

Powder Pass Nordic Club
Wednesday November 20, 2019 6:00 PM
The Lounge at Crazy Woman - Buffalo Wyoming

Attending: Silas Davidson, Mary Fowlkes, Ben Adams, Diane Adams, Dalreen Kessler, Lorajane Kessler, Charlotte Darling, Aaron Kessler, Mae Smith, Mitch Black, CJ Grimes via email

Agenda

1. Welcome/Introductions - Aaron

2. Reports

a. President's report – Aaron

1. Welcome, Calendars for the season

2. ATVs and snowmachines have either returned from maintenance or are currently at maintenance. -- No major issues, new battery for snowmobile.

b. Treasurer's report – Lorajane

1. Current balance- received JCRD \$2200 grant, Safety Deposit Box fee.

2. Upcoming bills- machine repairs, etc.

c. Secretary's report – Charlotte

1. Updated website and facebook.

2. Cody Taste of the Trails event-- possible future idea.

d. USFS report - Silas

1. Willow Park Parking Lot plowing- agreement getting reviewed/updated. Will continue getting plowed, but USFS is working on getting it sorted out.

2. Willow Park not groomed due to warm days knocking snow back. Toilet and signs up at Pole Creek and WP. Can get Pole Creek fuel ready by Thanksgiving weekend.

3. If using snowmachine at WP, would USFS supply fuel? Silas says yes they should be able to.

e. Trails coordinator – Mary

1. Hours and miles - None reported for October. AK has some equipment prep hours to report.

2.

3. Ski areas

a. Pole Creek - Aaron

1. Trailer with grooming equipment is positioned at the WyDot Station

2. Plan is to begin packing and grooming the trails during the Thanksgiving Weekend, AK will put up signs

3. Mae: was skiable on Tuesday, a bit icy and some bare areas, but enough to do some skiing. Other reports that some have been all the way around. Snowshoeing is doable.

4. Charlotte will get Mary business cards for Pole Creek & Willow Park boxes.

b. Willow Park – Mary/Mitch

1. Latest trail and snow report- Silas says on Monday there was dirt in the parking lot. Some have been out. Not enough snow for packing. 8-9 inches on picnic tables.

2. Mitch: Got a lot of work done up there this summer, was good as of about a month ago.

- 3. From CJ: More interest from west side in trails and biking. Potentially forming own group for west side: Would need to have separate arrangement with USFS, could not necessarily operate under PPNC umbrella. MB likes this idea for maintenance, etc. has been his goal to have west side folks take over more of management responsibilities. Has about 5 solid/consistent folks over there who know what to do and are active and interested and would be possibly able to take it over. Would it be it's own club or under PPNC? Likely would need to be own club for various reasons (county equipment, logistics, planning, etc.). There may be some items for PPNC to work out as far as handing over Chili Fest, signage, IRS stuff, etc.).

- Washakie Cty purchased a groomer/setting to pull, looking for machine to pull it: Would need to get approved to pack/groom separately by USFS, need to coordinate to make sure expectations are set, volunteers trained, etc.
- USFS situation with furlough, grooming: USFS gets up there when possible, usually sporadically.
- Possibility of grooming skate track in open meadows, fat tire bike use?: Many users there enjoy rustic character of WP. Some skate loops in open meadow might be good. Bike trail activities?
- PPNC has an extra snowmobile, which could be used at WP. Talk to west side about buying it from us for Blue Book? Charlotte will check on JRCD terms for disposing of purchased equipment (all funds would return to club account for use at Pole Creek, etc.)
- Chili Fest? Handing this over to west side folks for 2020/encouraging dual participation in preparation for future years.

c. Buffalo Golf Course – Aaron

1. Will contact groundskeeper and get permission to maintain trails if adequate snow falls, everything is ready to go when the snow comes.

2. Mary- In January, restaurant will be open Fridays for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, Sat-Sun Breakfast and Lunch.

d. Forest Service Road 449

1. Latest trail and snow report- Ben and Diane Adams- plowing FS 449 turn off parking spot. AK or SD will try to get ahold of WYDOT to see about making a parking spot. Have been skiing up there, 1-2 feet of snow. Ski track up North Fork Crazy Woman, up to 127, some snowshoe tracks as well. Haven't been all the way around the loops yet, but there are several. Several snowshoe tracks in the area. Have not noticed a lot of snowmobile incursion over the years.

2. Future plans: Could add a map of trails/loops on the website. No official parking lot (Sheep Mtn or Snowmobile parking which requires crossing the highway), so not a good place to put a map. Will continue including in snow reports and on website, Facebook, etc. AK motion to continue PP449 reports from Ben and Diane, MS second, motion carried unopposed.

4. Old Business

a. Forest Service 5-year race permit: Silas moving forward on process, will be ready in time for the race.

b.

5. New Business

a. Pole Creek Challenge: Conversation regarding changing the date of the race to the second Saturday in February, the 8th (Aaron). AK spoke with Rebecca Attaberry, head coach of Sheridan HS and MS club nordic ski team. She is working with various ski groups in the area to improve competitive youth ski opportunities. Based on list of statewide ski race dates, 2nd weekend of February does not have a race scheduled. Moving race to this weekend would allow more participation by high school kids (Rebecca predicts 15 kids). SHS group plans to use Pole Creek as training facility, and contribute to PPNC for maintenance. AK suggests trying it for 2020 and see how it goes.

Can suggest parents engage as participants or volunteers. **MS motions to move PCC to Saturday, Feb. 8, 2020.** MF seconds, motion carried unopposed.

b. Pole Creek Challenge: Sponsorship and donation letters (Charlotte)- CD prepared letters requesting donations for Pole Creek Challenge, and a list of businesses to approach. This would provide door prizes and/or funds for PCC event. Ben Adams motion to proceed, AK seconds, motion carried unopposed. Charlotte will email letter and locations to attendees to review and select places to hand deliver requests within the next week.

c. Fat Bike trails at Pole Creek (Aaron)- Ed Von Holst interested in working on establishing or designating trails or areas for fat tire bikes. Potential to pack pathways through the trees at Pole Creek? USFS says this would need to be approved as formal trails if they will be maintained. AK working with Ed to attend December meeting to discuss further.

