

Washburn ValHellers Snowmobile Club

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday September 6, 2016

Roll Call: Nate Swiston, Randy & Amy Mashlan, Kim & Mary Ross, Cory & Kate Smith, Tim & Susan McLean, Bob & Bev Blaskowski

A. Treasurer's Report

- a. Checking Balance: \$2,432.55
 - i. \$415.67 ATV tires
 - ii. \$48.00 Post office box
 - iii. \$180.00 Vinyl banners
 - iv. Mary will submit club dues to Alliance this week.
- b. Savings \$1,520.00
- c. Club debit card.
 - i. Mary is still working on application.

B. Old Business

- a. Trail Issues
 - i. Trail Brushing
 - Trail 13 from County Hwy G to Washburn has been brushed.
 - Through Washburn to Hovy Lane has been brushed.
 - Alliance tractor was used to assist in clearing storm damage on corridor by Marley Ledin, Nate Swiston and Randy Mashlan.
 - Randy Mashlan mowed corridor from 241 to Brule and back.
 - Brushing to be resumed from Hovy Lane to Valhalla.
 - Some brushing left to do around ValHalla.
 - ii. Re-routes/Trail Closures
 1. Many sections of the Moquah Spur are still closed. Private logging companies are using the snowmobile trails as logging roads.
 - a. Club received the ok from the Forestry Dept. to assist in clearing debris on trails.
 2. Trail 31 closed
 3. Trail 13 (between ValHalla and Washburn) currently closed but re-route is in process.
 4. Working on re-route around Warren property via Gasperini Road and Gasperini Property.
 5. Still working on re-route options for Church Corner Road/ via Blong and Ford Thompson property.
- b. Snowmobile Raffle
 - i. Tickets Sales
 1. 58 tickets sold to date. All sold stubs are in the ticket bucket and are being recorded.
 - ii. Publicity/Events
 1. Next event to sell tickets is Hay Days in North Branch, MN.

- a. Club has a spot reserved on Club Row. Nate and Randy will bring the snowmobile and booth to the grounds Thursday, Sept. 8th.
 - 2. Future sale events:
 - a. Apple Fest
 - i. Nate will set up the snowmobile at his in-laws yard on Manypenny Avenue for the weekend festivities.
 - b. Poker stops will be given sets of tickets to sell
 - i. Ticket #311-320- Ino (Corey will deliver)
 - ii. Ticket #401-420- Pine Creek (Randy will deliver)
 - iii. Tickets #281-310 distributed to IGA by Kim Ross
 - 3. Radio ad
 - a. Kate suggested contacting the local radio stations as our event gets closer to promote the poker run. John Warren has helped with public service ad before and Nate will contact him again as we get closer.
- c. Poker Run
 - i. Review of event information for new members. Date: Saturday, February 4th at The Steak Pit in Washburn.
 - ii. Club members agreed to begin the run this year on Friday February 3rd, 2017.
 - iii. ValHalla Pub and Grub and Battle Ax (Iron River) have been dropped from the Poker Run. Nickels Worth in Washburn as well as the new Sparky's (Barksdale) have been added as stops. Suggestion to also add the Port Bar in Port Wing for a stop on the Poker Run.
 - iv. In the past, there have been 11 stops. Minimum number of stops is 5 (to have a poker hand). Bonus card if you hit all stops.
- d. Land Owners Dinner
 - i. Land Owners Dinner will be held at Pine Creek Pit Stop (Moquah).
 - ii. Set budget for event and motion carried at last meeting to pursue holding this year's landowner's dinner at Pine Creek Pit Stop.
 - 1. Previous year's attendance was approximately 30 people.
 - 2. Last year, the club was charged \$17.50 per plate (tax and tip included for buffet style meal at Pub and Grub).
 - 3. Agreed that the club was comfortable with \$17 per plate x 40 plates=\$680.
 - iii. Randy will get some prospective dates from Bob and Terri Sell for this fall.
- e. Fall Maintenance
 - i. Sign Posting
 - 1. Club will be setting up days to get signs and posts up.
- f. Club Membership Roster
 - i. The club would like to update spreadsheet of the club's active membership roster (emails included).
 - ii. Suggestion made to collect information to allow online membership registration from the club's website (such as Chrontrack or Event Brite).

C. New Business

- a. Groomer
 - i. Bayfield Co. Snowmobile Alliance has approved a different groomer for the Herbster area.

1. The Washburn ValHellers will inherit the older Sur Trac 140 groomer and drag. The club will be responsible to groom “ValHalla South” (approximately a 50-mile loop).
 - a. Nate has already found 3-4 people who are interested in operating.
 - b. The groomer being centered around Washburn is needed and would be beneficial. Complaints from club members and area business that many of those trails were groomed minimally during the last several years. It was making it difficult to get business support when your local trails do not receive proper grooming.
 2. Still looking for options of where the groomer can officially be housed. Nate and Randy Mashlan have talked to several people with shops who have offered storage, maintenance, etc.
- b. Trail Treker App
- i. Washburn native Mark Smoler has contacted the club about purchasing the Trail Treker app.
 1. Club would purchase a yearly membership for \$200 per year. Trail Treker App would have a snowmobile map of Bayfield County downloaded to member’s phone. The app would run off GPS, not cell phone service.
 2. The app would cost a club member a one-time service fee of \$2 and their membership in the club will allow them to download the Bayfield County Map for free as a benefit of being a member of our club.
 3. The club would then solicit businesses to see if they would like to be shown on the downloaded map, at a fee of \$5-10 per year or whatever the club decides to sell. Businesses could include their own digital text/special offers, etc. for showing up on the digital map.
 4. Motion made and carried to move forward with this opportunity.
- D. Next Meeting –
- a. Next club meeting will be held the second Wednesday of October...location to be determined but it was discussed to try for the Steak Pit in Washburn to start discussing details for the Poker Run.