

MECCA Monthly Meeting Minutes

Tues June 4, 2024, 5:00 PM at the Chalet

Present-Diane O'Krongly, Jon Olsen, Jerry Leiterman, Tim Lutgen, Bernie Langreck, Mike Sholdice, Leanne Silva, Rodney Silva, Sondra Brown, David Bartling, Dave Lombardo

Approval of Minutes of 2/6/2024- motion by Bernie, second by Tim

Approval of Treasurer's Reports- Presented by Sondra

- March- motion by Mike, second by Diane
- April- motion by Tim, second by Bernie
- May- motion by Leanne, second by Rodney

Public comment- Dave Lombardo reviewed plans for the upcoming 18th July 4th Run for the Vet and thanked the MECCA club for use of the trails and continued support of the program.

Old Business

1. An update on the club's Wisconsin Department of Administration grant application request towards the new storage building notes an expected announcement of decisions from a competitive group of applicants in the late summer or fall of 2024.
2. Sondra Brown is stepping down as MECCA treasurer as of the start of the fiscal new year in September. Jon Olsen will be taking on the position at that time.
3. Diane represented MECCA at the recent Mercer Library Earth Day event.
4. Timber is being harvested by the DNR and Iron Co. Forestry services. Trails impacted are primarily between the bridge and the flowage. After completion of the harvest, the trails are to be graded and seeded.

Committee Reports

Facilities- Diane:

- Firewood is well stocked for the next season.
- The chalet and storage buildings are due for their every 3 years cleaning and staining. Diane, Jon and Mike will organize a volunteer day later in the summer or fall to complete the work.

Membership-

- Forty-three members are active. The numbers are down from past years likely due to the lack of snow and skiing/snow shoeing this past winter.

Finance-

- A \$25,000 6 month CD with Associated Bank is maturing on 6/23/24. A motion to renew the CD for another 6 months and invest in an additional \$15,000 6 month CD was motioned by Mike and 2nd by David who will look into current bank rates. It was agreed that the funds will not be needed for the new storage building in the next 6 months. The club currently has \$85,000 in the bank/CDs.

Trails and Equipment-

- Bernie noted that the lawn mower will be used this summer for trimming the Mercer bike trails and MECCA trails. Sign work will also be done on the bike trail (e.g. mile markers). No other equipment concerns or issues.

Community outreach-

- Mike commented on MECCA support of the Solstice bike festival this June in Manitowish Waters (\$500) and Lupine Junefest in Mercer (\$150). MECCA and ICORE also will be supporting a winter youth program for XC ski and snowshoe lessons for the youth in the community.

Winterfest-

-Rodney has agreed to be the lead again in 2025 for the MECCA Winterfest race. Initial plans for the event will be discussed at the July MECCA meeting.

New Business

1. Tim updated the group on progress for the plans for the new storage/maintenance building. The club will have adequate funds to build if our grant application is successful. If not, a club fundraising program will be needed to raise the funds. Jerry and Norm continue to work with the sanitary district and town of Mercer regarding the land transfer for the building site. The town of Mercer would then be able to perform site work prior to pouring the concrete base, likely spring of 2025 with the building to follow spring/fall of 2025. A contractor has been selected, but a deposit will be needed before we are placed on their schedule.
2. The budget for 2024/2025 will be reviewed at the August meeting in preparation for the September annual meeting. Any additional budget items needed should be forwarded to Jerry ASAP.
3. Jerry will prepare a draft of the MECCA club mission, goals and action plan and present it to the board members in the next few months. This is necessary for grant applications and to provide a roadmap for organizational operations.
4. Additional volunteer opportunities for the 2024 work projects list will be reviewed at the July meeting.
5. New brochures are needed for the hiking and XC ski/snowshoe trails. In the past there have been unique

brochures for each. It was agreed that a combined brochure is preferred. Mike and Diane will work on the new brochure design and production.

Next Meeting- Tuesday July 2nd, 2024 at 5p in the Chalet

Adjournment- Motion to adjourn by Bernie, 2nd by Mike

Minutes recorded by Jon Olsen