

**GMNC Board Meeting**  
**March 14, 2017**

Attendees: Dave Knutson, Winslow Robertson, Terri Stright, Callie West, Jodi Peterson, Christina Stark, Nathan Morang, and Tom Ela

Regrets: Clint Roberts

Guests: John Mitchell

Location: Bill Heddles Recreation Center, Delta

1. Approve Minutes

- Minutes were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Corrected the Gliders funds and JRT funds to unrestricted board designated accounts. The funds were reserved for the programs, and consist of unrestricted funds.
- Lapsed member appeal – Lisa contacted lapsed members and we had a really good response. We raised about \$6,500 from the lapsed member effort. She sent out a note to lapsed members and included a request in the newsletter.
- Trail grooming and maintenance expenses were \$14,334. This report included two groomer pay periods and two refillings of the fuel tank.
- Budget verses Actual: As of March 3<sup>rd</sup> we were still \$4,700 under our forecasted amount. This doesn't include program fees. We received \$500 from the Women's Expo. We are about \$1,200 below where we were at this time last year for membership and trail box donations.

3. Long Term Financial Planning - first pass

Current financial status is excellent. We started the year with \$116,000 with unrestricted liquid assets. The CERF balance is approximately \$4,100. We have a brand new Pisten Bully. The Finance Committee is reviewing the amount of funds we should hold as an operating reserve. The Finance Committee recommends that the remaining funds be earmarked as capital funds for replacement of equipment in the future. They will present a proposal in the fall. Winslow developed an estimated schedule for equipment replacement. Snowmobiles should be replaced approximately every eight years and the Pisten Bully will need to be replaced in approximately 20

years. They built a financial Xcel tool to analyze the variables for income and expenses based upon potential scenarios for our goals. A fundraising plan will need to be developed and may include both grants and building our membership. We have had about 500 members since 2009.

#### 4. Operation Report

- We need to replace one of the snowmobiles. The machine at Ward is seven years old. The cost estimate is \$11,500 for a new Skidoo Skandic wide track 900. This is a good price for the machine and it needs to be ordered by April 3<sup>rd</sup>. We need to provide a \$500 deposit to initiate our order. We should be able to sell the old machine for about \$3,000 to \$3,500. We received \$3,000 from Delta County. A motion was made to make the deposit and to purchase the machine. The motion passed. Winslow will work on purchasing the machine.
- Grooming will end on April 2<sup>nd</sup> this year. Anita may have groups scheduled after this date. Dave will contact Anita and ask if she needs grooming.

#### 5. Adult Programs

- The first two years they had about 70 participants with only the women's Friday ski days. In 2013/14 the skate lessons were added and participation increased substantially. Participation was down this year. There were problems with outreach and snow for the Thanksgiving camp. This year they loss funds on coaching stipends because of low participation. Coaches had small groups and groups couldn't be combined because of variability in abilities. They received really good customer satisfaction feedback.
- Callie could use support with scheduling. She needs the race schedule and Gliders schedule earlier to help her plan. It would be really helpful to have the membership coordinator help more with outreach and Facebook. She needs increased grooming support for the classes.

#### 6. Junior / Gliders

- Glider participation was lower this year and recent years then some of the historic participation. We had about 40 participants this year. In the past there has been up to 70 kids participating. Gliders Race Day and Kids Ski Festival had moderate participation. Race series finished on Saturday with the regular race series. We had up to ten kids participate in the race series with about 4 or 5 kids that participated in three races. We are looking at moving most of the junior programs from GMNC to a separate non-profit that would be based at Powderhorn. We should know for sure soon if this will be in place for next year. We can present more information at the next

board meeting. Christina still plans on coordinating with Tom to hold the early and late season races in conjunction of the adult races. It is difficult to provide short races for kids at Skyway. We don't have a good 1 km loop for the younger kids.

- It would benefit the adult, youth, and race programs if there was a large stadium area available for teaching and race starts/finishes.

#### 7. REI Grant Request for 2017-2018

- WE will apply for a non-restricted grant from REI again.

#### 8. Races

- Participation was slightly lower this year. The Meltdown overlapped with the Snow Mountain Ranch race. It may be a good idea to move the Loppet to March. We could try to capitalize on the fact that this is the highest marathon in the US and we are likely to draw more skiers at the end of the season. We could move the Meltdown to early March and then have the Loppet as the last race. Snow conditions can be a problem for a late March date.

#### 9. Last Newsletter for season

- Our next newsletter will be developed in the next couple of weeks. The newsletter could address the FS comment period.

#### 10. Extension of USFS Comments re: Dogs

- The board sent a letter to USFS in March 2016 requesting that Skyway be officially designated as dog free. GMNC can't sign the trails right now. John is concerned that a board member was quoted in the article in the paper with a biased opinion. He is okay with dogs not being allowed at Skyway. He really enjoys skiing with his dogs. He believes that there would be a lot of upset members if skiers couldn't bring their dogs to County Line. Dog comments are extended until March 20<sup>th</sup>. Dave will ask the FS if they can write a statement for the next newsletter.

#### 11. Scenic Byway GMNC Representative

- We have received grants from the Scenic Byway group in the past. They meet once a month in Cedaredge. Dave is looking for a representative from the board to be on the

Scenic Byway group. We would have increased knowledge about upcoming grants if we had a representative. We should ask the members if there is someone in Delta County that is able to attend. They meet during the lunch. Terri will send a request to members that would like to volunteer that live in Cedaredge.

12. Other Items????

- a. Agenda Item for next meeting: Cross Country Ski Association membership