

Town of St Germain
Non-Motorized Trails Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2018

- 1) Meeting called to order by Anne Small at 5:30 PM
- 2) Roll call: present were Jim Swenson, Jimmy Vogel, Penny McCormick, Becky Dunn, Bob Schell and Anne Small. Absent were Marion Janssen and Mary Platner.
- 3) Open meeting verification: Anne Small stated she posted the agenda before 5:30 pm on Nov 14th in accordance with the open meetings requirement
- 4) Approval of agenda: Jim Swenson made motion to approve agenda, seconded by Bob Schell. Motion carried.
- 5) Read and approve minutes of last regular meeting: Jimmy Vogel made motion to approve minutes from the October 2018 committee meeting, seconded by Becky Dunn. Motion Carried.
- 6) Citizen Concerns: None
- 7) Fern Ridge Trail
 - a) Trail signage – Anne Small stated that she would get some trail marker signs for the hiking trail. Jimmy Vogel recommended getting enough trail markers so the signage could be seen going in both directions. Jimmy Vogel also recommended getting a map sign for the trailhead. Anne Small said she would create a map and order a map sign as well as the trail markers.
 - b) Hwy 155 Trailhead plowing – Anne Small noted that we should try to get the plow to push the snow in a way that leaves an easy access to the hiking trail in the winter rather than a big snowbank. Jimmy Vogel said he could put up a snow fence parallel to the trail near the trailhead sign and we can ask the person who plows the lot to push the snow to the west of that fence, leaving an access point to the trail.
- 8) Awassa Trail
 - a) Trail update for winter – Jimmy Vogel said that all of the trails were ready for the winter season. He completed the brushing of the fat bike route through Awassa and placed posts for signage marking entrance and exit to that trail. Jimmy Vogel and Jim Swenson went out to clear the trees that were blocking the Orange and Green loops of the trail.

Anne Small said that she would write an article for the local papers telling about the new fat bike usage allowed on Awassa Trails and the fat bike single track route. She had ordered signage for the fat bike loop and for the “winter use trails” at Awassa so that it clearly defines which trails can be used for non-motorized use during the winter season. Anne Small also noted that the St Germain Elementary School okayed placing a permanent sign for the Awassa Trails access affixed to their large entrance sign. Anne and Jimmy Vogel would work on getting the signage placed.
 - b) Candlelight Ski/Snowshoe plans for Feb 9, 2019 from 6-8 pm:
 - i) Start putting out candles at 4:45 PM, Penny McCormick, Anne Small and other volunteers would help with this.
 - ii) Start setting up bonfire area/hot chocolate table – 5 PM
 - iii) Bob Schell said he already purchased hot chocolate. Becky Dunn said she would put together the s’mores bags again.
 - iv) Jimmy Vogel and Anne Small would work on making ice luminaries for a portion of trail. Might try to take them out with the side-by-side instead of pulling on a sled.
 - v) Jimmy Vogel would get the benches ready in the bonfire area.
 - vi) Anne Small would check with school to make sure it is ok to use their parking lot again for the event.
 - c) Other Awassa Trails items: Anne Small noted that we have been dealing with at least two vehicles driving on to the Awassa Trails, using by the snowmobile trails and the hiking trails for deer hunting purposes. Committee felt they would need to put gates in place to keep this problem from happening next year.

9) Bike & Hike Trail

- a) Anne Small asked Jim Swenson if the Town Board had had any other discussion about doing the bike trail extension to Half Mile Rd. Jim Swenson said they had not and it would be a good idea to get an estimate of the cost of project before asking the board to address the question. Anne Small said she had contacted George Lurvey from Pitlik asking about the estimated cost, but had not received a reply. She would try again. Jimmy Vogel said he would talk with a school representative about the idea of having the trail come south through the school rather directly into the town park, thus avoiding congestion of the flea market during the summer.

10) Other ideas/input from committee – Becky Dunn had an idea for getting the interpretive signs in place at Awassa. She would bring it up at the December meeting.

11) Next trail committee meeting scheduled for Dec. 13, 2018, at 5:30 PM

12) Anne Small adjourned the meeting at 6:35 PM.

PENDING APPROVAL