



SNOWMOBILE VERMONT

**Board of Directors
November 20, 2023
Meeting Minutes**

Members Present:

OFFICERS PRESENT

President, Jeff Fay

Vice President, Mark Reaves

Secretary, Ruth Halpin

Treasurer, Patty Companik

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Addison: Lewis Barnes

Bennington: Carol DeJohn

Caledonia: Bruce Carlson

Chittenden: Pat Poulin

Essex: John Hull

Franklin: Mike Burns

Grand Isle: Jeff Porter

Lamoille: Dustin Turner

Orange: Juliann Sherman

Orleans: Roger Gosselin

Rutland: Mike Stewart

Washington: Jeff Halpin

Windham: Michael Garber (Not Present)

Windsor: Doug Jacobs

STAFF PRESENT:

Executive Director: Cindy Locke

Trails Administrator: Matthew Tetreault

Office & Programs Manager: Mandy Dwinell

Technology & Media Manager: Beth Flint

Office & Programs Assistant: Lindsey Sanders

GUESTS:

Ivor Stevens, Windham County Alt. Director, Ed Hebebrand, Caledonia County Alt. Director; Lucas Lecuyer, Green Mountain Sno Dogs President; Michael Viggiano, Green Mountain Sno Dogs Trailmaster

President Jeff Fay called the meeting to order at 6:01pm

Approval of Agenda

Chittenden County moved and Windsor County seconded, to approve the Agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED Addition to New Business: Green Mountain Sno Dogs

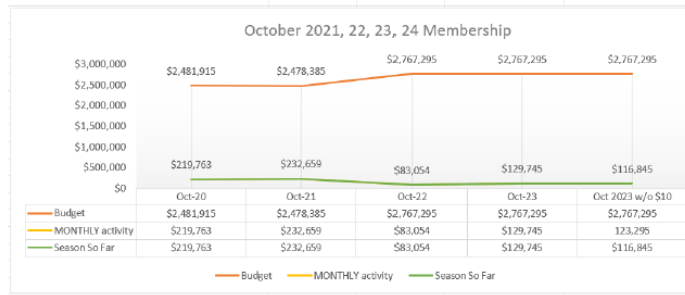
Secretary's Report

Addison County: Motion to approve, Grand Isle County seconded to approve Secretary's Report. MOTION CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report

	March 2020 COVID State Closed			Includes Increase \$10 per TMA	Revenue w/o \$10 increase impact The \$5.00 is included since it is reflected in prior data trackg per yr	\$10 per TMA estimate
Membership \$\$	Oct-20	Oct-21	Oct-22	Oct-23	Oct 2023 w/o \$10	
Budget	\$2,481,915	\$2,478,385	\$2,767,295	\$2,767,295	\$2,767,295	
MONTHLY activity	\$219,763	\$232,659	\$83,054	\$129,745	118,644	11,101
Season So Far	\$219,763	\$232,659	\$83,054	\$129,745	\$107,543	
percentage	8.85%	9.39%	3.00%	4.69%	3.89%	

Membership - October 2023
 Increase of \$10.00 per TMA implemented this Season.
 ~\$129k Membership Income Activity for October
 NSB-Trails Special Reserve Acct - \$16,820 (5.00 & 10.00 per TMA sold) x 66% = \$11,101



Income \$\$	Oct-20	Oct-21	Oct-22	Oct-23
Budget	\$3,255,180	\$3,310,443	\$3,436,342	\$3,586,956
MONTHLY activity	\$245,676	\$262,046	\$106,581	\$151,529
Season So Far	\$245,676	\$262,046	\$106,581	\$151,529
percentage	7.55%	7.92%	3.10%	4.22%

Expense	Oct-20	Oct-21	Oct-22	Oct-23
Budget	\$2,816,998	\$2,752,476	\$2,983,607	\$3,032,072
MONTHLY activity	124,934	\$102,283	\$114,341	\$115,526
Season So Far	\$124,934	\$102,283	\$114,341	\$115,526
percentage	4.44%	3.72%	3.83%	3.81%

Essex County: Motion to approve, Washington County seconded to approve Treasurer's Report. MOTION CARRIED.

TABLED ITEMS

Policy Changes

Nothing new to report.

Old Business

Nothing new to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Green Mountain Sno Dogs, Lucas Lecuyer and Michael Viggiano

Green Mountain Sno Dogs is a new club in Bennington County established October 22 2023 in the prior Green Mountain Trail Blazers area.

Green Mountain Sno Dogs have voted in their officers and board of directors.

The club has been working on connecting with the local community to rebuild landowner relationships. Trail system has been unmaintained for probably 5-8 years from prior club, working hard to assess and rehabilitate trails.

Club's current revenue to date is \$3800

\$3k from private donations

\$500 club fees from TMA sales

\$300 merchandise

Projection for January 2024: \$3k in club fees from TMA sales (trending \$2k), goal of additional \$2k in private donations and \$1k in merchandise for an overall projection of \$9800.

Club recently purchased a 2000 Arctic Cat ZR440 with a 4x8 drag for \$3300 to use for grooming this season. Snowmobile will need the track replaced along with repairs and maintenance throughout the season.

Discussion of alternate grooming ideas for the club.

Club reached out to prior club regarding resources and equipment, with no return support.

Club is projecting an estimated shortfall of \$6k-\$10k based on minimum items and expenses for the season

Additional grooming sled and drag: \$8k

Bridge maintenance: \$2 (2 bridges need redecking ASAP, not flood related)

Stakes and signs: \$500

Chainsaws: \$500

Grooming Fuel: \$300

Equipment maintenance: \$500

Registration/Insurance: \$500

TOTAL: \$15,900

Club is seeking financial resources guidance and support from VAST.

Cindy shared there is currently \$21k in equipment reserves and emergency funds has about \$64k if used for flood relief.

Discussion if club could submit a flood relief application. VAST has approved \$150k over the \$750k and is still reviewing projects.

Discussion of grooming contract possibility for Class 4. VAST confirmed club does have a grooming contract and will receive a startup payment, needs to adjust to account for the 7F2 area.

Discussion on what the process is for assisting a newly established club.

Discussion if Bennington County has emergency reserves, Bennington County doesn't charge county dues.

Majority of landowner permission forms received. 7F2 landowner permission forms received, this opens options for gas and food.

Discussion on resources for equipment and contacts.
Club request of \$10k to aide with expenses for a startup for the season.

Washington County: Motion to allow \$10k from emergency reserves to Green Mountain Sno Dogs to help take care of issues and expenses the club has during start up towards equipment and supplies, Windsor County seconded to approve motion as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

Discussion on process for club to communication of the need from club to VAST, request amount and documentation for auditing.

Trails Administrator's / ED Report – Cindy and Matt

Had the annual meeting with administration last week regarding updates with trails and flooding. Shared going to be a tight year with funding.

Future funding will go through FPR not AOT, since we already have a grant process with FPR.

Continuing to work with FEMA and SBA for the 2 Windsor County and 2 Washington County bridges, is a long process.

December BOD Meeting will be in-person on Monday, December 18 at the VAST office. Holiday meal will be provided prior to the meeting at 5:15pm, meeting to follow at 6pm. Cindy sending an email to RSVP.

Discussion if projected aren't going to be completed prior to the 12/15 deadline to contact VAST via the Trails Policy.

Grooming Contracts being sent soon. GPS units have been issued to clubs.

Committee assignments sent out within the last week. Contact Jef Fay with questions or changes.

Discussion on committee assignments and process of being a committee chair.

Curt Marechaux is the new chair for the Trails Committee and Ruth Halpin was assigned to the Awards Committee.

Committee and Other Meeting Reports

American Outdoor Risk Retention Group (AORRG) Insurance – Mark
Recently reviewed annual renewals.

Northeast Chapter and USA – Pat Poulin, Jeff Fay as VT Representatives

USA: Meeting the other night. Few things happening out west, won't have an impact on our area.

Northeast Chapter: Ride scheduled in Malone, NY February 8-11, 2024

VT Snow Trails Conservancy (VSTC) – Cindy
No meeting yet.

Law Enforcement (LE) Committee – Cindy

Franklin County Sheriff's Dept has come aboard, they have 2 sleds and are ready to go. They may also cover Grand Isle County.

Awards & Nominating – Patty Companik

Updating the nominating form in the spring.

By-Laws & Policy – Mark Reaves, Chair

Connecting with committees regarding a plan for the year.

Annual Meeting – Ivor Stevens

Things are on track. Recently received information from Washington County for the 2023 Annual Meeting.

Executive Committee – Jeff Fay, President

Met prior to the BOD meeting to review agenda, will continue to meet monthly.

Finance - Patty Companik

Setting up a financial meeting soon.

Long Range Planning & Organizational Committee – Mark Reaves

Reaching out to committees on their thoughts for the upcoming year.

Resource Committee

Not active.

Personnel – Juliann Sherman, Chair

Met recently but didn't have a quorum.

Trails – Cindy

Curt Marechaux new committee chair.

Safety Committee – Stan Choiniere

Not present.

Governor's Council – Pat Poulin

Met 11/1. All Law Enforcement agencies are gearing up for the upcoming season.

DMV: 10,290 registrations in VT, down 400 from last year.

DMV shared received limited feedback regarding registration changes.

Reminder to new BOD members, committee meetings are public and can join to see if that committee is of interest.

Motion to adjourn Washington County moved to approve; Windham seconded to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Halpin
Secretary