

Tamworth Outing Club minutes, February 26, 2018

Present:

Board members: Kathi Brown, Sheldon Perry, Brian Cutter, Amy Berrier, Anne Chant, Kit Morgan, Jim Harrison, & Karl Behr

Meeting called to order at 7:15

Secretary's Report:

Approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Approved.

Sled Dog Racing & Trails:

There was an extensive discussion about the snowmobile trail access situation around Chocorua Lake. Brian talked about some of the back and forth that has been going on in the newspaper, sharing articles and letters. There was an article in the Laconia Sun regarding trail access, landowner permission, snowmobiler behavior on the trails, etc. This article included comments/quotes from Alex Moot of the Chocorua Lake Conservancy that did not shed favorable light on snowmobilers. A follow up letter to the editor from George Kaye of the Ossipee Valley Snowmobile Club gave a rebuttal to the article.

Brian had old sled dog race film clips put onto a CD. Amy will get this to Mark Smith to be put on the TOC website. (*Note: the film clips are now on the website*).

The New England Sled Dog Club and the CLC continue to be enthusiastic about the future of the Tamworth race. Both groups have offered to help out to keep the race going. There was discussion of alternate loops, but board did not feel it was necessary to create new trails with CLC. TOC will work with Chocorua landowners and others to get trails and race in place for future years.

The question was raised about doing GPS mapping of the race course to create a better map. Lynne Flaccus of CLC might be interested in this.

Discussion of sponsors and planning for next year. Give any updates to Sheldon.

Ski Program:

There is one regular session remaining for this season, then Snow Day. Reports from the program are all good. Cross country only went out once due to poor trail conditions and weather. Teachers hope to inspire more participation in x/c in future years. Improved equipment access would help. Maybe contacting Ski Works would be a possibility. They have been a strong supporter of TOC in the past.

Dances:

Discussion about new dance proposal and general publicity for the new dance series. *(Note: Amy will be away for the March meeting but will give a full report for the upcoming series, sponsors, etc. at the April meeting).*

Baseball:

Jim Hidden will be running the Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth/Home Run League programs. He has been very responsive to Sheldon. Kathi asked if Jim has the Cal Ripken checkbook, as well as other gear from Mark Anthony.

TOC gives money for Cal Ripken equipment and sponsorships as needed so all kids can participate. Jim Harrison spoke highly of the new Home Run League.

Adopt-a-Highway:

The TOC has been part of this program for twenty-two years and, during that time, has averaged thirty bags of trash per year. Recently, Brian has been contacted by the new representative from DOT who informed him that, if TOC wants to continue in the program, trash pickup must conform to

DOT guidelines. This would require four pickup session each year and a report to be filed with DOT. No decisions made by board at this time.

New Business:

Brian will hold off on Wonalancet trail grooming until we get more snow.

Discussion about Tower-to-Town trail. Kent Hemingway and Kit spoke to Lindsey (farm manager at Remick) about the possibility of trail signs/guidance at the Remick fields. Karl says that, in the past, the Remick Foundation board has been concerned about liability. Apparently, the T-to-T trail really ends at Coolidge Road.

Sheldon asked Amy about the map that was included in Tamworth Today. This map, put together by Joe Binsack and printed with the book in 2000, compiled all Tamworth trail networks onto a single map. Amy will give Sheldon a copy of the map and he will look into the possibility of updating and reprinting it.

Next meeting: Monday, March 26

Minutes submitted by Amy Berrier