

Sundowners Snowmobile Club
PO Box 164
Edgerton WI 53534
sundownerssnowmobilers.com

January 14, 2016

The regular meeting of the Sundowners Snowmobile Club was called to order at 7:04 pm on January 7, 2016 by President Richard Plautz at Oberg's Bar. The president, secretary, treasurer, trail chairman, and all six board members were present. There were a total of 52 members attending out of the current total membership of 115.

Jake Thiermann, Sales Representative for Liberty Mutual Insurance, gave a short presentation on the partnership between Liberty Mutual and the AWSC and talked about the discounted insurance premiums for members.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- Read and accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Read and accepted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- This is the sixth consecutive Sundowners meeting during winter months that the trails have not been open. Let's hope for a change to that.
- Welcomed new members and presented pins to those in attendance.
- During last April's election we talked about increased involvement from the Board of Directors (BOD). The directors met prior to this meeting and Chris Green reported the following information:
 - Drafted a restatement of the purpose of the Sundowners.
 - Set priorities for the near future for BOD activity.
 - Revising the bylaws:
 - First and foremost, the revised bylaws will not make the club unrecognizable.
 - The revision process will take longer than previously discussed and will occur in phases. Club members with an interest in any particular phase are encouraged to participate in the process, since the bylaws belong to all of us, not just the BOD. Jamie Ylvisaker and Mike Bentheimer volunteered for the current phase.
 - One of the first changes discussed is to increase the term of office for officers and directors from one year to two years, with only half standing election in a given year. The thought for implementation would be the current president, treasurer, and half of the BOD would remain in office for another year while the vice president, secretary, and the other half of the BOD would stand election in April 2016. This is intended to improve continuity among club leadership by avoiding a potential mass turn over.
 - Other issues under consideration by the BOD:
 - Meeting locations – continue rotating or establish a standing location.
 - Develop guidelines for donations from the Sundowners.
 - Nominations – mentioned several times in the bylaws but we don't really do it that way.
 - Develop guidelines for the business plan/proposal process.
 - Establish some structure and inventory tracking for trail signs.

ALLIANCE REPORT:

- Jon Dibble provided the following highlights from the Rock County Alliance of Snowmobile clubs:

- Rock County Sherriff's Deputy Chris Krahn talked about snowmobile safety classes. Their attendance has also been down this year. He also added a reminder to report violators, such as people riding trails that aren't open.
- The alliance is looking for an overall map coordinator that would combine the inputs from map ad sales, etc.
- The Koshkonong Snowmobile Club is holding a meat raffle at Snuffy's Still on March 12 at 4:00 pm.
- The Clinton Fencehoppers are sponsoring a vintage ride on February 6, with registration from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon, followed by a 4-5 hour ride.
- Morris Nelson discussed a bill reintroduced by Rep Andre Jacque of DePere that would link OWI charges/violations for snowmobile, boats, ATVs, along with cars and trucks. A more complete description can be found here: <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/02/jacque/newsletter-list/bill-would-combine-tracking-of-snowmobile-car-boat-owis/>.
- Violations on a recreational vehicle could impact licensed drivers, yet no licenses are required to operate recreational vehicles.
- While AWSK has not taken a public position on this current proposal they have historically preferred education and awareness campaigns.
- Organized public opposition would look bad in the media.
- Contact your Assembly representative to express your opinion. If you aren't sure who your current representative is click here: <http://maps.legis.wisconsin.gov/>.

TRAIL REPORT:

- All trails are in except:
 - A little tune up needed by the golf course.
 - The lake trail from Hillside Road to Lake Koshkonong, which can be done quickly if/when conditions warrant.
- Report any trail problems to Jamie.
- The new trail from Lake Drive Rd to the snowmobile route in Newville (in between Goede Road and Hillside Road going behind Carl's Shell) is very nice. Trail boss Chris Green, along with help from Mike Shumaker and others, did a great job – make a point to check it out when the trails open.
- Discussed a bulk-buy of screws and driver bits.
- Lima Marsh is reportedly very wet and could present problems for trails in that direction.
- Emphasized for new members that we receive no outside money – we earn it ourselves through the work of volunteers.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The BOD discussed the radar run proposal at their meeting and are opposed to having one this year. After some discussion a motion was made and carried to not hold a radar run this year. Charlie Rusch recommended that we start now to plan for a 2017 radar run.
- Discussion continues on some organized club activity, possibly a bus trip to the Lake Geneva Snocross.

NEW BUSINESS:

- We never made our pre-Christmas donation to Gifts for Kids, to which we have contributed for over 20 years. There was some concern that it wouldn't help after Christmas and that other organizations could use the support, but there were assurances that its a year-round benefit and includes other local charities. Motion made and carried to donate \$500.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Aaron Lenox from Creekview Par Three repeated his offer for club members to park their sleds at Creekview if they don't want to trailer them around. They accept no liability for sleds parked there, but they do have security monitoring.
- Numerous membership cards were offered if the renewing members were present, otherwise they'll be mailed out. There are many recently expired memberships around the first of the year, so please check your dates and renew if necessary.

Larry and Susan Burn's names were drawn; they were not present, so half of \$127 will be available for the February meeting

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion adopted and meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm. The next meeting will be February 4 at **7:00 pm** at Creekview Par Three.

Brian Gray
Secretary, Sundowners Snowmobilers

CLUB CONTACTS

Officers:

President: Richard Plautz 608-213-8898
Vice President: Jeff Bartz 608-751-1802
Secretary: Brian Gray 608-201-0104
Treasurer: Tom Hutchinson 608-752-9455

Board Members:

Tim Weber 608-289-6552
Casey Lund 608-449-6531
Steve Hanewall 608-884-9008
Mike Shumaker 608-884-2446
Craig Phillips 608-314-7935
Chris Green 608-295-2180

Trail Bosses:

Trail Chairman: Jamie Ylvisaker 608-931-9714

Jarrood Bublitz	Mark Oswald	Eric Schmeling
Jon Dibble	Craig Phillips	Mike Shumaker
Chris Green	Lyle Phillips	Jamie Ylvisaker

Submit your membership renewal/application online at:

<http://www.sundownerssnowmobilers.com/membership.html>, or complete the form below and bring it to a meeting or mail with \$20 to:

Sundowners Snowmobile Club
PO Box 164
Edgerton WI 53534

Membership Form

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____
 E-MAIL _____
 SINGLE _____ FAMILY _____
 SPOUSES NAME _____