nominations (3 calls), none. Unopposed.
Vote: In favor - All, Opposed - none.
So moved, Dave Houghton voted to the PathBlazers Board of Directors as Secretary for 1 term (2 years)
- Treasurer
Nominated: Erin Schirmer by Joe McKenney, second by Chris Beel. Other nominations (3 calls), none. Unopposed.
Vote: In favor - All, Opposed - none
So moved, Erin Schirmer voted to the PathBlazers Board of Directors as Treasurer for 1 term. (2 years)

Special thanks to Tom Stahl for his years of service as Chair.

Presidents Report:

- Overview of Sept. 21st Tomassoni ALS Never Surrender Bike Tour & ALS Blizzard Tour stopping at our shop on Feb. 7, 2025
- Talked about the Safety Day @ Fairview in Hibbing and the PathBlazers contribution
- Thanked everyone for the all the hard work for our Land Owner Open House, however, attendance by nonmembers was disappointing.
- G.I.A. Funding, no numbers for '24-'24 yet. We get \$568.00 per mile in our district. '25-'26 may see a drop due to last years dismal winter.
- Iron Trail Maps, going to print soon. 2-3 weeks to completion
- Working w/ Lori Krasaway @ US Steel for permit updates. USS wants yearly reviews in future per corp. policy.

Trail Report

- New shelter at Taconite Trail/Side Lake Trail “T”. All the permits approved. Watch for emails for a build date. Working at Dan Tarnowski’s again this year.
- Brushing and mowing is being done. Trail coordinator Joe McKenney has been trying different mowers/brushers on our ASV for a possible purchase in the future.
- **Trail Work Day Oct. 26th.** Watch for emails & postings
- Small re-route near Keewatin on Sawmill & near Side Lake on Pine Tree road is needed. Working with land owners.
- New Groomer will be delivered Friday, October 25th at 2-3pm. Operators encouraged to attend. Everyone welcome!
- Q&A on ATV/bike trail re-route on the east side of The Discovery Centers pit (Monroe Pit). This is a detour for ATV’s during bike events on the Red Head.
- Q&A on future changes to Hibbing’s beltline (Hwy 169)
- Future logging on South Trail will end in huge benefits for our club and the trail itself.

MnUSA News:

- Nichole Pankratz new Region 2 MnUSA Director.
- MnUSA Fall Workshop Oct. 25-27, 2024 @ Black Bear Casino in Carlton, MN.
- MnUSA Winter Rendezvous will be Feb. 6-9, 2025 @ The Hampton Inn & Suites in Bemidji, MN
- MnUSA raffle calendars available soon. On their way

Old Business:

- Tomassoni ALS Never Surrender Bike Tour stopped by our maintenance facility Sept 21, 2024. Lunch was provided by Jim’s Sports Bar. Good participation, we received some good coverage by the media
- Blackwoods Blizzard Tour for ALS Feb. 7-9, 2025 confirmed they will Stopping at the PathBlazers Facility this year on Friday, Feb. 7, 2025. More to come.
- Land Owner Appreciation Day Open House was Saturday, October 5, 2024 from 12-4pm @ our building. It was a good day, however, not attended by others outside of our membership. Very few visitors. No land owners. Looking at doing something different for next year. Talked about inviting the land owners out to dinner one evening.
- Safety Training Day (ATV/Snow event) put on by Fairview Range in Hibbing, the Hibbing Fire Dept., and The Ranger Snowmobile/ATV club of Aurora, MN held on Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024. We donated \$500 towards the purchase of youth helmets for this event.
- Membership down last year. Membership renewals mailed (130 total) or you can sign up online.
- New PathBlazers Merchandise can be purchased online now through **Oct. 31, 2024**. Baseball caps & winter hats have been added this year. **If you have a problem**, contact secretary Dave Houghton or Range Sports in Hibbing.

New Business:

- Club Ride, Jan. 31- Feb. 2, 2025. Destination is Crane Lake, MN. 2 locations to stay. You will be responsible for making your own reservations. More details to come. Contact Jamie McKenney for more info 218-969-7702
- Snowmobile Field Safety Training to be scheduled soon. Jim Watkins & Jessica Stahl will be getting things together.
- Discussed a hot dog/hot chocolate at our new shelter in Feb. ???
- Next monthly meeting will be **Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2024 @ Sammy’s Pizza in Hibbing, MN**

Communications:

- Thank You from the Boy’s & Girl’s Club of Hibbing for our contribution of \$100
- Thanks You from the ALS Never Surrender Tomassoni Bike Tour for the use of our facilities

Meeting Adjourned: Motion to adjourn at 7:27pm, (M/S/C) Chris Beel/Greg Schweiss

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 20, 2024

Sammy’s Pizza in Hibbing, MN

Meeting starts @ 6:00pm

***Don’t Forget Your Non Perishable Food Donation
This months donation goes to The Hibbing Salvation Army***

*For more information, questions or comments, please feel free to contact the following:
Secretary, Dave Houghton - 263-5889 President, Dan Marich - 996-1003 Chair, Jodi Olson - 966-7817
Trail Coordinator, Joe McKenney - 969-9717*