

TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

Minutes from Non-Motorized Trails Committee

February 15, 2023

1. Meeting called to order at 6:34 PM, by Anne Small
2. Roll call: present were committee members Bob Schell, Jim Swenson, Jimmy Vogel, Penny McCormick, and Anne Small. Also present was Terry Duke.
3. Open meeting verification: Anne Small posted meeting agenda before 6:30 PM on Feb. 14, 2023
4. Bob Schell made motion to approve minutes of January meeting, Jimmy Vogel seconded, motion carried.
5. Citizen Concerns: Terry Duke asked about the status of the sledding hill at the Fern Ridge Recreation Area
6. Awassa Trail
 - a. Trail Report: Jimmy Vogel said trails are currently icy and suggested we recommend that people attending candlelight event wear ice cleats on boots, or snowshoes, and no skis.
 - b. Converting grooming drag to hydraulic – Jimmy Vogel would like to convert the grooming drag to hydraulic, which would cost between \$900-\$1100. He would do the install. Bob Schell made motion to spend up to \$1200 to purchase the needed equipment to convert the drag to hydraulic, Jim Swenson seconded. Motion carried.
7. Fern Ridge Trail
 - a. Trail report – Jim Swenson said the bike trail was groomed last Wednesday, but there hasn't been much use due to the warm weather.
 - b. Pavilion for trailhead – Jim Swenson said that MSA told the town board that we would need state approved plans for a pavilion at Fern Ridge. Jim Swenson said that certain builders can provide state approved plans. Committee discussed whether it would be best to build just a shelter (approximately 30'x40') or build an enclosed structure with warming room, bathrooms, kitchen. Committee members agreed that starting with the pavilion is the direction they wanted to go, since they had raised enough money to cover the cost. An enclosed, heated structure could be constructed in the future, but would take a considerable amount money. Jim Swenson would request to have the pavilion proposal to be on the town board meeting agenda for March 13th, so that if approved by the board, it would get voted on at the spring electors meeting, but without tax-payer funds.
8. Bike & Hike Trail
 - a. Trail Report – nothing to report
9. Treasurer's report
 - a. Account balances – Awassa: \$3855.46; Fern Ridge: \$12,321.72; Hike & Bike Trail: \$50,514.74; Other: \$25,149.28
10. Awassa Candlelight event – Feb 18, 6:00-8:00 PM – Committee to meet Saturday morning to put out the luminaries at 8 am. Bob Schell, Jimmy Vogel, and Scott Small will bring snowmobiles. Others will be there to place candles as the luminaries are set out. Jimmy Vogel and Jim Swenson will try to make insert for the sleds to protect the luminaries. Plan to meet at 4:30 PM on Saturday, to start setting up and lighting candles.
11. Other ideas/input from committee - none
12. Schedule next committee meeting – March 13, 2023, at 3:00 PM
13. Meeting adjourned by Anne Small at 8:06 PM