

INTERLAKE SNOW TRACKERS GENERAL MEETING

Held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 7:30 pm at the Arborg Legion in Arborg

The meeting was opened by Mike Chudd.

The following were present:

EXECUTIVES

Mike Chudd – President
Les Thordarson – Vice President
Braden Thordarson – Treasurer
Cindy McRae - Secretary

DIRECTIORS

Bernie Twardowski
Kevin Wiebe
Chris Dewald
Lynn Enns
Richard Marks
Mark Zimmerman
Dennis Marks

MISSING DIRECTORS

Chad Yarema
Paul Leveque
Conrad Hoffer
Richard Romaniuk
Troy Stutsky
Gord Sawa
Derek Reykdal

The Minutes of the last General Meeting were read by Cindy McRae. Motion made to accept those Minutes was made by Conner Yarema and Seconded by Chris Dewald, All In Favour/Carried.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Braden Thordarson advising that we currently have \$70,452.60 in the chequing account and \$42,505.35 in our savings account. We have a balance of \$89.53 in our lottery account and \$12,809.43 in our Equipment Savings Account. A Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report by Richard Marks and Seconded by Lynn Enns, All In Favour/Carried.

Old Business

Groomer & Operator Report

Bernie advised that we have a new groomer operator for the north – Lyndon Dueck who is from Arborg. The new brush cutter attachments need to be welded onto the drags, so the drags need to get to Glenn's shop asap. The brush cutters cut in an angle slowly moving forward with a cleanup crew following to pick up the mess. Glen took the 2006 BR into his shop so we can have the hydrostatic pump fixed. Midwest Hydraulics in Winnipeg will replace the pump for \$912.00 and it will take about two days. The other groomers are ready to go and in their new home.

Snoman Report

Les reported that there are new black and white signs for trail ends and the new arrow signs are here. There is another new sign for left and right 90 degree which we need to order asap.

Interlake Regional Snowmobile Association Report

Les reported that the Executor for Snoman, Yvonne Rideout attended their meeting and did a power point advising the duties of the Snoman office and staff. John Shipley of MIT retired, we report to him about our waterway crossings (dikes).

Snoman Congress

Was fairly well attended this year and the youth involvement was awesome to see. They had a new seminar on water rescue which was really good. Conner Yarema will be attending Portage la Prairie on December 15th for a youth meeting.

A **MOTION** was made by Mark Zimmerman that the Club cover the cost of fuel for Conner to attend the meeting in Portage la Prairie, Seconded by Kevin Wiebe, All In Favour/Carried.

Grant for the Drag

The grant for the new drag that John and Braden had been working on must be all into Eugene by January. The paperwork from John needs to be picked up and handed in asap.

Gimli Town Route Signs

Mike spoke to counsel today and they have a meeting again on Friday to discuss and finalize the signage. An example of the signage was handed out for feedback.

Storage Shed

Bernie advised that the groomers are all tucked away and pictures were put up on our FB page and our website. The building is 30x65 and will fit all of the groomers, drags etc. A thank you and round of applause to Bernie.

Online Membership Purchasing

Lynn advised that so far so good, it seems to be working well and we have had about 14 online memberships. **Note:** The Membership cards still have to be filled out and members need to sign the bottom portion which is returned to Snoman. You will receive your cards at the next meeting or you can phone to arrange a meeting time and place with Cindy.

Plaque for Dedication to the Achievements of John Reykdal for Netley Shelter

Richard M. advised that the plaque is only about 12x18 so we still need to shrink down the write up but has the picture all ready.

Kiosk Construction For Piston Popper Memorial Trail

Richard advised that the size of the Kiosk has room for about 18 names right now which we can add to. Keep spreading the word so that we obtain as many names as possible this year.

Hecla Weekend Meeting Accommodations

Cindy advised that she called and was advised that there were only a few rooms spoken for out of the 20 blocked off. Members spoke up and advised that they had secured a room already, so there must be an issue with some not being under the Interlake Snow Trackers. Cindy will speak to her contact and get it all sorted out.

New Business

Willow Creek Trail

Mike advised that as the landowner for the heath resides in Mississauga, Ontario, Vic Savage is looking after it and due to the damage to the property again this year attempted to pound posts in and post no trespassing signs. Much to his disappointment they were stolen a couple of times and now he has put a cable across with posted signs. The Club will supply gates in the spring as we have done for the other land owners. Vic will see that the cable is taken down mid-December once hunting season is done and the snowmobile season starts.

Snoman Letter re Liability Insurance

Due to inquiries Snoman sent a letter clarifying liability insurance as it relates to poker derbies etc. **On trail activities are covered.** Any food in shelters or socials and related activities after a ride are not covered.

Snoman Letter re containment kits in groomers

Snoman sent a letter to all clubs advising that at a recent Environment/Risk Management Committee meeting, they asked that information on where to purchase containment kits for groomers be made available in the event of an environment spill at a price of \$38.19. <http://www.treensafety.com/safetyequipment/201-universal-vehicle-spill-kit>.

Trail Captains Preparedness

All Trail Captains please take inventory of what you have, what you need and advise Les so he can put in an order asap. An example of new signage required would be the Finn rail bed area where we are having to reroute traffic down and around the rail bed and so that we may have Lawrence do brushing.

Changes to IST Constitution

A copy of the Constitution with the proposed amendments were passed around and once again discussed.

A Motion was made by Kevin Wiebe that we accept the proposed amendments to the Constitution, Seconded by Richard Mark, All In Favour/Carried.

Go-Daddy Website

Lynn wanted some feedback from members with respect to our website which we currently have the rights to .ca and .com. Wondered if we wanted to continue paying to keep both at a cost of \$122 for the year. Everyone agreed to keep both.

Round Table Discussion

Braden wanted to confirm that he would be depositing the 10% into our Equipment Account and asked if we wanted to deposit the grant money as well.

A **Motion** was made by Lynn Enns that we deposit the grant money to our Equipment Account, Seconded by Mark Zimmerman, All In Favour/Carried.

Les advised that we need cold weather for the trails!

Kevin reminded everyone about the Poker Derby to be held on January 27, 2018.

Lynn asked for the names of the deceased members to put on the website. Cindy asked Lynn to contact her and she would email him the list she has to date.

Richard M. advised that he feels that all Trail Captains should be at the meetings or at the very least make the attempt. He and Kevin drive all the way from Winnipeg to the meetings and yet no north Trail Captains or hardly any attendance by north members. This led to further discussions which for most - is a very sensitive and delicate subject.

I, as secretary am trying hard to write in the best way as to not offend anyone. After all we are all volunteers and we are all donating our time. So not to put the heat on Richard – it was I who brought the subject up with respect to all Trail Captains being paid members of the Club.

Everyone needs to be treated respectfully and fairly and the purpose of our meetings is to be able to be honest and forth coming with our feelings. We are not to judge, point fingers or single out any one person or group in particular. Certainly the discussion was not meant for that purpose and that is why it was being discussed at the Round Table.

As Trail Captains we know how much volunteer time it takes to mark trails and some of us

have been doing it for a long long long time. Some are not merely marking trails, but running to Winnipeg for parts or to Snoman for maps etc. Picking up and delivering wood to the Warm Up Shelters, or fixing them, there are a lot of volunteer hours that each member contributes towards the Interlake Snow Trackers. Perhaps it is time to figure out a fair way to assist financially the Trail Captains for marking their portion of the trail system.

Many ideas were thrown out and discussed. Some of which were pay for their Wind Up supper, purchase a sleigh to pull the signs, or hire someone to do all of the trail marking, to name a few.

If I might make a suggestion for everyone to ponder and bring to the table at the next meeting, or if you are not able to make the meeting which will be in Gimli at the Lakeview, email the President or myself with your thoughts.

All of our trails are calculated in kilometers and gps'd. We know exactly how many kilometers each trail system is and the only fair way to assist Trail Captains would be to come up with a fair dollar figure per kilometer to pay **ONE TIME ONLY**. Whether you have two Trail Captains, Three Trail Captains or have a crew helping you mark your trail, a onetime sum would be given for the trail and it would be up to the Trail Captain(s) to divvy up that sum amongst them. It is only a ONE TIME DEAL – if it takes you two or three or four times out to mark your trail, you would only still receive the ONE TIME SUM of your specific calculated kilometers. If you choose to use that cash for fuel or treat yourselves to lunch – that is up to the Trail Captain(s).

The Club Memberships are for the running of the club and to assist in expenses so why not put that towards the one time sum. And for the record – if I offended anyone or if the contents of the meeting were told to you in such a way as to offend you, I apologize, as that was never my intent. I am pretty straight up and think that we are a great bunch of volunteers and are a part of a Club to be proud of and it would be sad to have ill feelings between its members. No John to shhhhh me and no snickers bar – so I am sorry if anything I said was taken out of context and offended you. Best regard to Chad who was in an unfortunate accident awhile back and some of us heard later rather than sooner – get well soon Chad!

Bernie commented that a lot of Clubs have summer get together and it would be nice if we did some fun summer things together. Whether it be a barbeque, social or Just Because Party – getting Club Members out doing fun summer events would be nice.

A Motion was made by Dennis Marks, Seconded by Kevin Wiebe, All In Favour/Carried that we close the meeting.

Next Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lakeview in Gimli.