



Fifield Sno Drovers *Meeting Minutes*

Pat Ley – President

N14710 Shady Knoll Road, Park Falls, WI 54552

Below are the Minutes from the **September 12, 2024** meeting

Next Meeting – October 10th at Bobber's on The Lake

Meeting called to order by President, Pat Ley at 7:00 pm

A Quorum was met with 26 members attending the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all members.

SECRETARY REPORT

Minutes from the April 2024 meeting were emailed to all members. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Lynne Clements/2nd by Ed Clements. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT

The April through September YTD Treasurer's report was presented by Melissa Dupke-Bourgeois which included expenditures, deposits and ending balance. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report by Lynne Clements/2nd by Chris Pawell. Motion carried.

Melissa reported that the Club now had 26 Platinum members. She also reported that all groomers (free memberships) will be updated in the AWSC database. Melissa would appreciate that membership cards be returned even though the memberships are free to the groomers.

Membership: 150 (individual, business and landowner memberships)

TRAIL AND EQUIPMENT REPORT

The Trail and Equipment Report was given by Pat Ley in Roy Funk's absence. Pat reported that he along with Mike Ida and Cindy Ley removed 22 trees from Trail 111 just prior to Labor Day. This was in conjunction with the Fifield Dirt Devils.

Pat has arranged the rental of a road grader from Custom Caretaking and Landscaping (his employer) at a cost of \$125 per metered hour. The rental is on the condition that Pat be the sole operator of the grader. Prior to any work, Roy Funk will need to obtain approval from the US Forest Service per the April 2024 minutes. Lynne Clements made a motion to

approve the per hour charge for the grader rental with Cindy Ley making the 2nd. No vote was taken. If approved by the US Forest Service, this work would be done in addition to the seven trail workdays on the Events Calendar.

Obtaining *Trail Work Ahead* signs was also discussed. It was suggested that the Club check with the County and/or US Forest Service regarding the availability of these signs in their inventory.

Jim Clemmons, Vice President, explained the information needed for him to enter trail work hours and equipment usage into the SNARS system to obtain credit from the State for the trail work we perform. There will be a posting on our Facebook page and website of the form that can be used to report your work hours. He also encouraged as many members as possible to volunteer for the seven trail workdays.

GROOMER UPDATES

Mike Ida reported that the Club has 16 groomers for the 2024-2025 season. Three individuals were not returning to groom this season. Mike is planning the groomer refresher for the first weekend in December. Mike will confirm this.

Mike and Bonnie will be hosting a groomer and spouse gathering at their home on October 27th.

COUNTY MEETING (PCSTA)

President Pat Ley delivered a summary of what transpired at the PCSTA meeting on Monday, September 9, 2024. The Sno Drovers hosted this meeting and it was held at Musky Jack's.

Pat reported that clubs from throughout Wisconsin had submitted \$13M worth of projects that they would like to obtain funding for. Only \$1.2M was available from the state to fund all of the submitted projects. Trail 102 bridge funding was approved and is to be completed in the Fall of 2025 or Spring of 2026. This bridge is located between Trail 121 and Trail 103.

Pat was asked how the projects are prioritized. Pat will follow up on this and bring information regarding the point system and ranking back to the membership in October.

The groomer remains unsold and will be advertised by the PCSTA this Fall again. Pat is to submit pictures to Troy Larson the PCSTA president soon. Tucker has assured us that if the groomer is sold mid-year, they would provide a used Tucker for our use.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

The Board decided last spring to establish a face-to-face relationship with our business members. The businesses were divided among the Board members and called upon in June and July. Discussions with the businesses included feedback on their relationship with the Sno Drovers, whether or not the Club could count on them for donations, if they would like to be part of Winter Run, ad content, etc. Businesses were very receptive to this approach.

Annual raffle tickets and posters have been printed. The prize money structure remained the same as 2024. The drawing will be held on April 5th, 2025 at the worker's party. Raffle ticket and poster distribution will take place soon.

The Kickoff Party will take place at Moose Jaw on November 9th at 6 pm. Mary Dupke-Bourgeois is looking for volunteers to distribute posters and solicit donations. Please reach out to Mary if you would like to help. You can reach her by email at events@snodrovers.com or at 920-901-5551.

Two kayaks and a carving done by Into the Wood Carving was donated to Pike Lake Chain Fire Fighters Inc. for Fun Day.

Peggy Kuss confirmed that the dates of the Winter Run were correct on the Event Card. Some members have been questioning this. Winter Run begins January 17th, 2025 and ends February 22, 2025. Volunteers will be needed for this event as well.

Last Spring the Board discussed an event that ties into Price County being a Snowmobile Friendly County. An event is being planned, chaired by Mary Dupke-Bourgeois, which will include a reception to the Price County trails entering from Oneida county. The event will take place on Saturday, January 18th, 2025. We are hoping that the Bushwackers and Sno Gypsies also plan an event for this day to welcome snowmobilers to Price County. This will be a fun event with input from our members. Contact Mary to volunteer or share your ideas at the above email or phone number.

The Board has worked on developing an annual plan and budget for the 2024-2025 season. Melissa Dupke-Bourgeois walked the membership through the budget at a high level. Members asked if we could share a printed budget at our October meeting. Mike Ida made a motion to present the budget with a 2nd by Jeff Eibergen 2nd. Motion carried.

Pat Ley informed the group that as President he is responsible for reviewing the Club's By-Laws annually. The Board will be working on this task. If you have thoughts on the By-Laws, please contact Pat at president@snodrovers.com. Remember that the By-Laws can be found on the Sno Drover website.

Peggy Kuss informed the members at the meeting of the AWSC Fall Workshop being held in Wisconsin Dells on October 25-27, 2024. Otto and Peggy Kuss, Cindy and Pat Ley and Ed Clements have an interest in attending. The PCSTA will cover the cost of the registration and banquet. A motion was made by Jayne Robinson/2nd by Jim Clemmons to cover the cost of three hotel rooms. Motion carried. Workshop attendees will present an overview of the workshop at our October meeting.

Melissa Dupke-Bourgeois, briefly shared correspondence she received from Benevity a corporate matching company. She will investigate further to ensure the legitimacy of this company. Derek Dieringer, Communications Director, also informed the group of a program Forward Bank offers. When a money market account is opened with Forward Bank, they will match donations to a charity you specify. The membership asked that additional information be provided at our next meeting. Melissa is working on registering the Fifield Sno Drovers as a non-profit organization in Park Falls.

Thank you to Springstead Lake Lodge for the memories over the years and for hosting our meetings!

MTA by Pat Ley/2nd by Lynne Clemens at 8:10 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Kuss, Secretary