

## **NWSDA Meeting Minutes**

### **4/23/11**

Attendees: Ed & Maggie Taasevigen, Sue Scofield, Donna Morton, Ingrid Earle, Connie Starr, Larry & Jeanne-Rose Roxby, Michael & Doreen Johnston, Tim & Pam McElravy, Jay & Becky Justus, Karen Behm and Beth Kress (guest)

The meeting was called to order at 12:30pm at the Kent Roundtable Pizza restaurant by President Sue Scofield.

Sue reported that Vice President Von Martin informed her that he is working on a Rainbow Bridge presentation for the May banquet. If anyone would like to submit info and photos of their dogs that have crossed the rainbow bridge during the 2010-2011 season, Von will add them to the presentation. Von is also calculating the championship points for the awards presentation at the banquet.

Treasurer Ingrid Earle reported that NWSDA has \$5133.40 in our accounts with \$93.79 in the merchandise fund and \$20 in Mikki's DVD sales/dryland awards fund.

#### Camp K Report

Michael Johnston (Trail Boss for the upcoming Spring Fling race) reported that he has done some plowing of the on-property trails and they should melt out okay before the race on May 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>. The RV camping area is very wet, but the Musher's camp is dry. He believes that 2 big trail loops may be cleared off-property to allow for the larger team classes. He will assess the trails next weekend and determine what will work for what classes.

May 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> will be the "Spring Warm-Up" at Camp K which is a NWSDA event this year. This is a training weekend for novice mushers as well. Come check out the trails, run dogs, practice passing and have a good time. The NWSDA & K9ScootersNW banquets will be held on May 21<sup>st</sup> at 1pm. Reservations will be required.

The Fall Warm-Up will also be a NWSDA event and a water crossing is planned for teams to practice stream crossing.

The Camp K Trail Use Permit fees may go down from \$35 to \$20. A work party is planned soon to clean up trails, install fire hydrant, power poles, paint outhouse, set up a tent, collect fire wood, and set up a harness & gangline washing station using a long sink that Camp K has on site.

#### Crystal Springs Sno Park Grooming

Michael reported that he is working on getting grooming approved for the dog trail system. This is for 8 ft wide "professional" grooming on mostly mixed use trails. He is working on obtaining a grant. Other options include asking REI for money or funding the grooming ourselves. The Crystal Dog Trail needs repair and Michael has been working on this with the Forest Service. Another item mentioned was to apply for a NRP

grant for purchasing equipment for putting in trails and maintaining them. NRP is a federal program administered by the state.

#### Crystal Springs Sled Dog Race

Michael has suggested a new snow race that would be run out of the non-motorized parking lot at Crystal Springs that would be called the "Crystal Dog Challenge." He has looked into required permits and states it is do-able. Larry made a motion for Michael to pursue this; second by Connie; motion passed. Thoughts for this race are that it would mainly be geared toward beginners with 1, 2 or 3 dog teams, but a 17 mile loop could be used for classes such as 8 and 12 dog mid distance.

Michael also brought some samples of trails signs that will be in use at the sno park.

Karen Behm and Jay Justus mentioned that ranger districts are trying to regulate/come up with a policy for the types of vehicles allowed on the sno park trails.

#### Fish Lake Sno Park

Jay reported that no overnight camping is allowed. It is okay at the west end of the air strip.

Jay also stated that it would be nice to have more mushers at the grooming meetings which take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month fall through spring after the Lake Wenatchee Rec Club (LWRC) meetings. LWRC donates money for grooming when the grooming fund runs out. They were able to extend grooming for 3 weeks this season. Joining the LWRC will help raise these funds. There is no overnight parking/camping at LWRC, but there is camping allowed nearby. Groomers suggest that NWSDA look into contact with WSSA (WA State Snowmobile Assoc.) and have input on multi-use trails.

#### Sno Park Program

Karen said there is a need for mushing representation at the Sno Park Program meetings. Budgets are down and we should expect less frequent grooming.

#### Cascade Quest

Becky Justus reported that the CQ committee needs more volunteers. The work has been divided into 9 projects and 7 need to be filled. She has resigned as Race Director. For now, this work is being divided by the other team members with each taking a turn for a month at a time in order to cover it until 2012. The other 4 positions are Financial, Food, Property Owners, and Visibility. (Race Director as well) Becky said she will provide an email with these descriptions that can be sent out to the club. Upcoming committee meetings are in May and June. In June, they will decide if the race needs are covered enough to continue planning the race or, if not, to cancel the 2012 race.

Jay discussed changes in format for the upcoming race. It would be limited to 30 mushers. Since there is an issue with parking at Stonewater Ranch, teams would run out of the LWRC only and Thursday would be eliminated. Friday overnights would be at

Trinity and Stonewater and 6 and 12 mid would switch locations each year. Also, the purebred class would be eliminated.

#### Newsletter

Tim McElravy stated that he needs us to submit content and photos for the website and newsletter. Word document format is preferred. Sue suggested that the meeting minutes be added to the website. May 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for submissions for the June newsletter.

Several people suggested that the club print brochures and business cards that can be handed out to people.

#### August Meeting

The August meeting will be held at Lake Easton State Park on August 13<sup>th</sup>. It has been reported that the Snoqualmie Tunnel is planned to be opened up in July. If so, the meeting will be combined with the K9Scooters NW tunnel run.

#### NWSDA Race Rules

Maggie motioned to amend the racing season to be from October 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>. (Was Oct 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>). Second by Karen. Motion passed.

#### NWSDA Bylaws

It was motioned, seconded and passed that the nomination of officers will take place in April instead of March.

It was motioned, seconded and passed that a committee be formed to explore the terms of officers.

It was motioned, seconded and passed that voting for officers will take place in May instead of April.

#### Nominations

Nominations were taken from the floor as follows:

President – Sue Scofield

Vice President – Von Martin

Treasurer – Ingrid Earle

Secretary – Ingrid Earle

Trustees – Doreen Johnston, Karen Behm, Mikki Douglass, Donna Morton, Maggie Taasevigen, Larry Roxby

#### Banquet

May 21<sup>st</sup> at 1pm at Camp K

#### Trophies

Sue will handle this.

New Business

Jay stated that the CQ “race stuff” (trail markers, etc) needs a storage area. They are looking for a 5 by 10 trailer accessible to the CQ committee.

Tim and Jay gave a big THANKS for calling senators about Senate Bill 5649, anti-tethering law.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.