

## **MECCA MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 7 2023 5PM AT THE CHALET**

**ROLL CALL:** Jerry Leiterman, Mike Shouldice, Norm McKindles, Connie Philpot, Bernie Langreck, Monica Mears, Sondra Brown, Diane O'Krongly

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Motion to approve the minutes from December 6, 2022, made by: Norm, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bernie. All in favor

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Discussion about ATV expenses, and membership dues and donations. Motion to approve the treasurer's report made by Bernie, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Diane. All in favor.

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:** MECCA is not as busy as last year, but there seems to be more first time visitors. Discussed recording volunteer hours seeing as only hours from trail maintenance, grooming, mowing, signing, and hazard tree removal count towards the RTP grant. Thank you to all Winterfest volunteers!

**OLD BUSINESS:** A motion was approved via email to buy hats for Winterfest volunteers not to exceed \$1000. Latest gator expense was \$700. Fe University ski lessons had 15 people for both classes and was enjoyed by all. Discussed the cabin being closed during Winterfest.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FACILITIES:** Diane reported: Happy about the way the open/close calendar is working. People are filling in when needed. Her suggestions for the facilities use during Winterfest were that the bag drop area should be bigger, volunteers need to be made aware of coffee/hot chocolate available, vault toilets need better heating, there should be more cheering at the finish line for skiers, and no more Styrofoam cups.

**FINANCE:** Sondra reported: There will be a finance committee meeting soon. The gas account at Shell has been set up and a Shell rewards account will be set up.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Monica reported: So far in memberships we have: 13 Individual, 46 Family, 6 Supporting, and 18 Patron.

**OUTREACH (PROMOTIONS):** Mike reported: Winterfest: (Live event): The 30k race had the most participants with the Claire d'Loon 5k next. There were 68 participants, double what we had last year. Door prizes were given out with some also going to the virtual skiers/snowshoers. There were 57 volunteers and an appreciation party is being held Thursday, February 9, at the Home Slice Pizza/Liberty Way Tap as Eric Benhnke (owner of Home Slice) has been a contributing sponsor of Winterfest. There is a volunteer survey going out. Discussed having the ski event and candlelight event on the same day.

**CANDLELIGHT SKI/SHOE/HIKE:** Monica reported: There were 14 volunteers and 14 people who donated cookies. Snows Family Market donated the hot chocolate, marshmallows, and hand warmers for the lantern lighters. We made \$270 which is down from other years, maybe due to weather. Discussed having the cabin open and making chili for next year.

**TRAILS AND EQUIPMENT:** Bernie reported: Trail is in good shape but there are a lot of branches down. Up to January 31<sup>st</sup> this year they have groomed 47 times and have 172 hours on the gator and 70 hours on the snowmobile. Norm reported: Wiring job has been completed.

**NEW BUSINESS:** There will be a DNR Stakeholders meeting on February 8. Jerry and Mike are going to represent MECCA. Discussed trading in gator for a new one. The equipment committee will look into this.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Thanked Bernie Langreck and Peggy Bronsberg for making and donating the beautiful wreath that is on the chalet. Discussed the mowing contract we have with the Town of Mercer, the North Lakeland Discovery Moonshoe at MECCA, and the use of the MECCA Experience Fund. Diane is looking for a listing of events for a newsletter.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 5 pm at the MECCA Chalet.

**ADJOURN:** 6:30