

Lake Louise Snowmachine Club

Board Meeting 10-01-11

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am at the Matthews Safety Building.

Board members present were Dennis Fairbanks, Corky Matthews, Mike Anderson, Harry Holt, Barry Simpson, and Bill Fair.

Minutes from the last board meeting were read and approved as well as a Treasure's report, sent to the board by Ron Ringel.

New Business

Trails

Corky reported, to the board, that there has been another change of personal at DNR which has again delayed the issuing of our trail easements on the Tolsona, Big Rock, and Eureka/John lake trails. Corky said he would like to set up a meeting with Cliff Larson at DNR, to discuss the issue, with hopes to get them finalized this fall. Corky also questioned if we should possibly seek some legal advice from Terry Draeger, our club counsel. The process has been going on for as long as 13 years and seems to get buried in bureaucracy each year.

After a discussion, the board agreed Corky should discuss the matter with DNR, and have our trail easements issued this fall. We also agreed, we should contact Terry and ask his legal opinion in how we should continue to deal with this matter, if the easements continue to be stalled off.

Corky has agreed to set up a meeting with DNR, as soon as he can, to discuss this matter with them. He said he will keep the board informed of the outcome.

This year our club has been awarded \$24,502 from SnoTrac for the grooming of our approved trails. Corky and Dennis applied in July for the grant and it is now in the final approval stage and should be issued anytime.

Corky has also applied for a Borough matching grant that has just come available for grooming trails. He has applied for \$6,800 and this money will be used to groom the Tolsona, Big Rock, and John Lake/Eureka trails, which are not yet funded with the SnoTrac grant.

Dennis opened a discussion about "You Are Here" mapped signs at all our trail heads and trail intersections. The idea was brought up late last year and there was no time to further discuss the idea. Everyone has agreed it is a good idea. Mike and Corky said they would talk with two different sign makers and find out the cost of making the map signs. More trail name and mile signs are also needed along all our trails, so they will inquire on the cost of those also.

Two other trails discussed where the Nipple Mountain and Maclaren River trails. Both of these trails the board feels should be surveyed.

The Nipple Mountain Trail has been well marked and brushed and makes a great destination ride

with a great view. If it were surveyed we could apply for a trail easement like our other trails.

More people each season inquire about and ride the undeveloped trail to Maclaren River and on to the Denali highway. We feel that because so many snowmachiners are beginning to use it, it would be prudent, as a club, we survey this route to be sure it is entirely on public land.

No decision was made when to survey at this time, but further discussions will be held during future board meetings to make that determination.

Corky said he needs help this year, at the end of November, to mark the winter lake trails. The folks that helped in the past can no longer help. Barry said he may be able to help. He said better signage should be made for Lake Susitna pointing to the different trail there. His suggestion is to mark the carsonite stakes with names and arrows.

Big Foot

Dennis asked if we ever had a maintenance plan for Big Foot. We have always maintained Big Foot on an as needed basis. If parts were needed we ordered them and installed them. Repairs and PM work have been done in the same manner. Dennis suggested we analyze our maintenance and breakdowns to see what we could do to lessen the time spent working on Big Foot. Because the tracks and boggie wheels seem to be our biggest expense, of time and materials, it was suggested we check into some different type replacements that would be more adaptable to our terrain and hold up better. It was then suggested someone contact our parts supplier, Chill Out Parts, to see what other type tracks were available for our machine and what their costs would be.

Another suggestion was to possibly replace Big Foot with another size and make of machine that would maybe be more suitable for our trails.

All these ideas were taken under consideration but no further action has been taken other than looking into new tracks.

Events

At this time the final event calendar for this year hasn't been printed but Wolf Pack Weekend has been scheduled for March 12. While discussing the Club's events for this year, it was suggested we hold the Club's Annual meeting before the ride on Wolf Pack Weekend. The board thought that may be a good idea so more members may attend. It was decided to go ahead with that plan this year on a trial basis. We also thought it best to rotate the annual meeting each year between the lodges as we do the auction, because it's on the same day.

Other events discussed were another pizza run to Mendeltna Lodge, a run to Nipple Mountain, and a ride to Eureka. These will be looked at during the year and planned when appropriate.

Barry suggested promoting the Club, by delivering schedules and a small map to snowmachine and ATV businesses. Everyone thought it to be a good idea. The idea of a booth at one of the shows in Anchorage was also suggested. The board also felt that had merit as well. All these ideas will again be addressed at future meeting.

Other Business

Corky brought up the fact we have paid Eureka Lodge in past years for their part in grooming the Eureka Trail to approx Mile 22. He suggested we pay them again for what they did last year. The board voted to pay Eureka Lodge \$500 from the treasury, for grooming the trail.

Corky has talked with Doug Dawson at Dinty Bush Services about moving a 20' conex next to the fuel barrel where Big Foot parks. The LLNPC has agreed to let the club use it for storing our parts, tools, and supplies for Big Foot. He said Doug can move it and help set it on timbers using his backhoe for \$100. Dinty Bush has also agreed to charge \$600 again this year for parking Big Foot in their parking lot.

The board voted and approved to pay Dinty Bush \$700 for their service.

A motion was made to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Holt, Secretary