

Tamworth Outing Club minutes, November 30, 2015

Present:

Board members: Sheldon Perry, Brian Cutter, Amy Berrier, Anne Chant, Kathi Brown, Matt Schartner, June Crowell, & Trevor Tasker

Visitors: David Haskell, Caroline Johnson, Mike Roberts, & Joanne Roberts

Meeting called to order at 7:20

Secretary's Report:

October minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Report was approved as presented.

Brian mentioned that he purchased a 100-lb propane tank for cook shack at sled dog race.

Town Christmas Tree:

Dave Haskell said he spoke on behalf of the Tamworth Veterans' committee. He said that the Veterans' committee would be placing an 8-foot "Heros' Tree" at the Veterans' Triangle this year. He told the TOC board that the Veterans' committee did not want the TOC to place a town Christmas tree at the site. He claimed that placement of the tree last year damaged the Veterans' Triangle and some of the buried irrigation lines (claims that were disputed by Brian Cutter). Haskell referred to Tamworth Cemetery guidelines, stating that TOC needed to get permission from these trustees in order to place a tree at the Triangle. In response, Brian said that TOC had received permission two years ago from the selectmen and had also received a vote of support at town meeting to place a tree at the site. Brian said that Ginny Damon has donated a tree, which will go up on Thursday in advance of this weekend's town tree lighting ceremony. Heated discussion followed. Haskell and three other visitors left following this strange and tense encounter. No one on the TOC board had heard before tonight of any problem with placing the tree at the triangle.

During the meeting, Amy called Mark Albee, member of the cemetery trustee board, and relayed the situation and the urgent need for a reply from that board regarding the tree. Mark agreed to call Sheldon as soon as he had discussed the matter with John Wheeler and John Roberts, the two other cemetery trustees.

Junior Ski Program:

Trevor reported that packets have gone home with all students regarding signup for the upcoming 2016 ski program. He said there is still a real need for volunteers. King Pine rep Trisha Jacobson has told Trevor that Tamworth is always short on volunteers.

John Gotjen will truck skis again this year. Sheldon may be able to help coach skiing in late January.

Sheldon complimented Trevor on excellent Facebook page for TOC, which includes ski program information. (Applause!)

Dances:

New Year's Eve dance is ON and will be called by Dudley Laufman, with music by Two Fiddles. Dance will start at 8 pm. Amy will line up a host. New pricing, proposed at the October meeting, will be \$8/adult and \$3/child age 12 and under. Family pricing has been discontinued.

Trail Signs:

Sheldon spoke to Bob Hardy from the state about our signs and kiosks in the Heminway State Forest and Huckins Barn areas. Hardy said it was fine for TOC to remove these if we chose to. Board decided to remove kiosks and donate them to the Tamworth Conservation Commission; damaged trail signs will be taken down in the spring. Sheldon will contact TCC chair Nelson O'Bryan to see if TCC is interested in the kiosks.

Sled Dog Race:

TOC needs sponsors for the race, as this supports race prize money and other TOC activities. Sheldon will assign board members to solicit ads from

same businesses as last year. Harry Pike will be asked to take over Tracey Noyes' sponsor solicitations. Sheldon will hand out packets at next TOC meeting.

Jim Harrison will make chili to sell at the cook shack.

Amy mentioned that the Lyceum is interested in providing coffee for sale at the sled dog race. It is not clear whether this would be donated or if Lyceum wants to sell their own product. Board is interested in donation possibility, but not food/beverage sales other than through TOC. Sheldon will ask Lyceum manager, Morgan, for details about what they have in mind.

Other Business:

TOC snow machine is in the shop. Brian and Sheldon will arrange for pickup.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20

Next meeting is Monday, January 4

Minutes submitted by Amy Berrier