

SANS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

August 15th, 2023

1:30 PM, Inn on Prince, 437 Prince Street, Truro

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

2.0 Agenda and Minutes of Previous Meeting

2.1 Additions and Approval of the Agenda

Added: 6.7 question on Fiona money for Cape Breton; 6.8 discussion on Rocky Brook Trail

2.2 Approval of minutes of the May 16th, 2023

George Pugsley Approved, seconded by John Austin.

3.0 Presentations: None

4.0 Ongoing Business

4.1 Permits-Online and Website (President) Update on the website for online permits.

Lisa updated. Expecting something from Dino next week but early September we will have some test opportunities for using the online site/store

4.2 Loss of 104 Trail-North Shore Club Trail (President) A work around is being worked on by The President of North Shore SC.

Mike reported, Jason says there will be a trail in place by winter but ATVs will NOT have access.

4.3 Side of the Road Travel (President) Property Online has been applied for and work continues on the process.

Mike currently working on this. Geomaps is not the best option, as it not as current nor updated as quickly if land ownership changes. Property Online is tied into the govt., so is as up to date as can be. Once a deed is submitted, it is updated, right away

4.4 Advertising of SANS and Bursaries (Grace) An update on these topics by Grace.

The handle bar hangars for sleds, are still the most popular. Grace suggested there be a spot on them for local clubs to add their info. Very common now for people to access their info on line, so having that info accessible makes sense, Mike will follow up with student who was creating a prototype for review.

Mike reports that we aren't as bad as many think, for ratio of sold permits to sled ownership in the province, but we would like to increase membership.

Grace LeCreux moved, seconded by George Pugsley, that an award of \$250/zone, will be offered to youth, via schools and advertising, with the focus on volunteerism verses academics. Details to follow as they are firmed up. Motion carried.

Shaun will make some inquiries as school level, to find out the best way to promote.

4.5 Grooming Equalization (President) Based on the reality of GE payments we must consider a means of addressing fiscal requirements for clubs suffering from low to no snow going forward.

Consensus that if we do any additional support, we do it out of the provincial fund, not the groomer equalization funds. 5 clubs under this year, potential for more next year but even then, not many are close to the \$10,000 minimum we are considering.

MOTION by Shaun MacDonald, seconded by George Pugsley, that any

club under the \$10,000 amount with the Groomer EQ Fund for the 2023/24 season, will be allotted additional funds on top of their funds earned, to take them to that \$10,000 minimum, pending budget capacity. Motion carried

4.6 CIBC Banking Update (Lisa) *Accounts are opened, some GICs have been moved, K-Edge banking system equivalent to CIBC Smart Banking, little better interest rates on GICs*

5.0 Reports **Please circulate all reports to the Secretary by email to save time.**

5.1 President's Report (President) – *last few months have been busy with working with Lisa re: bank changes, meetings and with HR Committee getting new hire in place*

5.2 Office Report (GM) *sent out via email*

5.3 Financial Report - (Treasurer) *Lisa reviewed, copy provided. Slight increase in GICs. We will see an increase in payroll with the addition of a 3rd employee.*

Zone Reports (Zone Vice Presidents')

Zone 1 – John Austin. John will be stepping down as Zone VP this coming election. Clubs are inquiring about funding and when it will be coming, and inquiries about a trail (both added to agenda)

Zone 2 – Shaun MacDonald. Some washouts reported, Fiona clean up continuing.

Zone 3 – no report, currently no Zone VP in place.

Zone 4 – George Pugsley. Northshore is doing a lot of work on the 551, continued Fiona clean up. The bridge on the #1, outside Springhill & near Cemetery has been replaced thanks to leadership of the local ATV club.

Reminder that anything on crown land that is eligible for funding goes through The Disaster Financial Assistance Program.

5.4 Human Resource Committee Report (President)

Committee met prior to exec meeting. Shaun is working on a checklist to insure all employee details are in place. Now that we have 3 employees, we are required to have Workers Compensation in place & offer benefits. In Jeremy case we had to get private insurance. Lisa & Mike are through Sport NS, but Jeremy as a seasonal employee wasn't eligible.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Term Hire (President) *Jeremy Cromwell has accepted employment with SANS. A brief update on this will be given. An application to the OHVIF was made for \$25K to assist with costs associated with the program. This is for multi years.*

Jeremy started August 1st until the end of November (4 month term TY), next year is 7 mths. This, of course, has added to our payroll expenses. We had applied for \$25,000 + \$25,000 through the OHV Special Projects & Emergency funding with the expectation that we would use \$25,000 towards his wage. We received only \$25,000 (instead of \$50,000), which we will put into signage. Part of Jeremy's job will be working with clubs to improve signage & trail conditions.

6.2 2023 Symposium (GM) *We cancelled the Symposium's due to Covid.*

Since the world snowmobile day is set for October 28th (same day as banquet) it may be good to reoffer the event. A discussion to be held. Discussion held. Presidents Meeting held in Fall resulted in a lot of great conversations & networking, so returning to a Symposium should be beneficial to the clubs.

Lisa suggested an event for Women.

We will need to be out of room by 3 for hotel to set up, so that will

impact what we are able to cover.

Mike will send out a request for topics. Don will touch base with a proposed guest speaker.

- 6.3 OHVIF Funding (President) A decision to raise the red plate fund by \$7.00 was approved in principle by the Presidents Council with the condition that each OHV association Board also approve the request. *One we and ATVANS both have approval from our respective boards to ask for the increase, it will go to The Provincial Govt., with the increase to benefit the OHV fund. There has been no increase in this fee since 2006*
- 6.4 Safety Posters (GM) Some areas have success with safety messaging such as substance abuse by sledders. They use their own people for the poster images and add the safety message. Offered as an idea to use to prevent the use of illegal substances, maintain warming shelters and help prevent off trail trespass issues. *General consensus that this is a good idea, Jeremy will be asked to get pictures of local riders.*
- 6.5 Grant Applications (GM) SANS has applied for the OHVIF, BRP PASS (PASS = Protect, Access, Sustain, Support), Yamaha Stay Outdoors Program, Polaris T.R.A.I.L.S (Trail Development, Responsible Riding, Access, Initiatives, Lobbying & Safety) and ISMA Grants. *Lisa reported.*
- 6.6 WPA Trail Work (GM) There is a requirement to have approval from Environment before ANY work takes place in a WPA that is under agreement with SANS. Losing trail can be a result if the rule is not followed. We have a recent example. *No longer can we use the "do the work then ask for forgiveness" thought process.*
- 6.7 John Austin inquiring about Fionan repair Funds. *Clubs are asked to reach out to Rick Jakes as to when funding will be sent out. Also Don is trying to connect with him to get info*
- 6.8 John Austin asking about Rocky Brook Trail (905) access. *Mike will look into it and get back to John & club.*
- 7.0 Announcements: Next EC Meeting – September 19th.
- 8.0 Upcoming Events: SANS Awards Banquet October 28th at the Inn on Prince, Fall Board Meeting October 29th
- 9.0 Adjournment: John moved to adjourn.Minutes

Mike Eddy

Mike Eddy, General Manager

Don Stewart

Don Stewart, President