

KACHEMAK NORDIC SKI CLUB BOARD MINUTES

February 9, 2010

6:00pm at the home of President Alan Parks

PRESENT: Richard Burton, Alan Parks, Tara Schmidt, Mike Byerly, Dave Brann, Molly Brann, Jan Spurkland, Kevin Walker

ABSENT: Kenton Bloom

GUESTS: None

The meeting was called to order after a potluck dinner at 6:30pm by president Alan Parks.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda consisted of items not considered at the regular meeting of 02/03. It was amended to add the following items:

Discussion of improved timing equipment
Wooden Ski Clinic

The agenda was approved as amended

EVENTS:

Besh Cup:

Jan reported on the Besh Cup races that were held in Homer in January. The races were a success and using the 2 venues worked well. There were 232 racers Saturday and 260 on Sunday. Expenses totaled about \$3400 with \$1800 of that being one time expenses (e.g. for the yurt bases). Revenues will be about \$5000. The technical representatives were pleased with the way the event was staged. There will be a final report sent to both the club and the USSA organization. We need to pick up the yurt floors and store them somewhere. Parking was an issue, especially on Sunday when many people had to park on Ohlson Mountain Road because of lack of space in the available parking lots.

Ski For Women:

About 70 people participated this year. That was a decrease from about 100 last year. Weather and trails were good for the event. Molly suggested that it would be good for the club to get a summary report from Haven House. That would probably be up to Kris Holderied.

Wine and Cheese Tour:

The Wine and Cheese Tour is being organized by Alan with help from Christie Gates and Dan DelMissier. Christie is organizing the wine, cheese, and volunteers. Dan and Alan are responsible for the grooming. The course will start at Roger's Loop, proceed up Headwaters Highway and the R&R trails to the first stop, then tour the newly upgraded Headwaters, Master Blaster, and Awesome trails to the second stop on the Sunset loop.

Marathon:

Richard gave a report on preparations for the Marathon. The website has been updated with current information and registration forms. An email will be sent to the membership asking for volunteers for race day. Online registration this year is again being done by CCAK. This will likely be the last year they will do this since they are no longer really in this business.

Sea to Ski:

The Sea to Ski Triathlon is still without a chair. Mike agreed to take it on for this year. The immediate need is to contact sponsors and get permission from West Homer Elementary School. Dave and Molly will supply information and make medallions.

Junior Nordic:

There are 48 paid members so far. Carlin Rouche is helping to organize and get information.

COMMITTEE AND AREA REPORTS:**Baycrest:**

In follow up to the discussion at the last meeting, Dave sent an email to Mike Fastabend, the spruce bark beetle coordinator for the borough. Dave recommended that hand crews fell the trees within 100 feet of the trails and leave them. He also recommended against staging in the Demonstration Forest. The board will review final recommendations before forwarding them to Mike.

Molly discussed the updated strategic plan from the recent meeting of the Baycrest Committee. There is still about \$5000 in recommended trail work to be done. The discussion led to the following motion by Dave, seconded by Kevin:

Motion: The KNSC board approves the updated Baycrest Strategic Plan.

The motion passed unanimously.

McNeil/Eveline:

There was a meeting of the McNeil/Eveline Committee last month. A report from the meeting and an updated area strategic plan were presented. The committee is requesting an additional \$5600 from the FY2011 budget for trail work. They feel that this would be enough to allow them to complete the needed trail work for the areas. Another high priority for the area is to obtain a secure storage area for equipment. Upgrades to grooming equipment for the area this year have resulted in expensive equipment with no place in the area for secure storage. The committee would like board approval to write a grant to fund building a storage shed. Jan indicated he feels this should be a very high priority. The discussion led to the following motion by Jan, seconded by Dave:

Motion: The board approves writing a grant request to the Rasmuson Foundation to fund equipment storage in the McNeil/Eveline area.

In discussion, Tara asked if this would require a match from the club. Molly indicated it would, but in this case, some of the match could probably be from donated labor. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

The discussion of the updated strategic plan led to the following motion by Richard, seconded by Kevin:

Motion: The KNSC board approves the updated McNeil/Eveline Strategic Plan.

The motion passed unanimously.

Lookout:

Tara presented a report from the meeting held March 8 to discuss details of the potential ATI grant for Lookout. At this meeting, the committee put together a budget and prioritized the projects. The highest priority projects are the Harbinson Road upgrade and the parking lot. The budget presents a worst case scenario where gravel cannot be obtained locally. If we can obtain the gravel from the Ohlson Mountain pit, we could save a lot of money. Tara also indicated there is some question about the level of the road upgrade needed for borough approval. The budget assumes a Category 3 road, but it is likely that we can get approval for a Category 2 road if we get an engineer to approve it. With these modifications, there probably would be enough money to fund some of the lower priority projects. There was some discussion about the individual projects and the priorities assigned to them. Dave indicated he would rather see a stick built structure instead of a weather port for the maintenance shed. Tara pointed out that we cannot, at this point, change the details of the project but the weather port is the lowest priority item, and there probably will not be enough money to get to it anyway. It was pointed out that we need a better understanding of operation and maintenance costs for the bathrooms if they end up being funded. The discussion led to the following motion by Jan, seconded by Richard:

Motion: The Lookout Committee is directed to move forward with the grant after taking into account the board discussion above.

The motion passed unanimously.

Alan then discussed planning for a public meeting to review the Lookout parking project. Alan will determine a time and place for the meeting and an invitation will be mailed to local property owners. Alan also indicated that the Lookout committee should be directed to update the strategic plan for the area.

FUNDRAISING AND GRANTS:

Targeted Fundraising:

Molly suggested that the issue of targeted fundraisers should be considered at the next fundraising committee meeting. Jan indicated that the money from the lessons conducted by the Homer Women's Nordic group went into the general fund. The purchase of jackets for the group is being done through the club.

Membership:

Molly is working on a revision of the membership form. It may be possible to combine some things. There is also a need to revise the in-kind form.

Benches/Tables:

Action on the proposal to build benches and picnic tables on the trail system in return for a significant cash contribution was tabled at the January meeting. The board needs to decide if this is a concept that we endorse. Molly made the following motion, seconded by Kevin:

Motion: The board should approve the concept of installing a bench or picnic table with a recognition plaque in return for a significant donation.

The motion passed unanimously. Molly indicated we still need volunteers to implement the idea. Dave indicated he is willing to help.

T-Shirts:

We have sold about 1/3 of the t-shirts that were ordered. There is a need for additional promotion. They will be available at the Wine and Cheese Tour and at Kathy Sarns' business.

Timing Equipment:

Steve Hackett has indicated that it may be possible to get help from USSA to upgrade the timing clock used for races like the Besh Cup. The clock we use is not synchronized with the timing equipment. Jan indicated that it is possible to get a clock that would be synchronized but it is relatively expensive. Mike will follow up with information gathering with the intention of pursuing it in FY2011. It may be possible to write a grant to help fund it.

OLD/PENDING BUSINESS:**Capital Improvement Process:**

Alan still needs to communicate with committee and event chairs concerning the board's process for prioritizing capital improvement projects.

Bylaws:

The bylaws need to be updated. This process was started last year by the Bylaws Committee but it was not done in time to recommend changes for approval at the annual meeting in November. A meeting of the committee will be called in an attempt to recommend revisions that could be approved at the next annual meeting.

Groomer Release:

The groomer release may need to be updated slightly before next year. This was the first year it was used, so it needs to be reviewed for possible changes. Volunteers are needed for this effort.

Board Notebooks:

Molly distributed board notebooks to all members present at the meeting. The notebook contains basic information that board members should be aware of, such as the budget, committee information, the strategic plan, bylaws, etc.

NEW BUSINESS:**Wooden Ski Clinic:**

Dave discussed the upcoming Wooden Ski Clinic. It is scheduled for this August in Homer and Dave would like for it to be a ski club event. The intent is to try to target potential sponsors that do not normally contribute to the ski club. There would be no monetary obligation on the part of the ski club. Dave made the following motion, seconded by Jan:

Motion: KNSC will sponsor the Wooden Ski Clinic as a KNSC event.

The motion passed unanimously.

MEETING END:

Meeting was adjourned about 9:30 pm.

Next meeting: March 3, 2010 at the Kachemak Conservation Center.

Documents submitted:

Lookout committee report on ATI grant proposal

Board Notebooks

Baycrest Committee meeting notes and updated strategic plan

McNeil/Eveline Committee meeting notes and updated strategic plan

Richard Burton

Secretary