

SNSA Board Meeting December 14, 2020 - Minutes

Meeting start: 6pm

In attendance: Andy Anderson, Liz Addis, Chris Coppin, Susan Engel, Jason Halloran, Matt Halloran, Colin Quinn-Hurst, Libby Schoedel, Dave Yadon

Action Items Summary

1. Mountain Host program - Andy and Diana to touch base with Laura to update operating plan
2. Mountain Host program - Contact volunteers, finalize scheduling of training, and define how to break up the schedule for signing up the volunteers for different shifts
3. Jerry from State Parks will reach out to Tim Ray and coordinate on backup grooming provided by SNSA with snowmobile.
4. Dave Y. to get information from Al Burke about how to make the junctions safer.
5. Help announce hiring, will happen on Neogov, State's hiring system - Colin to add to head coach job opening notification email
 - a. <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/washington/jobs/2932606/equipment-operator-2-mt-spokane-permanent-08375>
6. George, Libby and Mike Burns to meet with USSA liaison and find out if all board members need certification
7. Check gmail address for any Gary Silver nominations, resume conversation post-meeting

Minutes

1. Approve last meetings minutes
 - a. Action Items Review
 1. Operating Agreement in the works
 2. Working on system with Parks to identify grooming priorities per day
 3. Send out thank-you letters
 4. Need Tim's address – Dave Y. to send
 5. Need address for Winter Knights – Ask Lisa Sunderman for address
 - a. Minutes approved – Motion and Second, Approved
2. Review Financials – Liz
 - a. MultiCare Donation - \$2k, can keep that donation for next year's event
 - b. More registrations in for the racing team, more so than last year
 - c. Less for T-Team than last year
 - d. Nothing for Cross Team, not happening this year
 - e. Note for Nordic Kids, this week we have payment deposited
 - i. Nordic Kids essentially full, 30 per weekend

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- f. Marketing/Signage category shows payments to Trevor and Dee
 - g. Trail cleaning item shows what we have contributed toward getting the trails widened
3. Partnership Updates
- a. Nancy Westbrook – Nordic Ski Patrol - Mountain Hosts Program
 - 1. With nordic skiing population increasing, there is group of consistent people up there all the time, every weekend
 - 2. There are also new folks, for them it's daunting to know what trail to use, where to get a pass, where to bring dogs, etc.
 - 3. Ski Patrol has 66k of trails and injuries to manage
 - 4. It's a gift to be able to ski here, and we need to work together and do maintain this opportunity for years to come, and get people involved through a Mountain Host program
 - 5. National Ski Patrol has basic first aid and CPR program, Mountain Host volunteers can go through National Ski Patrol to do this
 - 6. Conversations with Diana and Jerry with State Parks indicate need
 - 7. Aim to get basic training scheduled within the next couple weeks
 - 8. Start with up to ten people
 - 9. Eight hats purchased, bright yellow – about eight people have indicated interest
 - 10. Timeframes, thinking 9ish to 1ish, short half day
 - 11. Would be hosted on SNSA website, but Ski Patrol would support the training
 - 12. State Parks perspective, has to be in the approved operating plan for the state park, from a liability perspective, so that volunteers would be covered under Dept. of Labor and Industries in case someone gets hurt. Would have to be some kind of agreement, either through Nordic Patrol or through SNSA.
 - 1. State Parks has a host program for Campgrounds throughout the state, and they have vests and hats and they support this type of thing. Generally speaking, it's a great idea, this year we need to help everybody get along.
 - 2. **Action Item:** Andy and Diana to touch base with Laura to update operating plan
 - 3. **Action Item:** Contact volunteers, finalize scheduling of training, and define how to break up the schedule for shifts
4. State Parks/Diana Dupuis
- 1. Trail maps
 - a. Over the weekend, plastic container was moved to the outside of the lodge and filled with maps for people to access. Maps are being provided and distributed.

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2. Backup grooming process
 - a. How would SNSA respond if supplemental grooming were ever needed, how would that flow of communication work?
 - b. For snowmobile training, Tim Ray is the contact
 - c. **Action Item:** Jerry will reach out to Tim and coordinate about how this should work with people who have permissions to work with the snowmobile. Keep it simple, no elaborate structure needed.
 - d. No more training needed on use of the machine
3. Groomed today and will groom a little bit tomorrow. Want to preserve as much snow as possible.
4. Big news: been working for the last couple years to make the groomer a year-round position, 4 months paid out of winter rec., 8 months out of Mt. Spokane budget, Equipment Operator II. Recruitment should be posted sometime in the next week, post for minimum of 7 days. Aiming to hire this position just after the first of the year to have a full-time, year-round, permanent position. Full state benefits with health insurance, retirement, etc.
5. Will help with consistency and building experience and understanding.
6. Looking for someone with grooming experience and on-snow experience.
7. Efficiencies: Possibly cutting some of the corners in the junctions and not making them so big, very hard to get them flat.
8. **Action Item:** Dave Y. to get information from Al Burke about how to make the junctions safer.
9. SNSA received great comments about Hudson's work on the grooming. Hudson was a mechanic and knows all the details about the groomer.
10. **Action Item:** Help announce hiring, will happen on Neogov, State's hiring system - Colin to add to head coach email
1. <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/washington/jobs/2932606/equipment-operator-2-mt-spokane-permanent-08375>
5. US Ski and Snowboard
 - a. May require whole board to be USS member and certified
 - b. **Action Item:** George, Libby and Mike Burns to meet with USSA liaison and find out if we all need certification
6. Grooming/Trail clearing – Dave
 - a. Snowmobile is ready to groom
 - b. 7 people trained on the snowmobile
 - c. Jerry at State Parks and Tim Ray will coordinate on how notification is relayed about use of the snowmobile
7. Race / Transition / Cross team – Ben

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- a. No updates
- 8. Nordic Kids– Matt
 - a. Regarding virtual program, at this point isn't looking practical
 - b. Discussion regarding whether to take this winter to develop custom SNSA content for the following season, assuming the idea of offering the virtual program is off the table
 - c. Follow-up question, how do we recruit enough coaches, but also ensure some baseline level of quality in the coaches
 - i. Previously in trying to recruit enough coaches, had the requirement in registration that you had to volunteer
- 9. Adaptive / Skijor – Susan
 - a. Kate will seek out relevant sponsors for Barkebeiner
 - b. Robin Redmond with adaptive stated that ramp up from parking lot to trails needs to be very smooth
- 10. Sponsorships - Chris
 - a. Good first step to look at annual budget and decide what the sponsorship goal should be
 - b. Talking to sponsors about potential sponsorship benefits to members
 - c. Hoping to hear back from the Park about how many skiers using the trails about how many we could potentially recruit as members
 - i. Diana provided information on available data from Sno-Park permit sales and vehicle counts, will send follow-up information to Chris
 - d. Filled out application form to expertcity/expert voice, organization that ties clubs and associations to discounts
 - e. There are 295 cross-country ski organizations across the country. The vast majority have almost no mention of sponsorship at all. A few have a link with information about how to become a sponsor. There's an opportunity for us to do a lot better than all those other clubs.
- 11. Adult Lessons and Events
 - a. Skiathon
 - 1. Potential approach – RallyUp.com
 - 2. Free, hands-off and can do tiered prizes, example: if you raise \$50, you get a tumbler, if you raise \$100, you get a new jacket. Determining what we want to give at each level is something we need to decide in the coming weeks.
 - 3. Does anyone have concerns with RallyUp? No concerns.

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4. Having event as a single month is cleaner, typically a contestant will go out and request "it's x dollars per kilometer for however many miles I do in one month"
5. Regarding messaging, it's the replacement for the Champion's Dinner to cover all our other needs, and also replaces the Loppet in terms of events

12. Gary Silver

- a. Instructed people to send their nominations to info@spokanenordic.org
- b. Resolved that Libby has access to the email address to retrieve nominations
- c. **Action Item:** Check gmail address for any Gary Silver nominations, resume conversation post-meeting

Adjourned 8:15pm