

KACHEMAK NORDIC SKI CLUB BOARD MINUTES

January 6, 2010

6:30pm, Kachemak Conservation Council Office

PRESENT: Richard Burton, Alan Parks, Tara Schmidt, Mike Byerly, Dave Brann, Molly Brann, Jan Spurkland (by phone conference call)

ABSENT: Kenton Bloom, Kevin Walker

GUESTS: None

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Dave moved to approve the agenda. Tara seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING LOOKOUT OPERATIONS:

The attending board members met in executive session to consider the operation and maintenance of the Lookout Mountain trail system and possible facility improvements. As a result of this session, the following action items were approved by the board:

Ensure that all groomers sign the waiver that was introduced this year. The waiver may need some minor modifications for next year.

Enlist additional help for grooming the area. Try to get the coaches and groomers together to talk about grooming expectations. Dave will send an email message to all groomers asking for additional help here.

All communication with Cross Country Alaska should be sent through Jan since he is our local contact.

Coordinate plowing and sanding of the parking lots and access road. Dave will check with Pete and Lisa to see if they will be available to do it. If not, we will attempt to find a contractor who can do it whenever needed.

Ensure better coordination between the board and the Lookout Committee. The board will convene a joint Board/Lookout Committee work session. This work session will review the pending grant applications. These include ATI money that is likely to be coming and the RTP grant that was applied for earlier this year. Goals would be to review the grant budgets and plan for the implementation of the grants. A tentative date was set for Thursday, January 14. In addition, this session will discuss community involvement in the planning process and, in particular, try to ensure that local landowners are involved and satisfied with the development and operation of the Lookout area.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF 12/02/09:

Tara moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of 12/02. Richard seconded Motion passed unanimously.

BUDGET REPORT:

Tara gave a budget update. She presented a first quarter budget to actual report as well as a profit and loss detail report for the quarter. She plans on producing a budget report quarterly and a profit/loss report monthly. Tara asked where the money coming in from the Homer Mens Nordic group should be placed in the budget. Jan said the only requirement is that he be able to keep track of who is paying. It was agreed that it could go in with the Homer Womens Nordic budget item and Tara indicated it would not be difficult to isolate who has paid.

EQUIPMENT REPORT:

Dave gave a status report on equipment. All of the snowmachines are currently on line. The break in period for the new machine is almost completed and it will be ready for grooming in 1-2 weeks. The generator, which was not working, is now repaired. The blue and gold drag is currently at Doug's shop undergoing repairs. A meeting is needed to discuss the new blue/gold drag. The new ginzu groomer is scheduled for shipping about January 15. In the meantime, the existing ginzu groomer will be taken to McNeil for a day to try grooming the trails in preparation for the Besh Cup. Molly indicated the costs for the new snowmachine are within the \$11000 budgeted for this purchase. \$650 was allocated for Doug to order 2 combs for the blue and gold drag. One of these is for the new drag. Mike indicated that John would like to get a comb for the aluminum drag that is currently at Lookout. This would need some fabrication work.

Tara indicated she has a letter from Rich Corazza suggesting additional equipment that would be needed for plowing the Lookout parking lot. She will give a copy of this letter to the equipment committee.

EVENTS:

Besh Cup:

Jan reported on preparations for the Besh Cup. Preparations for the courses and grooming are going well. Some volunteer help is still needed. Volunteer information should go to Jan. Alan asked about concessions for the event. Jan indicated that McNeil PTA will do the sprint race at McNeil and the high school ski team will do the Lookout race. Jan also indicated there will be a meeting for volunteers next week. Alan asked about shelters at Lookout. Jan indicated that he is planning to rent 2 yurts for the event.

Friday Night Lights:

Molly submitted a report on the Friday Night Lights event. There were about 160 to 180 participants over the two nights this year, with income of about \$1500. There were a lot of good comments about the event and Dave expressed appreciation for the volunteer help that made the it successful.

Wine and Cheese Tour:

Alan reported on planning for the Wine and Cheese Tour. He will act as coordinator this year. Christie has agreed to organize the wine and cheese. Dan will also help with the event. The event will be at Baycrest and the idea is to highlight the areas that had significant trail upgrades this year. The course will be finalized soon so that the liquor permit can be obtained.

Ski Your Age:

Jan gave a report on the Ski Your Age event that was held December 26. In spite of the bad weather, the event attracted over 50 participants and raised about \$450 for the High School ski team.

Marathon:

Work has begun on the marathon connector trail Dave indicated that 3 machines started from Diamond Ridge and went as far as Crossman Ridge. From the Lookout side, Kenton and Mike went part way up to Crossman Ridge. Kenton has taken a drag part way from the Lookout side and people have been skiing this part. Alan suggested that it might be good to emphasize the touring aspect of the race in order to attract more people. This might require having an early start and manning aid stations longer. Molly brought up the need to get MOAs from landowners where the connector trail crosses private property.

COMMITTEE AND AREA REPORTS:**Baycrest:**

Dave and Alan reported on Baycrest trail issues. Dave indicated that the lower trails are fairly icy but groomers have been able to keep them skiable. More snow is needed for Headwaters Hwy. and Master Blaster. He is working on MOAs from some landowners. Alan met with Shawn Martin, one of the Sunset Loop property owners. He would like the Sunset Loop moved lower down on his property so it does not go so close to a building of his. This could potentially be done next fall. Once the trail is moved, he is willing to do a MOA. Alan emphasized the importance of continuing good communication between the club and private landowners on the trail system as we try to get MOAs for the trails that cross private property.

Molly indicated that the Baycrest committee would be meeting in January to review the area strategic plan and the short and long term goals.

Tara asked if the committees have been notified of the decision from the last meeting regarding board approval of projects. Alan has not done this yet but committed to drafting something soon.

McNeil/Eveline:

There will be a meeting of the McNeil/Eveline committee to discuss needed work and update the area plans on either January 14 or January 21.

FUNDRAISING AND GRANTS:

Fundraising:

Molly submitted a report summarizing fundraising projects and the banners that were discussed at the recent committee meeting. The banner proposal is to hang banners on the fencing over the tunnel at Lookout. The banners would recognize businesses that contribute at least \$1000 in cash or in-kind contributions. For a \$5000 contribution, the business would have a banner by itself. The banners would be ordered locally and be hung in time for the Besh Cup races. The cost for the banners is \$561 and would come from the advertising and signs budget items. Molly would like board approval for this expense. This led to the following motion by Dave, seconded by Mike:

Motion: KNSC should provide the requested funding for the banners.

The motion passed unanimously.

Molly then brought up for discussion a proposal to build benches and picnic tables at places along the trail system in recognition of people who make significant cash contributions. It was suggested that, for \$1000, a bench would be installed with a dedication; for \$5000 we would erect a picnic table. The intention is to give individuals and families an incentive to make significant cash contributions to the club. This proposal brought up discussion about where to put the benches and tables. One possibility would be to allow the donor to decide the place. Alan suggested that we might need to identify specific places and then market them. At the conclusion of the discussion, Dave suggested tabling any board action at this time and this was agreed to.

Molly indicated there are still 5 calendars that need to be sold. Most of these were quickly snatched up by attending board members.

There was brief discussion of marketing the t-shirts. We are ordering 200 to start with and will be selling them at upcoming events starting with the Besh Cup. Molly is going to do it at the Besh Cup, but we still need people to sell them at other events as well as to members of the Homer Women's Nordic and Homer Men's Nordic groups. Tara suggested that the High School booster club might be willing to help and indicated she would contact them.

Molly then asked that the board approve an article for the Alaska Nordic Skier indicating we are raising funds for the Roger's Loop land purchase. The goal would be to get \$2000 into the Roger's Loop fund. This was approved unanimously.

MEETING END:

Due to time constraints, several additional items relating to fundraising and grants were postponed until the next meeting. It was suggested that we need to decide at the next meeting what to do for a Rasmuson grant application for capital improvements.

Meeting was adjourned about 9:30 pm.

Next meeting: February 3, 2010 at the Kachemak Conservation Council office.

Documents submitted:

First Quarter Budget Report
Profit/Loss detail for first quarter
Friday Night Lights event summary report
Fundraising Report

Richard Burton
Secretary