

Board of Directors
June 28, 2021
Meeting Minutes – 1st Draft

Members Present:

OFFICERS PRESENT

President, Tim Mills
Vice President, Jeff Fay
Secretary, Jim Hill
Patty Companik, Treasurer

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Addison: Absent
Caledonia: Bruce Carlson
Chittenden: Pat Poulin
Essex: Mike Daley
Franklin: Mike Burns
Grand Isle: Absent
Lamoille: Carmin Lemery
Orleans: Roger Gosselin
Rutland: Absent
Washington: Absent
Windham: Ivor Stevens, Alternate
Windsor: Doug Jacobs

STAFF PRESENT:

Executive Director: Cindy Locke
Trails Administrator: Matt Tetreault
LVRT/Trails Manager: Ken Brown
Beth Flint, Technology & Media Manager
Cyndy Carrier Brown, Recording Sec'y.

GUESTS:

Stan Choiniere, Alternate, Windsor County
Richard Spitzer, Alternate, Chittenden County
Ed Hebebrand, St. Johnsbury Sno-Blazers

President Tim Mills called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Mike Daley moved to approve; Pat Poulin seconded to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried.**

Approval of Secretary's Report

MOTION: Pat Poulin moved to approve; Mike Daley seconded, to approve the corrected Secretary's report for May 6, 2021. **Motion carried.**

- Corrections to the Finance Committee report for May 6, 2021.
- Committee met on May 6, 2021
- Budget projections and began 2022 budget discussions
- Two follow up meetings have been scheduled for the Finance Committee; June 9th and June 10th meeting for Directors offered – BOD optional meeting – review and education of budget

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Patty Companik gave a report of the financials as of May 31, 2021.

- 8 months into the budget or 67% of the budget season
- Membership through May 2021 is 114% of budget or \$343,510 more than expected/set budget
- Income through May 2021
- Includes membership revenue – is \$133,842 short of budget or 96% of expected income
- Membership is up, but overall the total income is at 96%
- Expense thru May 2021
- Monthly activity of \$483,436, of which \$425,759 was for grooming
- Expenses for the season as of May - \$2,043,344 or 73% of expense budget has been utilized

MOTION: Stan Choiniere moved to approve; Ivor Stevens seconded, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. **Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

2022 Budget

- Cindy Locke - The Board has the budget and it will be voted on at the July meeting.
- I have received 9 resumes, interviewing 7 for Cyndy Brown's position.
- Trade shows – There are still a few spots open if people want to volunteer.
- Carmin Lemery – Regarding the budget, I have a question to Matt.
- Have you heard from those 3 clubs yet? What happens to the money, does it go back in?
- Matt Tetreault – Yes, it goes back in if they don't contact me.
- Vernon Trail Breakers, GMTBs and B.E.S.T.
- Ivor will reach out to the Vernon club.
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- Roger Gosselin – Are the capital repairs on the Sno-Bees groomer to an existing machine or new?
- Matt Tetreault - Existing

Committee and Other Meeting Reports

Northeast Chapter and USA - Pat Poulin

- NEC Annual meeting was on June 21, 2021
- NY is going for a registration increase for non-residents; bringing the price closer to NH's cost.
- ISC for 2022 will be held in Dubuque, Iowa in early June
- All states and provinces were seeing significant increases in off trail riding. Quebec may lose large section of trails due to off trail riding
- The RTP Bill in US Congress is still alive, but not moving very fast. This bill would significantly increase the funding for trails across the country
- USNF are requiring engineered plans for trail bridges and possibly all trails. NH is moving quickly to complete several projects
- NEC re-elected Gary Broderick (NY) as Chair and Kim Bergeron (NH) as Co-Chair. Vermont's own Jeff Fay was elected as Secretary/Treasurer.
- Long-time (30+ years) Executive Director of New Brunswick Snowmobile Federation, Ross Antworth, will be retiring as of June 30, 2021. He will be sorely missed.

Trails Conservancy – Jim Hill

- We had to do a survey on some property we own in Jeffersonville. There was a washout and we wanted to make sure its within our easement. Ken has been working on this.
- Stan Choiniere - Large landowner, 2,000 acres, they are clear cutting. The owners have a buyer for the land. We suggested an easement and they are willing to listen (Chester area).
- Pat Poulin – Years ago we asked the board and if we were financially able to help with easements (?). This may be the year to do it.
- Jim Hill will call a VSTC meeting to discuss

Awards & Nominating – Patty Companik

- Committee has met and award selections are complete
- Awards, groomer jacket, pins, etc., have been ordered, pick up in August
- Speeches and other administrative items are currently being worked on

By-Laws & Policy – Jeff Fay

- Will reach out to the committee to review for annual meeting.

Annual Meeting – Cindy Locke

- I will be sending out a preliminary agenda shortly
- Will be doing the same audio as last year/ in car

Finance - Patty Companik

- 2022 Season budget was reviewed with those County Directors who attended the open training/educational session on June 10
- 2022 updated proposed budget expected to be voted on at the July 26, 2021 BOD meeting
- Matt Tetreault provided equipment grant summary to the Committee; as an extra set of eyes are always good
- Matt provided feedback to the questions that committee members had

Resource Committee – Ivor Stevens

- All the meetings are recorded and they have been dropped off to the other Committee members
- July 14th next meeting

Personnel – Jeff Fay

- Will finish up the reviews and get back to the committee and with the directors

Trails – Matt Tetreault

- Grants for construction are due by June 30th.

Safety Committee – Stan Choiniere

- We had a meeting in May; nothing pressing for the summer, so no meeting until September

Governor's Council – Pat Poulin

- Off for the summer; no meeting until September - via zoom
- Carmin Lemery – Law Enforcement budget – what does that include?
- Pat Poulin – This is covered by the Law Enforcement through VAST
- Cindy Locke – Divided equally among 3 pots, Public Safety, Wardens and Sheriffs/police. That is the money that is used to coordinate patrols
- Equipment money comes from the state not VAST

Miscellaneous

- Doug Jacobs asked for clarification on who can vote/make motions.
- Cindy Locke responded that when the County Director is present, only the County Director can vote/make motions. Alternates are considered guests when the Director is present. Stan Choiniere is an Alternate Director and can only vote when the County Director is not present at the VAST BOD meeting.

That being said, the motion/vote for the Treasurer's Report was redone post clarification on voting ability.

Pat Poulin moved to approve; Doug Jacobs seconded, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. **Motion carried.**

- Ivor Stevens – Could we check on in-person meetings?
- Cindy Locke - Not everyone is ready to go back to in-person meetings yet.
- Tim Mills – We save a lot of money each month with Zoom and everyone's schedule is so busy that it saves people a lot of time not having to travel.

Motion to adjourn at 6:47 PM.

Pat Poulin moved; Doug Jacobs seconded to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Hill
Secretary