



SHARED USE TRAILS

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 18, 2022
4:00 pm

Present: Margaret Dean, Cross Country Ski Club
 Dan Marchisella, Ex Officio/Mayor
 Marg Reckahn, Penocean Hills Field Naturalists,
 Gerry Robitaille, Chair
 Dave Nesbit, Coureurs des Bois
 Heber Davis, Coureurs des Bois
 Bob Wheelock, Elliot Lake Snowbirds
 Marilyn Panton, Elliot Lake Snowbirds
 Jack Peterson, Jack's Ski & Bike Shop
 Karla Mills, Jack's Ski & Bike Shop
 Paul Eldon, Mountain Bike Club
 Ryan Forsythe, Mountain Bike Club

Regrets: Sandy Finamore, Councilor

Resources: Dan Gagnon, CAO
 Megan Hammond, Secretary
 Bill Goulding, Special Projects Manager
 Tom Turner, Councilor
 Steve Antunes, Manager of Economic Development
 Marcus Heard, Economic Development Associate
 Leigh-anne Doyle, Tourism Coordinator

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 4:00pm.

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

3.1 June 14, 2022

Res#: 06/22

Moved By: Paul Eldon

Seconded By: Marg Reckahn

THAT the minutes of the June 14, 2022, Shared Use Trails meeting be approved as presented.

Carried

4. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

5. INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE REPORTS

6. PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Verbal Updates from User Groups

Re: Group Status and Initiatives

ATV Club (Bob Wheelock)

- Rolly has been out doing trails with backhoe and filling holes.

EL Snowbirds (Gerry Robitaille)

- Very close to being ready for winter.
- Rebuilt groomer, spent \$4,000 reconditioning.
- Brand new groomer should arrive soon, hoping for December.
- Able to build two outhouses and a warm up shack.
- Received a \$10,000 grant from Retirement Living. \$5,000 going to warm up shack and the other \$5,000 going to a new furnace (MBS doing the work)
- Heard there is a Jeep club started, concerned they may be driving on the trails. Met with OPP and voiced concerns.

Coueurs des Bois (Dave Nesbit)

- Change in membership. All memberships come due in September now. Approximately 100 members.
- Started trail clearing now that weather is cooler.

- Finished “Emily’s Trail” from Spine Beach out to Sandy Point. Had a dedication on September 11th to name it for Emily Windle who backboned the work and route finding.
- On Sept 29th will be hiking and dedicating “Grant’s Trail” south off Panel Mine Rd, into the west end of Rye Lake. A team of 29 workers cleared and marked the trail last week.
- Retirement living gave a grant for clearing tools, safety equipment trail signs and snowshoes. Looking to replace older snowshoes over the next ten years. Will also use them to loan during winterfest.
- VP Julie Burton moved to New Brunswick. Louise Mclean has filled her spot.

Cross Country Ski Club (Margaret Dean)

- Jack’s Ski & Bike Shop is going to rent cross country skis and poles to the public. Very exciting news for the club.
- Paul Torrance walked around and there are currently ten trees down. Will be going out in the next two weeks to get the trees out.
- Membership process is different this year. Will be part of Ski Ontario, will get insurance through them and this will cover the groomer person.
- Memberships will be \$25. \$21 of this will go towards insurance.
- New groomer worked really well. Didn’t have to wait for the snowmobile club to groom for them. Will post on Facebook when trails are groomed.

Mountain Bike Club (Paul Eldon)

- Received grant from retirement living to purchase a Snowdog groomer. Ryan and Paul are the only ones who operate it.
- Tried to use it on the lakes but it was too slushy.
- New plan is to use it on the outside edge of the high school fence. The high school is totally fenced off now, so no snowmobile access. Can use the pool parking lot since it will be closed over the winter.
- Would like to work with the City to potentially have a warm up shack. Will reach out to Steve Antunes and Rick Juuti.
- This would be a great option for beginners or seniors since trail is flat. Spine trail can be a little intimidating to some people.
- Mountain Bike side: added trails around the area on to an app called Trail Forks. This is widely used by mountain bikers.
- Would be great to have it linked to the City’s website.
- In the process of adding Beaver Mountain and Porridge Lake loop.

Penokean Hills Field Naturalists (Marg Reckahn)

- Received a grant from BHP to make educational signs to put around Sherriff Creek. Should be completed by spring.
- Full update of all the flora has been done. 3 or 4 days to complete.

- Still doing Saturday walks, up to 10-12 people at a time. Mostly walk around red and yellow trails.
- Started membership drive. Will wait until November for final numbers.
- Doing a Geology Tour this Saturday. 15 people have signed up so far.
- Decided to cancel meeting in January and February due to weather. Next meeting will be in March.
- Ontario Nature is still doing Zoom meetings. Club members can join.

Mississagi Park (Dan Gagnon for Sarah Daigle)

- Great season at the park. 21,000 people through the park.
- They have a database of all the addresses so it would be a good idea to send out more information on the area.
- This is the last year that the City of Elliot Lake will be running the park.
- Sarah and staff will be employees of the new non-profit.
- Would like to eventually have the camp open for the winter season. Hoping to have cabins eventually.
- Looking to have ATV's be able to run in and out of the camp.

City of Elliot Lake Update (Steve Antunes)

- Recently presented strategic plan.
- Looking to promote the Trail head as a tourism stopping point.
- On December 6th there will be an open house to discuss the strategic plan, will then bring to committee and then to council.
- Purchased a Bad Elf GPS for trail mapping.
- The City needs to present to BHP the trails that we want to promote in the Milliken Mine area. Will go to BHP with as many trails as possible as they will likely eliminate some. Will rely on the Coures des Bois and the Mountain Bike Club.
- BHP doesn't like the City promoting trails that encroach on their land.
- Would like this completed by spring 2023.
- BHP understands where the Penokeans are walking and the rest isn't as understood.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. CORRESPONDENCE

9. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

10. ADDENDUM

11. CLOSED SESSION

12. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled Shared Used Trails meeting is November 8, 2022.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Res#: 07/22

Moved By: Bob Wheelock

Seconded By: Dave Nesbit

That the meeting be adjourned at the hour of 5:25PM.

Carried