

VILAS COUNTY SNOWMOBILE TRAIL SAFETY COMMITTEE

Minutes of August 22, 2013 Meeting

Vilas County Courthouse, Conference Room 2 & 3, Eagle River, WI

PRESENT: Gary Peske, Chair; Ralph Sitzberger, Vice Chair; Dale Mayo, VC Recreation Administrator; Gerard Ritter, VC Sheriff's Dept; Ray Wolfe, LdF Tribal Law Enforcement; Laurel Dreger, VC Public Health; Rocky Caffarella, Alliance President; Mike Keintz, Alliance Rep NE; Holly Tomlanovich, Alliance Rep SE; Stan Guif, Alliance Rep SW; Leo Crawley, Alliance Rep NW

EXCUSED ABESENCE: Tim Price, DNR Law Enforcement; Cindy Burzinski, VC Tourism/Publicity; Gina Egan, VC Public Health

GUESTS: Ken Anderson, Media

Meeting called to order at 9am by Chair Peske.

Verification of posting of meeting - Mayo

Approve agenda to be discussed in any order at the discretion of the Chair. Motion by Sitzberger. Second by Crawley. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes from the June 20, 2013 meeting. Motion by Guif. Second by Crawley. Motion carried.

Chair Peske welcomed all in attendance.

Budget Report – Mayo - Last meeting budget balance of \$1041.00. There has been no activity. Current balance as of 8/22/13 of \$1041.00

Public Health – Dreger- Public Health Department requesting recognition on the Kiosk's at T-Docks & Eagle Lake landings. The "Kid's Don't Float" program was funded through money from the Kid's Alive Grant program. It is uncertain as to whether this program will be available from year to year.

a. The Snowmobile Safety interactive display is up & running with video. Still in need of artificial pine trees.

DNR Report – Mayo – At the 7/21 & 22 Snowmobile Rec Council meeting Mayo spoke with Gary Eddy of the DNR re the Mobile Billboards. Eddy has several trailers that he could possibly work into this program. Caffarella said that the Cross Country Cruisers have a trailer that could be used. Discussion on banners for the trailers followed. One idea was to seek out sponsors or donations. Ritter suggested the possibility of school bus advertising. Caffarella will have on the Agenda of the next Vilas County Snowmobile Alliance meeting. The DNR will more than likely produce the banners. Mayo will coordinate with Eddy and report back. Sitzberger reminder to make sure to apply for a DOT permit.

Alliance Meeting – Crawley reported that there have been no meetings since his last report.

Advertising, Public Relations – Mayo

a. Presented Poster samples. Further action was tabled & will be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting. Prices we currently have are more than 30 day old & may no longer be valid.

b. PSA – Lake riding PSA will be included for the upcoming season.

c. School Assistance Posters – Posters are a terrific idea but funding could be an obstacle.

Sheriff's Report – Ritter – No report. Awaiting Sheriff's appointment. Discussion followed on a Recreation officer position; hours available for patrolling; reimbursement such as through Snowmobile Fund, Department of Tourism, Room Tax.

Recreation Administrator Report – Mayo

- a. Trail Width – Vilas County is looking to go to 16 foot wide trails wherever possible. Currently NR 50 reads 8 foot minimum to 12 foot maximum. Vilas County has filed for a variance to 16 feet. Sitzburger has had conversations with Towns, Northern Highland Forest, State & Lakes Associations to move to 16 foot width.

Vehicles on groomed snowmobile trails – Caffarella – Asked for a statement/resolution from the Safety Committee that from December 1 thru March 31 wheeled vehicles would be prohibited on snowmobile trails. Mayo suggested a meeting with Peterson, Supervisor of the Northern Highland Forest & other municipal officials. No action at this time.

Date for next meeting – Thursday, September 19, 2013 – 9am – Vilas County Courthouse Rooms 2 & 3.

Adjourn – 10am by Chair Peske

Respectfully submitted by Holly A. Tomlanovich