

MECCA Trails Monthly Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, August 5, 2025, 5 PM at Chalet

**Roll call:** Norm McKindles, Mike Shouldice, Tim Lutgen, Rodney Silvis, Jerry Leiterman, Jon Olsen, Alex Hittle, Don Dugan

**Minutes 7/1/25 meeting:** Motion to approve: Olsen/McKindles, motion carried

**Treasurers Report:** Brief discussion of donations, income and expenses. Motion to approve: McKindles/Silvis, motion carried.

**Old Business:** Jerry met with WI DNR to discuss the damage done by the logging operation last fall on Moose & Osprey. DNR will bring equipment out in September to repair damage. The cabin on the Osprey Traill will be removed either by a controlled burn or by heavy equipment. Timetable has not been set.

Jerry met with the Mercer Park Board. They would like to have MECCA propose a new 5-year service agreement this fall. A Stihl rep was at the Mercer Bike Fest. He indicated there are nonprofit 'deals' that he could discuss with us.

**Committee Reports:**

Facilities: A pile of birch is ready to split at the woodshed. A work bee will be scheduled this fall.

Finance: 2025-26 budget draft has been started, with further discussion and approval at the September annual meeting. Send budget requests and ideas to Jon and copy Jerry.

Membership: none

Outreach: Mike Shouldice - MECCA exhibited with ICORE at the Mercer Bike Fest

Equipment: Norm McKindles - The brush guard on the JD UTV got bent and one of the pins has been repaired. The mower blades were replaced.

The mower has a wheel bearing failure. Replacement wheels have been acquired and will be replaced. The Gator antifreeze was low again, and it should be checked every time we use it.

**Trails:** Jerry and Rodney have provided comprehensive updates on planned trail improvements. A formalized trail improvement plan has been established, and key projects were reviewed. The completion of these initiatives will require grading equipment, followed by coordinated volunteer work sessions once grading activities are finished.

**Events:** Rodney Silvis - Winterfest 2026 'Live' will be January 17. Virtual Winterfest will be December 20<sup>th</sup> through February 14<sup>th</sup>. The timing company has been reserved, and poster work has started. A new 20 K event will be added to both the live and virtual event, the 'Turtle River Ski Athlon'. Sponsor solicitation will require volunteer efforts.

**New Building:** Tim Lutgen - Garage doors have been hung. The workbench and cabinets have been installed. Electrician may need volunteer assistance. Heating and LP contractors will follow the electrical contractor. Two, 1-ton hoists were acquired at no charge through a nonprofit donation. We can then start moving tools and equipment into the building in September.

**Landscaping:** Jerry provided a landscaping plan which included gravel and topsoil quantities, machine time and a cost estimate. Work bees are being planned for August 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, Jerry will send out more information.

**Fund Raising Ad-hoc Committee:** Jon Olsen - Donor recognition was discussed with various signage options. Tentatively, a grand opening celebration is planned in early December to coincide with the toy drive for Iron County youth sponsored by the Mercer Fire Department.

**Summer Activity Ad-hoc Committee:** Norm McKindles - A 9-hole disc golf course was marked and walked in July. Norm is checking out a course in Woodruff. The planning process is underway with a goal of having a plan created by the spring 2026.

**New Business:** A donation for the Mercer Bike Fest has been requested. No motion was made.

Election of officers and board members will be held at the September meeting.

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 16th, 2025, Chalet, 5pm

Adjourn: 6:39

Minutes recorded by Mike Shouldice