



LAKE LOUISE SNOW MACHINE CLUB  
HC 01 BOX 1684  
GLENNALLEN, AK 99588

Board Meeting  
November 19, 2021  
Palmer Moose Lodge

President Harry Holt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board members present:

President: Harry Holt  
Secretary: Pete Probasco  
Vice President: Donald Snovel  
Board Member: John Hicks (via phone)  
Board Member: Eric Carlson  
Board Member: Mike Andersen

Club Members in attendance: Eileen Probasco.

Agenda (attached) was approved.

Minutes from the April 11, 2021 annual meeting and September 3, 2021 Board meeting were approved through a motion made by Donald Snovel and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Carlson. Passed unanimously.

### **Treasurers' Report**

Randy Arndt was unable to attend this meeting but did provide a treasurers' report.

- USA Checking: \$15,843.48
- USA Savings: \$93,342.87
- PayPal – all funds have been transferred to Alaska USA.
- Outstanding bill – Edge Survey - \$14,000.00
- Project Wolf Pack donations as of 11/17/2021 - \$22,592.00 minus PayPal fees.



Treasurer's report was discussed and motion made by Mike Andersen and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric Carlson to accept the Treasurer's Report. Passed unanimously.

### **Old Business**

Updates were provided by Board members on the following...

- The Grant writer Yosef Nwabuko informed Eileen that due to significant health issues he will not be able to complete the grants he was contracted to do. Eileen received the following email text from Yosef [Tuesday, November 16, 2021, 04:41:52 AM AKST](#), Yosef <[yosef@fastmail.com](mailto:yosef@fastmail.com)> wrote:

*Hi Eileen,*

*I am very sorry. I have been going through some extremely challenging mental health issues for some time. And thus ive been out of pocket. The past few weeks have reached a tipping point. And due to the aggressive nature and deterioration of my health, I am now needing to take some personal time off to fully address this serious matter. I regret to say, that I can no longer contine my grant writing duties on your behalf.*

*I am going to ask one of my team members from the Learn Grant Writing Org to reach out to you directly and take on the remaining grant writitng services.*

*I will provide them with all the materials that I have gathered. And they can move forward per their terms, and work with you and prepare the necessary grant applications. I will have them reach out to you immediatally (this week) to discuss details and how you can move forward with them.*

*Once again, I am deeply sorry for this inconvenience and would have love to finish this project, but unfortunaely I must take care of my personal health immeadietly. My wrtiting ability has even been affected and I cannot live with myself knowing that I was not at full capacity to deliver an application that has the maximum potential to get funded.*

*Also, as a result of this inconvenience and my inability to meet my obligations per the contractual stipulations. I am foregoing the full amount of the retainer received. I will be*



*returning \$3200 back to LLSMC. I do not feel that I've been able to fully provide the service im capable of due to this unforeseen circumstance.*

*Please provide me with a paypal email account where I can send the funds to.*

*Sincerly,*

*Yosef*

Eileen will be meeting with a potential new grant writer on Monday, November 22, 2021 to determine if they will be able to provide the services requested. Concerns were raised to make sure this new grant writer has the skills and experience to complete the work. Eileen will report back to the Board as she learns more.

- Status of raising funds for project Wolf Tracks was discussed. It is estimated that the raffle will result in approximately \$16,000 in net profit to the club. Eileen is working with the Moose Lodge to finalize and has been contacting the raffle winners. With the \$22,592.00 already raised for the project plus the proceeds from the raffle we have raised to date approximately \$38,592.00.
- Cindy trail RTP grant – Harry reported that he is still having difficulty with DNR getting accurate information on the status of easements. Lisa Holt has been assisting Harry in trying to get accurate information from DNR. There is a possibility that some easements along this trail already exists, which will have an effect on how we proceed. The State will charge us \$1,200 to proceed with securing an easement.
- Trail grooming grants received for the 2021-2020 grooming season;
  - Mat-Su Borough - \$11,500.00
  - State of Alaska (SnoTrac) - \$12,926.31
- Discussion on securing a loan for the Wolf Tracks Project. Harry reported that Lisa is looking at another RTP grant directed towards the purchase of the groomer. Lisa provided this summary via email to Harry;

*Hey Dad,*

*I took a look at the RPT grant and found the following:*

- *The club would have to purchase the groomer up front and then submit a request for reimbursement. The application requires us to explain how we*



*will come up with the funds to pay for it in full, including the 10% match requirement.*

- Ideally, we need to submit 3 price quotes/bids and the Buy America provision will apply. There is a simple form that each bidding company would have to fill out certifying that more than 70% of the steel and iron components of the groomer were produced in the U.S. I did a little research and found a snowmachine club in MA that uses RPT funding for purchasing groomers and they said this wasn't a big deal. But it may mean you have to go with something other than a Piston Bully.*
- The groomer will belong to the State of Alaska for 5-years or the useful life, whichever is the least amount of time. So, this could be why Michelle was thinking you could buy a Tucker and sell it in 5-years and then buy a Piston Bully. Technically this would be legal.*

*I don't think it would take me longer than 2-4 hours to write up a grant proposal for the groomer if this is the route you want to go. We would need to post a public notice before [11/29/21](#) and I would need the bids/Buy America forms no later than [12/15/21](#) but preferably by [12/10/21](#). The sooner I know if you guys want to proceed with this one then better so I can start working on it and just be waiting on the bids.*

*Love ya, Lisa*

Harry had asked Pete to also review the grant Lisa was looking at and reported to Harry that we should proceed, especially if Lisa is willing to do the heavy lifting providing the information for the grant application. Mike has been working on pricing and will provide this information to Lisa. Mike also reported that his discussions with Carlile trucking that an estimated cost for shipping a groomer to Alaska is approximately \$6,000.00. This freight cost may be less due to the Club's 501c status. The Board members agreed to proceed with the RTP grant, Harry will inform Lisa. A motion was made by Pete and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Eric to sit down with one or more banks to determine if we can secure a loan up to \$250,000.00. This motion passed unanimously. Harry and Mike volunteered to take on this task.

### **New Business**

- Big Foot maintenance/repair – Rob Williams goal is to have the groomer ready by the first of the year. The electrical fault we were experiencing last year has been



- found and parts ordered. Harry will contact Rob to make sure this is still the goal. Harry is having difficulty finding track wheels for Big Foot. These wheels are no longer manufactured and he has been searching far and wide for used wheels. He was successful in finding some used hubs at \$150.00 each and tires to be mounted on these hubs would cost approximately \$450.00 each. Harry went on to report that these items are needed to repair one wheel on Big Foot and it is necessary to have spares in case of wheel/tire failure. Pete made a motion to provide up to \$3,000.00 towards the purchase of 3 hubs and tires, second by Mike. Motion passed unanimously.
- The Copper Basin 300 sled dog race will require us to groom the first week of January. Harry and Donald volunteered to accomplish this task.
  - Trail marking work party is scheduled for December 11-12.
  - Wolf Pack Weekend – March 5, 2020 at Point Lodge. Harry reported that Ken Hobbs will be back in early February. He went on to state that Randy has the lead in determining the trail location.
  - Annual meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2020. The plan is to have the meeting at Lake Louise Lodge, this will be finalized later.

### **Additional Business**

#### Club Merchandise

- Lisa Holt has someone who could clean up our current logo and would charge \$200.00.
- Eileen has been working with Ron Richards (Silver Tip Design) for a logo to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- Mike made a motion to have Lisa proceed with her work on cleaning up our current logo and Eileen to proceed with the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo, Donald 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Mike brought up the idea/concept of recognizing the groomers by providing a nice “Groomers” jacket to those individuals who groom a minimum number of hours (to be determined). Discussion followed with the Board members agreeing this was a great idea to pursue, however more information is needed to help determine how best to proceed. Mike agreed he will continue to work on this, to further flesh out the concept and provide a recommendation for the next Board meeting.



- Discussion followed on the status of current inventory of Club clothing merchandise. Eileen reported we are down to a single tote of miscellaneous clothing items and more will be needed to be ordered. Mike made a motion to authorize the purchase for additional clothing and hats to not exceed \$5,000.00, Donald 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Comments were made that this order should include both the current logo (Lisa's work on improving) and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo (Eileen). Motion passes unanimously. Eileen reported her goal is to have clothing available by February 1.
- Discussion on how the Club would proceed in grooming the area referred to as the "Overland Bridge". Eric reported, Randy and he had cleared a 10-foot trail this past fall on the "new" proposed trail. However, this trail cannot be any wider than 10 feet until a State easement is secured. As of this month, Randy has not received any update on the requested easement from DNR. How we address this issue for the 2021-2020 season is still in the works.

Motion to adjourn was made by Harry and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Peter J. Probasco, Secretary  
LLSMC  
907-982-3345