

Tamworth Outing Club minutes, January 6, 2020

Amended January 27, 2020 (See below in Other Business)

Present:

Board Members: Kathi Brown, Amy Berrier, Anne Chant, Robbie Farnum, Sheldon Perry, Brian Cutter, Barb Bloomberg, Dylan Alden, Kit Morgan, & Suzanne Morgan.

Guests: Mark Fournier, Theresa Fournier, Peter Smart, George Kaye, Dhane Knakkegaard, & Jordan Cargill

The meeting was called to order at 7:15.

Secretary's Report:

The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report was approved. Brian moved to pay \$1,018.20 to Karl Behr for bridge materials in Ferncroft. Board approved this expenditure.

REI Partnership on Wonalancet Ski Trails:

Jordan Cargill presented an overview of REI and their outdoor programs. The company, a member-oriented coop, offers outdoor classes which focus on teaching responsible recreational habits. They are interested in leading "a couple of tours a season" using the Ferncroft trail system. Land owner Karl Behr is OK with this if he and TOC can be covered by REI's insurance. Jordan confirmed that this would be the case and explained the three steps: 1) REI would provide TOC with a certificate of insurance, 2) there would be a facilities use permit, and 3) participants would sign liability waivers. He explained that there would be a ratio of approximately 1 instructor : 6 participants.

Amy and Peter expressed concerns over the constricted parking at Ferncroft. Parking options were discussed and an on-site visit will be planned to assess. Brian wondered what the benefit would be to TOC. Barb said that conditions there can be challenging.

Next steps: REI needs emailed permission from TOC and REI will provide a certificate of insurance. A motion was passed by the board to move ahead with an REI/TOC partnership.

Sled Dog Race:

Peter Smart plans to help out with grooming for the race. He expressed concerns about grooming over some bridges, as his groomer is wide. Brian will clear the bridges to make them safe. George Kaye says that the bridge on Lisa Keith's land will stay. This was constructed using grant money from the State of NH. A question was raised as to whether the landowner will continue to maintain that bridge. There was more discussion about grooming logistics. George pointed out that Ossipee Valley Snowmobile Club rules and regulations prevent that club from grooming on private property without written landowner permission, which they do not currently have from landowners David Little and Lisa Keith.

Sheldon handed out sled dog ad packets. Based on the current race dates of January 25-26, he would like ads submitted by January 17. Discussion about soliciting sponsorships.

Amy will update the basic trail map for use in the brochure. (*Note: Sheldon now has this revised map*). Kit and Dylan will work on updating the brochure.

Trail Maintenance:

There was a discussion of tree issues on trails.

The Mt. Katherine trail parking has been closed by the landowner due to snowmobilers using the cross-country ski trails without permission.

Dances:

Dances are going well, but we need more people to attend. Kathi noted that the New Year's Eve dance made \$49. White Christmas lights have been strung around the upstairs room during dances to add to the festive atmosphere. TOC is purchasing a set of lights for \$9, which will be paid from the dance cash box.

Ski Program:

The first program is Friday, January 10th. There was a discussion of whether TOC should allow students to choose the snowboard option in 5th grade instead of the

current 6th. This is what ESSC does. Kathi noted that the TOC-sponsored ski team has five members so far.

Other Business:

~~Insurance for the cook shack trailer has gone up to \$350/year.~~

Trailer insurance has been changed to Acadia Insurance. The policy cost for this year will be \$350.

Two items from this month's agenda have been tabled until next meeting: Discussion of the veteran's interest in decorating the town Christmas tree, and the request from Lisa Ferguson to collect food donations for the 68-Hours-of-Hunger program at the contradances.

Meeting adjourned around 8:30.

Next meeting is Monday, January 27th at 7:15.

Minutes submitted by Amy Berrier