



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

Annual Meeting
April 11, 2021

President Harry Holt called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Board members present:

President: Harry Holt
Secretary: Pete Probasco
Treasurer: Randy Arndt
Board Member: John Hicks
Board Member: Donald Snovel
Board Member: Mike Andersen

Club Members in attendance: Mike Fassler, Kerin Fassler, Joe Stam, Eileen Probasco, Ken Hobbs, Bari Gray, Andy Anger, Nancy Marty, Jim Davis, Darren Toms, Dennis Fairbanks.

Meeting was called to order by Harry Holt at 1:10 p.m.

Agenda (attached) was approved with additional agenda items added to include LLSMC gear and logo change and the 2020-2021 Caribou season.

Minutes from the April 06, 2019 annual meeting were approved through a motion made by Donald Snovel and 2nd by Mike Andersen. Passed unanimously. Please note that there was no annual meeting in 2020.

- On March 24, 2020 President Harry Holt sent the following email to all members...

Hello To All Members,



I sincerely hope all is going well with our members and families during this challenging time.

As everyone knows by now it's absolutely necessary to take prudent precautions to avoid coming in contact with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) virus. So, in light of these extraordinary circumstances and to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all, I am postponing our Annual Membership Meeting scheduled for Sunday, [April 5th](#) until further notice. All our Club business will continue, and all the board members will remain in their present positions until such time a meeting can be rescheduled.

In the meantime, if anyone has any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact myself or any board member. All our contact information is on the new LLSMC web page, check it out when you have a chance.

We still plan to continue grooming trails this season and hope everyone will find ways to continue taking advantage of this extraordinary snow year.

Wishing the best to everyone,

Harry Holt, President

Treasurers' Report

Randy Arndt provided a detailed treasurer's report (attached). Randy also provided a summary of the membership, Basket Auction summary and Spring Fun Run summary. He also noted that we received a grant of \$10,000 from the Louise, Susitna, Tyone Community Association. Treasurer's report was discussed and motion made by Andy and 2nd by Mike Andersen to accept the Treasurer's Report. Passed unanimously.

Old Business

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

- Freight sled has been built and received.



- Tolsona/Big Rock trail easement has finally been completed.
- The North/South seismic trail has been widened and groomed.
- The memorial sign for Corky and Bev Mathews at mile 17 on the Eureka Trail has been installed.
- Completed the purchase and installation of another 20' connex.
- 3 Lakes Storage has provided us with a 5-year lease agreement for sno-cat operations and storage.
- Kevin Kramer delivered Corky Mathews snowmachine groomer to the LLSMC.
- 2021 Grant Applications (Mat-Su Borough and State of Alaska DNR) - Pete has the lead on the Grant Applications and Harry will maintain contact with the SnoTrac Board of Officers.
- Cindy Trail – Outdoor Recreational Trails Advisory Board (ORTAB) grant is being applied for; a meeting will occur June 1-2. The grant totals \$65,251.16 with a match of \$6,110.00.
- Status of the 2020 grants was provided; SnoTRAC grant totaled \$10,187.36, LLSMC has spent to date \$13,247.60; Borough grant totaled \$12,000.00, LLSMC has spent to date \$12,800.50.

New Business

- Harry Holt was contacted by Sean Maguire a reporter from KTUU seeking the LLSMC's position on the proposed regulation to allow snowmachines and ATVs on Alaska's roads that are under 45 miles per hour. Discussion for clarification followed. A motion was made by Pete Probasco to have the LLSMC remain neutral on the proposal, the motion was 2nd by John Hicks. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion on the possibility of having the Community Comprehensive Plan amended to address the issue of Ice Roads, e.g., concern is having high way vehicles using the trails we maintain for the Borough and State. Much discussion followed with the following key points made;
 - This areas Community Comprehensive Plan was last updated in 2016.
 - Currently there are 8 Community Comprehensive Plans within the Mat-Su Borough.
 - Comprehensive Plans are approved by the Borough Assembly, as well as any future amendments/updates.



- Even though we have legitimate safety concerns with this type of vehicle travel on the Lakes, we have no data to support our safety concerns.
 - After getting more information and a better understanding on the process to update and/or amend a Community Comprehensive Plan, members present did not support going through this type of process, at this time. No motion was made on this issue.
 - An additional suggestion was made to contact Tim Hale at the Mat-Su Borough to see if addressing this issue through a Lake Management Plan might be a better option. No one volunteered to take on this task.
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- Member Joe Stam who is also the President of the Louise Susitna Tyone Community Association updated us with the safety concerns associated with this past year's caribou hunting season. Due to the fact that a large portion of the Nelchina Caribou Herd overwintered here in 2020-2021, numerous hunting violations and safety concerns were witnessed. This included shooting from or across the Lake Louise Road, shooting towards cabins and people, not pursuing to recover wounded animals, chasing caribou on snowmachines, leaving killed animals without salvaging the meat, harvesting more than allowed and leaving parked vehicles in the driving lanes on the Lake Louise Road. A great deal of discussion followed to include drafting letters and/or contacting the State Troopers (this had already been done by a number of the members present), submitting a regulatory proposal to the State of Alaska Board of Game to put in place a ¼ mile closed to hunting corridor on each side of the Lake Louise Road (possibly in process from the Community Association), and a more dramatic measure of instituting a larger closure to restrict hunting throughout the 3 lakes area (not much support for this idea from the members present). Joe concluded that the Community Association Board will be drafting letters and possibly submitting a proposal to the State Board of Game.
 - Eileen Probasco presented to the membership an idea to design a new logo to help celebrate the 25th anniversary of LLSMC. Discussion followed with a committee being formed to include Eileen as chair with help from Mike and Sandy.
 - Nancy Marty made a comment that it would be nice to keep the membership informed by having a year-end summary on grooming costs and hours worked. She suggested this could be best accomplished by placing this information on the web. The Board will work with Bill Fair to see how best to make this happen.
 - Discussion on what to do with the Tucker.



- Harry Holt acknowledge the effort and time spent by Rob Williams this past grooming season on maintaining and fixing the sno-cats. Harry said, “Rob saved our bacon this past year!” we owe him a great deal of gratitude. Harry went on to state that due to the amount we spend on repairing and maintaining the two sno-cats, especially the Tucker we have to start the process/planning on how best to replace these machines, starting with the Tucker.
- Randy provided a summary of the maintenance and repair costs since 2014 for both machines...(add info here)
- Harry went on to discuss some of the options we should consider; sell the Tucker and purchase a replacement and retain Big Foot, repair the Tucker and then sell and retain Big Foot, sell both sno-cats and replace with a newer model and determine if we do pursue purchasing a replacement what make/model should we go after.
- Mike Andersen commented that Dave Cruz (Cruz Construction) who currently owns and operates a number of sno-cats, recommends PistenBullys. They have found these machines to be very reliable.
- Randy Arndt had done some research on having our grooming services contracted out or lease a sno-cat. In his discussions with Sno-Cat Alaska, they did not seem interested in doing this work.
- Harry believes we could find a very good used sno-cat for \$100,000 - \$150,000.
- Discussion followed on how do we go about raising the funds needed for this type of purchase.
- John Hicks commented and others agreed that we should keep at least one of the machines (Big Foot).
- Eileen Probasco made a motion to give the Board the authority to pursue funding towards the purchase of a sno-cat to not exceed \$160,000. This motion was 2nd by Donald Snovel. Discussion followed. Concerns were raised on the efforts it would take to raise these funds. Many felt we could accomplish this if we all pitched in and allowed sufficient time to do so. During this discussion an amendment was made by Andy Anger, if funding efforts are successful and exceed the \$160,000 the Board has the authority to spend beyond the \$160,000. The intent of this motion was to allow the Board the ability to purchase new equipment -vs- used equipment. This amendment was 2nd by Mike Andersen. The amendment passed



unanimously. Action on the motion as amended also passed unanimously.

- The topic of clarify how to best to pursue funding followed. Randy Arndt commented, in order to be successful in raising this amount of dollars will require us to pursue grants. Eileen Probasco and Mike Andersen volunteered to lead the efforts in pursuing grants and the services of a grant writer. A motion was made by Pete Probasco, that through the efforts of Eileen and Mike, if they find a suitable grant writer the Board has the authority to retain their services. The motion was 2nd by Donald Snovel. Discussion followed with questions on how this would be accomplished, assuring that the grant writer has a good history and experience, and timeliness of products produced. The motion passed unanimously. A LLSMC committee was formed to include Eileen Probasco, Randy Arndt, Rhonda Carlson, Eric Carlson, Lisa Holt, Harry Holt, Linda Page, Pete Probasco and Mike Anderson.

Additional Business

Elections...

Due to COVID concerns the LLSMC was unable to have their annual meeting in April 2020. This required action on 6 of the Board seats. Discussion followed with the following members being nominated Mike Fassler, Randy Arndt, Mike Andersen, Pete Probasco, John Delaquato, and John Hicks. Donald Snovel motioned for unanimous consent on the newly nominated Board members, Eileen Probasco 2nd. This motion passed unanimously.

Nancy Marty spoke to her appreciation for the efforts and dedication of Rob Williams in helping the LLSMC make it through a very challenging grooming season.

Motion to adjourn was made by John Hicks and 2nd by Donald Snovel. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Immediately following the Annual Meeting, President Harry Holt called for a Board Meeting for the purpose of electing officers and welcoming the new members.

In attendance: Harry Holt, Donald Snovel, Mike Anderson, Pete Probasco, Randy Arndt, Mike Fassler, and John Hicks.



Board Meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

Harry asked for nominations. Discussion followed with questions to the current officers asking if they would serve again in the same capacity. All agreed they would, with Randy again (this is an annual thing) trying to state that this would be his last year (no one took him seriously).

John Hicks made a motion to accept the following nominations:

Harry Holt – President
Donald Snovel – Vice President
Treasurer – Randy Arndt
Secretary – Pete Probasco

Donald Snovel – 2nd the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

John Hicks brought up the need for better communication while grooming. The need for Satellite phones on the groomers was discussed, for the purpose of providing this additional level of safety. John Hicks would check into the availability of the LSTCommunity's Sat-phone for use on the groomers.

Harry said we will start pulling markers towards the end of April. Jim and Nancy volunteered to help pull markers, Pete will pull markers on Tyone and the north end of Susitna Lake.

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

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