



Fifield Sno Drovers
CLUB NEWSLETTER

Mike Sloane – President

W761 Whitmore Rd, Park Falls, WI 54552

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 8th at 7:00 PM at Peninsula Pines
Below are the minutes from the October 11th meeting at the Dam Bar

Meeting called to order by President, Mike Sloane at 7:00 pm.
There were 34 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. Members were updated on additions and a motion was made to accept the minutes by Rick 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 Margit Von Frankenberg/2nd by Jim Clemmons. Motion carried.

Membership: 182

Rick and Sandy Sironi were presented with previously approved thank you gift certificates to Sisters and Blue Bayou totaling \$150.

No new members were present.

TRAIL AND EQUIPMENT REPORT

Thank you to Mike Ida for filling in during Roy Funk's absence at the trail work days.

Four trail work days have been held. Every trail has been gone over once. There has been an **outstanding** turnout. A big thank you to all who helped. Jim Clemmons reported the value of these initial work days at \$2,500 which will be turned into the state for reimbursement. There will be four more work days coming up – October 15th, 20th, 26th and November 2nd.

Mowing operations have taken place. Some signs have been replaced with high reflective signs and some posts replaced as well. Roy Funk is to order the No Trespassing signs developed by Frank Dusek possibly from the Sign Studio in Phillips. It was discussed to install the No Trespassing signs on the Wintergreen ski hill, the beginning of all trails and perhaps post paper versions at our partner businesses where helmets are set. Roy should also coordinate with the Bushwackers to ensure the signs are posted on private property in their area as well.

Work on the Trail 106 reroute has been completed creating a nice connection to the Mercer Club trail. Signing will need to be completed. Trail signing will also be done on the trail behind The Big Dipper when the new parking lot is complete.

The Trail 102 bridge will not be replaced this season. It is currently rated for 2 tons which our groomer exceeds. There will be about .75 miles of trail not groomed as a result.

The tractor is back from Lulich. It was repaired under warranty. No invoice has been received yet for transport which will be covered under the PCSTA budget.

Beavers on Trail 101 have not been removed as the area is not currently accessible. Roy Funk's contact at the Forest Service estimates there could be as many as 100 beavers. Roy will follow up with his contact in the next few days regarding progress on this issue.

GROOMER UPDATES

The number of groomer operators has been adjusted on the roster to 20. Each operator will run between 10 and 13 runs for the season with some less than this based on the individual's preference. The initial schedule is done and out for review with the groomer operators. The final schedule will be distributed in November once the review is completed.

Based on positive feedback, it was determined to add the two additional temporary runs on Trail 101 on a permanent basis. One run will be done late Tuesday and one early Saturday morning.

The projected date of the groomer operator refresher is December 10th. More information to follow.

The PCSTA has adopted Mike Ida's Accident Report Form. Additional training will be done at the groomer operator refresher relative to accidents.

A discussion took place regarding when grooming operations should begin. Mike Sloane will be following up with the Forest Service regarding when grooming can begin in the national forest and with the PCSTA on any insurance issues which may restrict the start of grooming on our trails.

COUNTY MEETING

Rick and Sandy Sironi and Mike Sloane attended the PCSTA meeting on Monday, October 10th.

The Pioneers are having a snowmobile swap meet at Soo Lake Bar and Grill on October 29th. There will be food, raffles and a membership drive if you are interested in attending.

OLD BUSINESS

Registration is still open for the AWSC Workshop being held in Rothschild, WI October 21st to the 23rd. Banquet tickets will be limited and sold on a first come, first served basis. You can register for the Workshop at AWSC.org

Twenty-four adults will be attending the banquet at the AWSC Workshop representing Price County in support of Frank Dusek's Groomer of the Year Award.

NEW BUSINESS

The Kickoff Party is scheduled to take place on November 5th at 6:00 pm at The Big Dipper. Mary Dupke-Bourgeois has volunteered to be our Events Coordinator and will be working with the team to ensure a great "Kickoff" for the season. As a reminder, donations can be dropped off at the Ann and Mike Sloane residence or the evening of the Party. Last year there were 53 donations and they included alcohol, baked goods, gift certificates, etc.

Mike Sloane will confirm the menu with The Big Dipper shortly. You can bring a dish to pass if you choose.

There is interest in selling Sno Drover clothing. Eric Strey has offered to work on this. He has received agreement from The Big Dipper to handle the sale of the items. Michelle and Jim Clemmons and Peggy Kuss will work with Eric to look further into the sale.

Derek Dierenger, Communications announced that the new Sno Drover website went live. He is still in need of some pictures of Board members which he will attempt to get following this meeting. Derek has asked that he be looped into Sno Drover happenings so that he can publicize them on our new website or on Facebook. Pictures and videos are appreciated.

The Sno Drover involvement with BRAAP Fest was discussed. Roy Funk had experience at the Fest while working with the Mercer Sno-Goers. He reported that the event is a one-day commitment (February 25, 2023) from approximately 10:30 am to 5 pm. 1,500 to 2,000 individuals are served during this time period. Both the Mercer Sno-Goers and the Sno Drovers were asked to take the responsibility on. It was reported that the Mercer club earned \$5,000 for their club the first year of their involvement. Money can also be made selling raffle tickets.

Our responsibility would include “dishing up”, sales and “running” of food only. No alcohol or soft drinks will be sold by the volunteers. A show of hands was taken of those who would be willing to volunteer. Based on this number, Roy was given the go ahead to inform Craig at Springstead of our interest.

Roy Funk will coordinate with the Mercer Sno-Goers on the menu.

By-Laws

One change was requested as part of the By-Law review/discussion. This was Article III, Section 8 – Events Coordinator responsibilities. Verbiage will be changed removing the specific events and indicating events that are approved by the Board.

Jim Clemmons made a motion to accept the By-Laws as indicated with a 2nd by Rick Sironi. A voice vote was taken with none opposing.

A ratification of the By-Laws is planned for the November 2022 meeting.

Thank you to Sherri at the Dam Bar for hosting us and for the yummy soup and salad bar!

MTA by Rick Sironi and seconded by Bonnie Ida. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Kuss