



Fifield Sno Drovers
CLUB NEWSLETTER

Mike Sloane – President

W761 Whitmore Rd, Park Falls, WI 54552

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 11th at 7:00 PM at The Dam Bar
Below are the minutes from the September 13th meeting at Springstead.

Meeting called to order by President, Mike Sloane at 7:00 pm.
There were 37 people who attended the meeting.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all members.

SECRETARY REPORT

Minutes from the previous meeting were emailed to all members. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Sandy Sironi/2nd by Ann Sloane. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT

Ryan Howe reported the beginning balance, expenditures, deposits, and ending balance. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report by Rick Sironi/2nd by Sandy Sironi. Motion carried.

Membership: 163

TRAIL AND EQUIPMENT REPORT

Mike Ida reported in the absence of Roy Funk.

The first trail maintenance day will be held on Thursday, September 22nd. Meet at The Big Dipper at 9 am. Focus will be on Trail 108 to 101 to the county line. There will be aggressive trail work this Fall with the replacement of two gates and numerous signs. The "water" crossing on Trail 101 should be mediated by the DNR when the beavers are trapped.

Sno Drover equipment has been inspected and in good order.

There will be a reroute of Trail 106 (Iron County spur) by the Sno Drovers connecting to the Mercer trail which will come out on 182.

The bridge on Trail 102 (Dalrymple bridge) south of Hwy 70 has been determined to be structurally unsound for the weight of our groomer. Sleds can continue to use the bridge but this area will not be groomed. Roy Funk will work with the Forest Service on a possible reroute.

The Forest Service may be performing some work in the "Sloane's Corner" trail area.

Mike Sloane has spoken with the landowner regarding moving the trail coming off the north end of Pike Lake. The landowner is amenable to this change. The change should provide for a safer and smoother route.

The members present discussed providing the Club's grooming schedule to the public as part of our revised website. It was decided that the Club should not provide this schedule.

GROOMER UPDATES

The 2021/2022 season ended with 18 groomers on the roster. These groomers were queried regarding their return, desired schedule and other trail grooming requests. Mike Ida will be putting together the 2022/2023 grooming schedule in a calendar format based on this feedback.

The Sno Drivers should receive full supplemental payment for our grooming efforts. Normally the 1st half payment is made in September or October while the 2nd half payment is made in December or January.

Mike Sloane spoke to Lulich Implement regarding the repairs (hydraulic leak) needed on the tractor. The unit has not been worked on as of now. As a reminder the repairs are covered under warranty. Mike will continue his follow up.

Mike Sloane has spoken to Ritchie Lakeland Oil & Propane regarding a larger diesel fuel tank for refueling the groomer. Ritchie will provide a portable, 500-gallon tank for this purpose at no charge. This is in addition to the existing tank.

Jim Clemmons will be responsible for inputting/reviewing hours in SNARS to ensure accurate reporting of hours.

COUNTY MEETING

Mike Sloane, Rick and Sandy Sironi and Peggy Kuss attended the County Association meeting on Monday, September 12th.

Frank Dusek has been named the Groomer of the Year by the AWSC. The award will be given at the AWSC Workshop in Rothschild on October 22nd. The presentation will be done the evening of the banquet. Price County club members are encouraged to attend to recognize Frank's accomplishments. Registration for the Workshop can be made on the AWSC website at AWSC.org

Frank was also recognized previously by the PCSTA for his work in Price County. He was presented a replica of a Tucker groomer at a function given in his honor. Members of the PCSTA were asked to donate \$275 for the recognition. A motion was made by Woody Witte and seconded by Rick Sironi to make the donation of \$275.

Similar to other years, the AWSC raffle is occurring. Raffle tickets are on sale for \$100. A motion was made by Rick Sironi and seconded by Sandy Plyer to purchase a raffle ticket at a cost of \$100.

It was previously reported that the trail to Timm's Hill in southern Price County would be closed for the 2022/2023 season. This trail will be redone and open for the upcoming season.

The PCSTA members discussed the diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) shortage for the 2022/2023 season. They are considering buying ahead to avoid any issues. Last year the Sno Drivers used 3.5 barrels.

October 29th is Snowmobile Day as designated by the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association. For Clubs holding an event on Snowmobile Day, a grant of \$400 is available. Snowmobile Day festivities are similar to our Club's Kickoff Party.

NEW BUSINESS

The Kickoff Party is scheduled to take place on November 5th at 6:00 pm at The Big Dipper. Donations from Club members can be dropped off at the Ann and Mike Sloane residence or the evening of the Party. Donations should include items that members themselves would want to win. Kickoff Party posters were distributed to members for delivery to local establishments. Mike Sloane asked if anyone is interested in chairing the Kickoff Party event. If you are interested, please contact Mike at president@snodrovers.com or by phone at 414-731-3130. *A member has stepped forward to take on this responsibility.*

Twenty-five pounds of pulled pork was purchased for the Kickoff Party following Fun Day. Mike Sloane will work with Catie and Thor regarding other food items. Club members are encouraged to bring a dish to pass to the event.

A motion was made by Sandy Sironi and seconded by Cindy Ley approving a large raffle prize for the Kickoff Party. The amount to be \$250. In past years, this was a meat raffle.

Mike Ida communicated that he will soon be receiving a \$500 donation from Kwik Trip. Members discussed creating two \$250 raffles with one to be used at the Kickoff Party and one for the Winter Run. In past years the meat raffle was highly successful bringing in profits substantially above the \$250 investment. This being the case it wouldn't make sense to use the full \$500 for just the Kickoff Party.

Ryan Howe, our Treasurer/Membership Chair has set up Google Workspace for the Club Board to use. This is an important productivity and communications tool for the Club. It was discussed at the meeting that those with Century Link emails were not able to receive emails sent as part of a group distribution list. Rick Sironi offered to put together instructions on how to correct this issue with users who had Century Link accounts. This information is included at the end of the minutes.

Trespassing has become an important issue for clubs to address. Private landowners are becoming more sensitive to this violation. Clubs must take action to ensure we can continue to cross private property with our trails. Frank Dusek developed a new sign for this purpose that will be used. A video, originating in Canada, will also be used to raise awareness.

Mike Sloane communicated that the Fifield Dirt Devils have approached him regarding the possibility of joining forces with the Sno Drovers. There was discussion regarding how joint trail work would benefit the Sno Drovers making a smoother trail transition in the Fall. Further discussion is needed regarding this subject. Members from the Dirt Devils reminded us that their Fall Fun Ride will take place from September 17th to September 24th.

Jim Clemmons provided a few statistics from our website usage that were provided by Derek Dieringer who has been working with the Club on the revamp of our website and Facebook page.

By-Laws

Mike Sloane reviewed the By-Law updates the Board is recommending be made. Please find a "track changes" version of the By-Laws being recommended for change as an attachment to these minutes.

Per Robert's Rules of Order, the attachment will serve as the membership's notice with discussion at the October 2022 meeting and potential ratification of the amendments at our November 2022 meeting. These amendments are important. Please take time to review them.

Thank you to Craig and Terri at Springstead for hosting our meeting.

MTA by Pat Ley and seconded by Ann Sloane. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Kuss

Instructions for Removing Mail from Century Link or Century Tel Spam Folder

- On browser, go to centurylink.net
- On right side of screen towards the top, click EMAIL
- Log into your email account
- On left side of screen, click on SPAM folder
- Look for the email (s) that shouldn't be spam, such as those from Mike Sloane and click on it to highlight
- On the right side of the screen above the body of the note you'll see an icon that looks like a shield with an X in it. Click that and the note will be sent on to your inbox.

I'm assuming this will treat all emails from that sender as non-spam in the future. This procedure will work for any email that is being filtered out as SPAM that shouldn't be.