

**Mercer Area Sno-Goers General Meeting
Johnny's Bar October 5, 2021
Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.**

In Attendance:

Hank Joustra – K&H Plumbing	Deb Minnius
Rick & Julie Klug	Tanner Hiller
Bill Gust	Jim & Kathy Hannemann
Gary & Pam Gallagher	Kyle Dibelius – Johnny's
Dan & Sandy Tompkins	Brian Weinkauf – Sunken Horse
Don Storck	Wayne Riebe – Gateway Lodge
Steve & Tammy Altman	Becky Bettin
Adam Kussard	Kim Thaine
Darrell Fohr	Lon & Elaine Sawdey
Jim & Kathy Storck	Ben Joustra
Paul Hasenberg	Patti & Skip Krauss
Tom Ziegler	Justin Koski

Absent: Deb Hohner, Keith Godfrey

Agenda: Adam Kussard motion to approve agenda. Darrell Fohr seconds. Motion carries.

Secretary Report: Motion to accept minutes by Adam Kussard, Bill Gust seconds. Motion carries.

Treasurer Report: Balance is \$26,501.80 in checking account. PayPal has \$27,694.58 The tractor loan balance is \$32,385.73 Sheets available with deposit and disbursement detail. Additional detail for reports has been requested by Fritz Schellgell, accountant. **Motion to accept Treasurer's report by Adam Kussard, Brian Weinkauf seconds. Motion carries.**

Membership: 219 individual/family memberships have been paid and 10 business sponsor memberships. There are about 60 newly received sheets to record. Reminders to renew have been sent to all members.

PR:

- Schedule of events is posted on the website,
- New event: Christmas party on December 11th at the barn. Main dish will be provided by the club. Attendees are requested to bring a dish to pass. There will be a white elephant gift exchange for those wishing to participate. It was suggested that landowners should be sent an invite. Invites will be sent.
- Tammy Altman and Becky Bettin are assisting as Event Coordinators placing raffle tickets and pigs at businesses.
- Arthur and Kelly Jones donated the trophies for the vintage sled show.
- New clothing theme is "Salute to service" and will have a flag on shoulder. Design is in completion stage.
- Dan and Sandy Tompkins will organize the Poker Run for the Winter Blast.
- New pigs are being requested for placement at businesses.

Sign Master:

- Tell Rick of any problem areas where signage is needed.
- Rick would like to get a section on the website for rider feedback. "Did you get lost?" and if so, "Where was the problem?" After discussion it was felt that a Facebook post would reach more riders.
- Discussion on Stop signs versus Yield signs. It is felt that stop signs are the safer alternative. It was noted that some stop signs are missing. Unclear if stolen or destroyed by the county mowers.

Trail Administrator: Nothing for right now. Will be discussing details at the groomer driver meeting.

Trail Boss:

- If you are out brushing trails please keep track of your hours. At a minimum send Adam and/or Tom an email with the hours. Tom will follow up with more information on filling out the paper forms. GET SHEETS IN.
- October 16th will be an organized work day. Meet at the barn at 9am.
- Club has purchased a new large chain saw and more limb saws.
- Tractor 22 is ready to go with the brusher set up.
- Discussion about possible trail rerouting on a few trails. Officers are working diligently with landowners to resolve any issues to make sure trails stay open.

Directors Reports:

1. Kyle – Issue with 51E. working on rerouting through cranberry marsh, owner needs guarantee that riders will stay on designated trail – addition of snow fences through that area is an option. Discussion on the use of trail cams on some trails to keep riders on trails. AWSC is working on a bill that would allow clubs to revoke trail passes for offenders.
2. Keith – Absent
3. Darrell – work is being completed on the bridge going to Midway.

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Vice President Report: No report. Please keep him in the loop on issues.

President's Report:

- Crazy summer with all the property sales. Some new owners are fine with trails through their properties. Others want rerouting off their land. Discussion on going with possible options.
- Many Rock Road – corridor to be kept open. Club is working with the owner on this route.
- Discussion on how to enforce 10mph through town.
- Safety Council meeting. Tavern league is promoting that businesses with Wi-Fi allow usage to enable emergency calls if needed in areas of limited phone signal. First aid kits for snowmobile trails are available in some trail systems – a meeting will be held to discuss getting these for our trail system.
- Signage issues. Supplies of "crosses" are running low. Some property owners do not want them on their properties. Discussion on options.
- Bigger stops signs and the new stop ahead signs are being promoted statewide. We have been using these so we are ahead on this.
- Adam and Hank are working with the state trail representative to resolve issues with state owned land.

- Monthly emails from the board to the general membership will be started. Will also include information for club rides, meetings and events. Options for group emails are being investigated for ease of sending as records show 98% of members have an email account.
- Event Coordinators Tammy and Becky are helping with raffle tickets, trail pig placement and event planning (Winter Blast, Christmas party, club breakfast). Need to get more membership participation to help with these events. AWSC site has email address for all members. January 15th, 2022 is the date for the winter blast.
- Tuesday November 16th at 6:30 is the groomer driver meeting at the barn. If want to meet before, contact Adam.
- Christmas party and white elephant gift exchange on December 11th is for all members.
- Work on cleaning up the barn this summer. October will be busy with trail maintenance. Reminder to track any issues with the groomer tractors and drags. Preparation is being completed and we will be ready to go, here's to a lot of snow this winter.
- AWSC convention is October 21-24. Attendees will be Hank, Tanner, Adam, Tom and Bill. Several breakout sessions for Trail Administrators, Membership coordinators and Treasurers are available.
- Discussion on business members.
- Wayne Riebe wants AWSC to get politicians involved. Corridors need to be managed better, for example, the grade (17) is a national corridor. Issue is that 50% of the trail is privately owned. Hank will bring corridor issues up at the convention.
- Discussion on cameras that will work. What do we need to purchase?
- Trail counters. 5 put out this summer and Tom is having difficulty getting good information from them. We need replacement parts for several of the counters. Do we need something new, i.e. WiFi enabled? 13 original counters, 2 were stolen and now we have 7-8 that are operational. Discussion on the validity of counter information,
- Discussion on the "Berry Picker Law". This allows for no liability for property owners that allow recreational vehicles on their property.
- Larry Erickson long time trail boss for White Thunder riders has retired. We wish him well. He is still an AWSC director. Brian Schiefelbein has replaced him.
- Discussion on opening trail date.

Iron County Youth Rep: absent but she is working on getting more youth members for the Iron County Rippers. Any child (18 and under) of a member of the Mercer Area Snogers or White Thunder Riders club can join at no additional cost.

Scholarship Chair:

- One applicant for the club scholarship. Congratulations to Molly Hohner on being the recipient.

Items for discussion/possible action:

- Nothing on agenda

Public comment:

- Missing minutes. Need them on club website. Both board and general membership minutes.
- Would like more detailed financial reports. The treasurer is currently setting up quick books to make this possible.
- Barn upkeep. Club members need to work together to get all the work done. More volunteers are needed.

- January 1st, 2022 at the Lake of the Falls Park if the trails are open, there will be a trailside brat cook out. Otherwise at Karow park.
- Club rides: get leaders ahead of date and post the route and where the lunch stop will be and the approximate time for that stop.
- Yukon 51 sold the most sled raffle tickets and Wolf's Den was second.
- There will be an agenda for the workday available at the barn on that day (October 16th)

Motion to adjourn meeting by Dan Tompkins. Second by Tom Ziegler.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm