

MECCA Monthly Meeting Minutes
MECCA Chalet
Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at 5 PM

Call to Order, roll - Jerry Leiterman, Norm Mckindles, Rodney Silvis, Sondra Brown, Tim Lutgen, and Diane OKrongly.

Approval of Minutes from 06-27-23 meeting (sent via email) No discussion - Norm Mckindles made the motion to approve the minutes and seconded by Rodney Silvis.

Approval of the Treasurer's Report (sent via email) The Treasurer's Report for the months of June and July need to be approved.

- Month of June - Tim Lutgen made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report for June and Norm McKindles seconded the motion.
- Month of July - Rodney Silvis made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report for July and Diane OKrongly seconded the motion.

Old Business

July 27th Work Bee results - Jerry Leiterman;

- Volunteers: Mike Shouldice, Jerry Leiterman, Sharon Leiterman, Diane OKrongly, Susan Knight, Dave Bartlett, Connie Philpot.
- Accomplished - removed scrap wood and metal; organized chalet attic and storage room.
- Remaining lumber of little value will be removed by Sondra and Chad Brown.

Firewood - Mike Shouldice has arranged to purchase firewood from a logging operation occurring on County Hwy FF (7 miles from Hwy 51). Sondra and Chad Brown have volunteered to use their skid steer and trailer to move the logs from the logging site to the MECCA Chalet. This will occur any time before October. In October/September MECCA will have a firewood Work Bee to cut, split and stack in the woodshed.

Committee Reports

Facilities - Diane O'Krongly:

- Diane will organize a Work Bee in the fall to clean the Chalet.

Finance - Sondra Brown:

- Membership and Donation payments are now on-line.
- Proposed FY 23-24 Budget was discussed, and few changes were made. Budget will be presented and voted on at the annual meeting in September.
- MECCA received its 2022-23 RTP Grant payment in the amount of \$7,954.

Membership - Sondra Brown

- MECCA currently has a combined membership of 97 families and individuals.
- Sondra Brown and Becca Bartling have made it possible for MECCA members to renew their Membership Dues and make donations online. Simply visit meccatrails.com and make payment using a credit or debit card or Paypal. *The Board members extended their thanks to Sondra and Becca for their time and effort in accomplishing this goal. Their efforts saved MECCA service fees that would have been paid to a vendor.*
- The Electronic Registration will incur a fee of approximately 1.9% plus \$0.49 per transaction. Sondra is also looking into getting a new email for MECCA Trails. Our web host will no longer support emails. The new email will be a Google account.
- Sondra will take on the responsibility of monitoring incoming email sent to MECCA.

Outreach (Promotions) - Mike Shouldice (absent, no report)

Special Events - Rodney Silvis: 2024 Winterfest Updates

- Winterfest Planning meeting scheduled for August 3 at the Mercer Community Building.
- Event generated approximately \$15,000 net profits last winter.
- 2024 Winterfest will advertise in Silent Sports Magazine and the website of Skinny Ski.
- MECCA has received a \$1,000 grant from the Mercer Chamber of Commerce to be used to advertise Winterfest.
- Teresa Schmidt will manage the RunsignUp platform to register skiers and snowshoers.

Trails and Equipment - Norm McKindles

- Mower wheels and miscellaneous parts were purchased at a cost of \$493.
- Trails were mowed before "Run for a Vet" by Bernie. Next mowing cycle will be in late August.
- The "Run for a Vet" was a success with over 100 participants.
- Mercer Bike Trail has been mowed three times so far this season.
- Sign Maintenance Contract with the Park Board has been nearly completed by MECCA volunteers.
- New UTV - anticipated arrival of the new John Deere Gator is tentatively in October. Auxiliary lighting and grooming implement control wiring may be performed by the dealer rather than MECCA volunteers. Dealer cost for this service would be approximately \$2,000.

New Business

Discussion to raise “Membership Dues and Trail Use - After much discussion it was decided to raise the Membership Dues as follows:

| NEW FEE SCHEDULE 2023 | | OLD FEE SCHEDULE 2017 |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| <u>Yearly membership</u> | | <u>Yearly membership</u> |
| Patron \$150 | | Patron \$100 and Supporting \$75 |
| Family \$65 | | Family \$50 |
| Individual adult \$45 | | Individual adult \$30 |
| <u>Daily pass</u> | | <u>Daily pass</u> |
| Individual adult \$12 | | Individual adult \$8 |
| Student \$3 | | Student ski \$3 |
| Senior \$8 (65 and older) | | \$3 snowshoe or \$20 per carload |

The last time Membership Dues were raised was 2017. Going forward MECCA's Fee schedule will be reviewed every two years. Norm Mckindles made a motion to accept the new fee schedule to be in effect the 2023/2024 fiscal year and Tim Lutgen seconded the motion.

Motion - A motion was made by Tim Lutgen to empower President and Treasurer to make monetary decisions (such as opening up a CD) independent of the full board. After discussion there was no second to the motion.

Equipment Storage Building Project Ad-hoc Committee

Update - Jerry Leiterman:

- At the September meeting, the committee will lead a discussion on their findings regarding the building project as it relates to funding, building design, building location, estimates, easements, Town of Mercer's support, construction schedule, construction contracts and operating budget.. For the committee to continue their work, the membership will have to move on motions authorizing the committee to enter into a building construction contract and a capital campaign to raise the remaining funds needed.

Officer and Board Member nominations / elections scheduled for September's Annual Meeting

- Monica Mears has submitted her resignation as Secretary effective at the end of her current term. Monica has served as secretary for six years. The Board thanks Monica for her great service!
- In order to vote for an Officer or Board Member, members must have dues paid for the new fiscal year which starts September 1st..

Adjournment- Norm Mckindles made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Sondra Brown seconded the motion.

Minutes recorded by Diane Okongley