

**Minutes of the NHSA Board of Directors**

**December 18, 2018**

**NHSA Office, Tilton, NH**

Meeting called tor order at 7:01 pm by President Beth Horvath-Palmer

**Roll Call**

Officers Present: President, Beth Horvath-Palmer  
Vice President, Lucy Ford  
Secretary, Tom Willand  
Treasurer, Dan Weed

Directors Present: Warren Piquette, Don Foote, Lisa Charrette, Kim Bergeron, Dean Beaman, Cheryl Spillane, Charlie Kurtz, Evelyn Ferrell, Scot Heath, Susan Phillips, Maxwell Duncanson, Dave Murray, Rob Kennedy, Don McMurchy, Russ Neal, Terry Callum, Roger Wright.

Directors Absent/Excused: Nelly Roache, Joe Gorman, Mike Joyce.

Office Staff Present: Executive Director Dan Gould, Administrative Assistant Stephanie A. Davis.

Approve Agenda Sullivan County Director Terry Callum moved to accept the agenda. NHSA Vice President Lucy Ford seconded. Agenda approved.

Salute to Flag

Introduction of Guests: Captain David Walsh of New Hampshire Fish & Game, NH Bureau of Trails Chief Chris Gamache, Robert Kelly of Easterseals NH, Past President Harold Case.

President's Comments: Beth thanked everyone for coming and thanked the participants in the sweater contest. She stated the Executive Board and office has been busy with meetings with the state and legal team. Wished a Merry Christmas to all and thanked the Board again for attending during such a busy time of year.

Secretary's Report: NHTSA Vice President Lucy Ford moved to accept the September minutes with Hillsborough County Director Scot Heath seconding. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report Strafford County Assistant Director Russ Neal moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Cheshire County Director Kim Bergeron seconded. Motion passed.

Executive Director's Report Dan stated that he has been working with legislators and Adam Schmidt. He stated the office has had a lot of calls from new snowmobilers and those returning to snowmobiling after years away. He has been working with Attorney Spinella and has been to court for the lawsuit. He thanked everyone who helped at Trailmasters Meeting. He stated the map is already at the printers and way ahead of schedule.

#### STATE AGENCIES:

Bureau of Trails: Chief Gamache went over the attached report. He stated the Forest Service is interested in selling club maps at their stations and to have the clubs contact the Forest Service. He stated the backcountry riding is still on the drawing board.

NH Fish and Game: Captain Walsh stated he had met with the Coos County Legislators regarding some LSRs they are putting forward. They would address increased fines for infractions. He stated Fish & Game took the liberty of having signs made to be available to clubs educating about the use of hand signals not being safe.

Easter Seals NH: Rob Kelly thanked those who came to the Easterseals dinner. Respite weekend had to be postponed due to weather and is rescheduled for January. He is already looking for staff for next summer. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Correspondence: Beth read a letter from Easterseals NH thanking NHTSA for the table donation. Sutton Ridge Runners sent a letter thanking NHTSA for letting them use the raffle sled and trailer to sell tickets. Beth went over the application for SnoFest. After some discussion, NHTSA Vice President Lucy Ford made a motion to spend up to \$500 to buy a sponsorship for the event. Cheshire County Director Kim Bergeron

seconded. Motion passed and Dan Gould will get in touch with the organizers.

Guests Wishing to Speak: NHSA Past President Harold Case wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Advisory Board	No report.
Annual Meeting	No meeting.
Assessment Committee	No meeting.
Club Support	Susan reported she is working on the committee. She taught a fundraising class at Trailmasters Meeting that was very well attended.
Grass Drags	Ev reported they are still finalizing numbers for the event. Dan Weed stated that so far \$55,000 went back to the clubs for the volunteer hours worked. Roger reported they are still working at the site.
Insurance Committee	No meeting.
Legislative	Dan said a new contract was signed with a new lobbying firm that employs our longtime lobbyist Adam Schmidt and Jodi Grimbilas. Bianco was notified at the end of our contract.
Map & Trails/WMNF	Trailmasters was well attended.
Membership/PR	Lucy referred all to the attached membership report. Lucy has the sled and trailer for anyone wanting it to sell tickets. Roger reported that a small number of people joining through the portal are choosing not to be NHSA members.
Marketing	Dan stated we have been pushing the apparel online and he has been working with terry to market the registration program.
Nominations	Lucy requested that people throw their hats into the ring to run for officer positions for next year. We are still looking for a Business Supporter Director.
Registration Program Review	Terry reiterated that we have moved away from Bianco for lobbying. He gave an overview of what costs were and what they will be. He requested a motion of support. Strafford County Assistant Director Russ Neal made a motion to approve the contract that has been signed with the new lobbying firm. Cheshire County Director Kim Bergeron seconded. The motion passed. Representative Spillane from Deerfield brought forth LSR 2019-0187 relative to discounts to OHRV and snowmobile registrations. Representative Moynihan is sponsoring the bill increasing fines.

Terry and Dan met with Beth, Chief Gamache, and Captain Walsh regarding the possible LSR. There is a senator who is willing to sponsor the LSR as a sort of placeholder. This gives the senator time to collect more facts on the proposal. Senator Starr has committed to cosponsor the bill.

Terry reported that the costs of neighboring states is as follows:  
Vermont- \$180.00 in state and \$220.00 nonresident. Insurance is also required.

Maine- \$44.00 in state and \$100.00 nonresident. Maine also charges a percentage on the purchase price of the sled.

Quebec- \$250.00 early season and \$300.00 regular.

Ride-In/Search  
Scholarship  
Finance

Ride In is the first weekend in February at Town and Country in Gorham.

No meeting.

NHSA Treasurer Dan Weed went over the UBS investment report and profit and loss report and audit report.

NHSA Vice President Lucy Ford moved to accept the audit report as printed. Hillsborough County Director Scot Heath seconded. Motion passed.

Dan Weed proposed changing how the audits are done and moving to a review every year with a full audit on a timeline for the Board to decide. Discussion ensued. It was decided that Dan Weed will invite our accountant to come to the next board meeting to answer questions.

Coffee Break:

8:50-9:09 pm. During the coffee break, all voted on who had the best Christmas sweater. Carroll County Assistant Director Lisa Charrette won!

Director Reports:

Belknap County: Warren Piquette- No meeting.

Carroll County: Don Foote- Meeting 12/19.

Cheshire County: Kim Bergeron- Met 12/06. Passed out signs and grooming logs. He will forward a letter from the Sno-Moles to NHSA regarding the registration program. Cheshire County will be trying a virtual meeting in January and he will report back to the board about how it went.

Coos County: Cheryl Spillane- Meeting 12/20.

Grafton County: Ev Ferrell-Last meeting was mostly about the registration proposal. Two points were: if clubs could see some money ahead of time and could the Trailmasters date be changed as it affects deer hunting season. People liked the survival class and would like to have a groomer

maintenance class. Next meeting 12/19 for a Christmas party and Roger will be visiting.

Hillsborough County: Scot Heath- Had two meetings. In October, Terry came to present the Registration Program. Met December 10. Next meeting 01/26.

Merrimack County: Maxwell Duncanson- Met 12/11. The clubs are concerned about not getting funding and how that will work with the registration program.

Rockingham County: Rob Kennedy- Met twice. Clubs don't like the price but know something has to be done so they are not completely behind this. Next meeting 01/21. Terry will try to attend.

Strafford County: Russ Neal- Terry gave a presentation on Registration program at the November meeting.

Sullivan County: Terry Callum- Next meeting in January or February.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Beth reported on what was happening with the lawsuit Donald LeClair brought against NHTSA. Dan said the Union Leader story was very misleading because the reporter never spoke to either of the attorneys or anyone involved. Dan went to the court date. The Consumer Protection piece of the suit was dismissed. Beth stated we will continue to defend the Association for the benefit of snowmobiling. The judge also ruled this will not go before a jury.

NHTSA requested the original Attorney General complaints via Right To Know. 75 heavily redacted pages were received. Discussion ensued.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Terry recommended adopting a social media policy for all board members. Discussion ensued.

Beth put out a proposal to create a policy to create a routine fall back date in case of cancellation due to weather. Possibly the Thursday after the regularly scheduled meeting. Discussion ensued.

Roger presented about the United Snowmobile Alliance (USA). There was a meeting November 8 & 9 to set up the organization. It currently has states including Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, Colorado, and Idaho among others. Dues are currently \$500 per year. They are organizing and creating a 501c4. It is a project based organization for lobbying and protecting snowmobiling on the national level. Discussion ensued.

Cheshire County Director Kim Bergeron moved to donate \$1500 to USA which is to include NHSA's first annual dues payment of \$500. NHSA Secretary Tom Willand seconded. Discussion ensued. Motion passed.

ADJOURN:

Sullivan County Director Terry Callum made a motion to adjourn. Rockingham County Director Rob Kennedy seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stephanie A. Davis  
NHSA Administrative Assistant