

HARDWICK TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

Monday, November 6, 2023

5:30 pm meeting - email hardwicktrails@gmail.com for an invite

Meeting called to order by Helen at 5:35

1. Welcome

2. Adopt/Amend Minutes of October Meeting

Upon motion by Norma W and second by Helen the minutes were approved unanimously

3. Additions to the agenda

none

4. Updates:

a. Trails conditions

Trails are good. Wayne assessed some danger trees. We're planning to have Forestry take them down.

b. Ski Program Donation/Lakeview Program

Lakeview kids are interested in skiing. Prevots have purchased ski equipment for the kids. These skis will be owned by Hardwick Trails and will come back to the trails at the end of the season. Prevots have also funded an additional 10 pr of adult skis for the Hardwick Trails

c. Snowdog (celebration:)!

Hurrah! Dave sold the Snowdog for \$2500. Proceeds are going into the capital fund.

5. Financials: Norma Spaulding

Sold about \$100 in hats plus about \$145 in donations at the pumpkin walk. We also received a \$500 donation in October in memory of Larry Michaels from Gretchen. It has been 4 years since Larry's death.

Maybe we could acknowledge these recent donations on our website.

Norma S has hats and t-shirts for sale still. Anyone who is interested can email Norma

6. Recreation Committee Request Approval

Rec Committee meeting was canceled. Helen is on the agenda for next Tuesday evening to ask for \$500 for the ski program. This will allow us to have a similar program to last year with instruction on our trails and one trip to Craftsbury Outdoor Center.

7. Budgeting Discussion & sub-committee formed

Casey sent a suggested budget with increases to programming from \$1200 to \$2000 and salaries increase by 5%. The programming increase aligns with our actual spending. Our insurance might go down a bit.

There was a discussion about trail repair line item. Recent trail work after the flooding was mostly covered by grant funds.

There was a discussion about the new proposed parking area on Billings Rd. That could be paid for from our capital budget. Might fall into FY24 but more likely to fall into FY25

There was a discussion about increased need for ski storage with increased skis. Maxfield may be able to help.

There was discussion about sponsoring more programming aiming at more/different groups. Maybe we need another \$500 or so. Discussion continued to explore how the Rec committee might contribute to programming, including helping with the pumpkin walk. The nature walk was very popular at the 20th anniversary celebration.

There are about 250 kids at the elementary school. There were about 400 pumpkins. There is about a 10-15% loss from rot. The afterschool program used to carve the remainder. This year there was another program kids were allowed to carve another pumpkin as a reward for something. All the pumpkins that do not rot are carved and placed on the trail for the walk.

We will plan to move ahead with the budget that Casey proposed if Rec will contribute to programming. Otherwise we will add a few hundred to our programming. Norma, Eric, and Helen will review.

8. Ski season program/logistics (sub-committee formed)

Emily is not available. Maxfield is maybe available. We need at least one more instructor. Eric and Helen will work on getting more instruction. Prevots are willing to put out the plea for help on their email list. The loaning out Saturdays and getting skis back prior to the next Saturday worked well. Looking to provide instruction 4 Saturdays.

9. Other business

Nancy follow up with Dave about website.

10. Adjourned at 6:15pm

Next meeting December 4, 2023