



Fifield Sno Drivers
CLUB NEWSLETTER

Mike Sloane – President

W761 Whitmore Rd, Park Falls, WI 54552

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 11th at 7:00 pm at Peninsula Pines
Below are the Minutes from the March 14th meeting at Idle Hour

Meeting called to order by President, Mike Sloane at 7:00 pm.
There were 25 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 Melissa Dupke-Bourgeois. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT

Mike Sloane presented the Treasurer's report on behalf of Ryan Howe which included the beginning balance, expenditures, deposits, and ending balance. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report by Sandy Sironi/2nd by Mike Ida. Motion carried.

The annual cash raffle went well netting the Club [REDACTED] in profit. Pat and Cindy Ley were recognized for their efforts in selling a significant number of tickets as well as the efforts of other Club members who helped to make this raffle very successful. The drawing was conducted live on Facebook and results posted.

Braapfest proceeds were [REDACTED] but food costs are still outstanding payable to Springstead Lake Lodge.

Membership: 289

TRAIL AND EQUIPMENT REPORT

Roy Funk reported that as of March 14th our trails are still in excellent shape. We have a very good base and grooming continues per schedule. There had been an electrical problem with the groomer causing us to lose three days of grooming.

Jim Nelson inquired about extending Trail 108. There has been no discussion with the Forest Service regarding this.

We will keep the twin culverts on Trail 120 on the Forest Service's agenda.

The season will end on March 31st at midnight or before based on a decision by the Price County Snowmobile Trails Association, Inc. (PCSTA) or Forest Service.

GROOMER UPDATES

Mike Ida reported that the Club has 18 active groomers at this time. At the time of the meeting we were continuing to groom seven days per week with two six hour runs each. Based on days when a few of the groomers are out in the early morning hours, it is possible to do three runs. Grooming hours this year are ahead of last year – 769.7 hours of grooming this year while last year’s hours were 729.9 hours. Supplemental grooming was up 120 hours over last year at the county level. Supplemental grooming is paid at \$900 per hour. A Bill in the legislature could raise this to \$1,500 per hour if passed. Please see the email you received from Peggy Kuss on behalf of Mike Sloane regarding this.

COUNTY MEETING

Mike Sloane presented the PCSTA meeting notes from their meeting held on Monday, March 13th. The Forest Service was present at this meeting. It was noted that the Forest Service observed pictures of brushing being done at the Logging Dam where workers were without safety gear. They will be offering a chain saw class this Spring as well as a wilderness first aid class.

Frank Dusek will be nominated to the International Snowmobile Hall of Fame.

There will be a \$60,000 storm damage reimbursement.

A reminder that non grooming hours should not be put into SNARS until after June 1st.

The Hi Riders are demoing a John Deere wheeled vehicle. This vehicle will be leased at a rate of \$50 per hour of use and includes the maintenance and insurance. Leo Kalmerton brought up leasing from farmers as they do in his southern club.

The county map project is underway. Rosanna Bogle who is leading this effort will reach out to our business members about participation and the cost of ads. We will have an opportunity to review the map for accuracy before it is printed. It was asked if GPS coordinates could be added to the map. After a brief discussion, the meeting attendees determined this was not worth doing.

OLD BUSINESS

It was reported that 3,000 sleds and up to 4,000 people attended Braapfest this year. A thank you to all who volunteered to make our food stand successful. Margit offered a big thank you on behalf of the Club to Roy Funk for his work in organizing and leading this effort.

At this time we are in need of eight additional Winter Run hats to fulfill our commitment to those completing all stops on the Run. The cost of the eight hats would be \$425 and must be absorbed by the Club. It was decided to combine the order for the needed hats from 2023 with the 2024 order. Moose Jaw has agreed to sponsor the hats for the 2024 Winter Run.

Melissa Dupke spoke to Ariel Hilgart of the Chequamegon School District regarding possible community projects involving the District. This will be discussed further at a future Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Pat Ley inquired about the future plans to spend a portion of our treasury balance. He would like to see a few volunteers discuss this and recommend to the Board a proposal on future spending. Mike Sloane is to send out an email to Club

members regarding their wish list. Peggy Kuss reminded the meeting attendees that the Club should think from a broader perspective regarding any spending and not just focus on grooming and trail maintenance equipment.

The election of three Board members and an appointment of an Events Chairperson took place at the meeting.

Jim Clemmons - Vice President

Ryan Howe – Treasurer

Derek Dieringer – Communications Director

Cindy Ley – Events Chairperson

MTA by Rick Sironi with a 2nd by Jim Nelson. Motion carried. Adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Kuss