

**Hancock Trails Club
Board Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2023**

Attendance: Jay Green, Mark Roberts, John Diebel, Wayne Stordahl, Jason Martin, Mark Klein, Nate Laakonen, Murphy Mallow, and Keith Meyers. Guest: Dean Woodbeck

Jay convened the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Agenda: John added insurance and mower

Public Comment: None

Groomers Report: No grooming yet, but people are skiing according to John.

Treasurer's Report: Total cash and bank accounts come to \$147,686.51. This includes two \$60,000 CDs (one for 11 months at an APR of 5.13% and the other for 7 months at an APR of 4.86%), \$3,624.94 in checking, \$23,408.33 in a money market account, and \$653.24 in the Huntington Checking. Checks came in for the Hancock Trails Club account. John has paid Jack Fenton. The new Yamaha Wolverine is on the books at \$37,593. Business sponsor funds are coming. John noted the logo work by Chris Schmidt and a \$200 donation by Grant Fenner. John noted that the hay bale fence was more expensive this year at \$6/bale. The luminary ski paper bags were \$114. Jay asked about the roughly \$600 groomer trail work. John indicated he would be deleting that. John noted that we have already made \$60 in interest on the money market account. Wayne moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report. Mark Roberts provided a second. The motion was approved unanimously.

Minutes: On the October minutes, Jay made corrections on Trail 17 (just John, not Jay), the PHF Grant (second to last sentence, introducing HTC and new website), UTV (second to last sentence...\$700 light bar suggestion was part of what had been proposed, so strike the sentence), and Wayne put the budget together for the Barnelopet grant, but Jay still needs to do the budget. Jay moved approval of the October minutes as amended. John provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously. On the November minutes, the date was changed to November from March. On the budget, readjust the whole reserve schedule. Jay provided a copy. Jason moved approval of the November minutes as amended. Mark Klein provided the second. The November minutes were approved unanimously.

Keweenaw Community Foundation Grants: \$500 was requested for the Barnelopet and we received \$300. John signed it and sent it in but was not sure which grant opportunity it came from. Dean was able to clarify that it came from the Cross Country Ski Fund. John suggested to Wayne that we submit the medals for the \$300.

Trail Update: The berm in Sidewinder has been knocked down. John says it is still rough, but better. The weedwhacker gas has been run out. John and Mark Roberts set up the hay bale fence.

The boardwalk posts have been removed. Mark Klein and Nate have cut through High Point Pass, and it is set for winter grooming.

Signs and Maps: Dean reported that the Copper Shores Community Health Foundation Grant has been closed out. The Foundation has the project on its website. The maps are being printed for the kiosks.

Bike Trails: There was a good turnout for clearing leaves from the trails with ten to twelve coming out with leaf blowers. There is an excavation taking place on Lake Annie Road for a landing strip on Erickson's 160 acres, but this will not affect trail access. John noted seeing someone out the Pine Loop with a kick sled.

Wuebbens: John is planning to stop in to see them.

UTV: John thinks they fixed a leak in the radiator. Jay asked if we wanted to sell the Kodiak. John noted that we have pods we can put on it and we have an okay from Mary Babcock with the City. The base machine is worth \$5,000. Per Tammy's brother, we should go with \$7,000 for the full package as a starting point. Jason asked about its mileage. John indicated it is at 9,777 miles and not burning a lot of oil. Jason indicated you can get 100,000 if you take care of it per Yamaha. Jay suggested a bottom of \$5,000. Jay moved selling the Kodiak with pods starting \$7,000 going down as low as \$5,000. \$4,500 without the pods. This would be a good ice fishing machine. Murphy provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously.

Trail 17: No contact with the Wuebbens. We have not measured the bridges. Mark Roberts will measure.

Money Market Fund: John took care of this.

Budget: Jay will recalculate the reserve funds.

Business Sponsors: John reported that these are going okay. Arnie had commented that pass sales are slow with the weather.

Website: Web Maestro is working on the website. Suggested daily donations as Swedetown does daily memberships. Jay suggested daily donations. Everyone was in agreement about that direction. QR Codes: discussed using these at intersections for maps. Web Maestro says that scammers are putting codes over existing QR codes. Nathan Lyle says there is a risk. You can find the new website at HancockTrails.org. We have minutes back to 2016 on the old site. We will keep those on the new site as well. The High Point Trailhead is okay for winter per Nate. The sponsor list will come from John's report. The site will include board members with their email addresses. It was noted that the website is in WordPress. Nate asked if more than one Facebook page can be pulled in. Dean would like to get the website out there and change as we go along. Jay said okay.

Business Sponsors: Murphy has SterileState. Keith will get with Roger Hellman and Steph Olsson. Expedition Inn and Houghton Power Sports were discussed. Banners with sponsors to be created for trailheads.

Rules: Jay will work on it in the new year. John will look at trail etiquette.

Luminary Ski: Mark Roberts reviewed his checklist. Posters are out. Luminary bags are in. Batteries are good. We are on all the event calendars. Social media is done. Discussed plastic sleds: Mark has 2, the Club has 2, and John can get another. Volunteers: Kathy will be in the Chalet and Eileen is willing to help. Keith, Julie, John, Mark, Jennifer, and Carolyn are all lined up to set up. Decided on 4 p.m. We will have two fire pits as this helps with crowd size but will be weather dependent. John has contacted the Gazette about the event. Nate will buy the cookies. Discussed 100 cup water heater which Mark Roberts moved that the board authorize Nate to acquire. Keith provided the second. There was unanimous approval of the motion.

Milwaukee Skiers: Set for December 31st. We need a responsible volunteer. This event brings in \$300 to \$500. Wayne indicated that Eileen is willing to help. John will line up food prep and coordinate the ask. The ski will be at 9:30 with food ready by 11:00 to 11:30 by 3:00 they are gone. Keith will oversee the set up. Butter will be needed as well as hot chocolate, coffee, half & half, bread (possibly from Roy's), and change (\$20).

Barkell: Wayne waiting on firm starting date...usually the second week of January.

Insurance: \$1,000 for renewal of directors/officers and general liability (\$500 for each). Jay moved that we renew the insurance. Nate provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mower: Recall on the mower (exhaust system). The manufacturer is offering 60% of what we paid (\$3,500) which would be \$2,100. A new one would cost \$3,999 which would make the cost of a new one \$1,900. Jay moved we cut the wires which will result in us getting the \$2,100 check, then wait until spring to get a new mower. Murphy provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously.

Closed Session: The board entered into a closed session to address a confidential matter.

Upon completion of the closed session, the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m. The next meeting was set for January 16th. It was also noted that there will be a fat bike ride on March 16th and the Chain Drive will be on June 15th.