

# Maine Snowmobile Association 532<sup>nd</sup> Directors Meeting

October 17, 2017 • Town & Country Trailriders clubhouse, Clinton

At 6:59p.m., President John Monk called the meeting to order and thanked the Clinton Town & Country Riders for a great dinner.

Secretary's Report - There were no corrections or omissions on the August secretary's report. Peter Ford motioned to accept the minutes as distributed, second by Jerry Major, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report, Harvey Chesley read the treasurer's report.

President John Monk reported he is having fun. He has been logging where he has been going and what he's up too. He made a joke of meeting all the snowmobile club presidents and now he has to write them down because he has met so many already. He's currently met 40 and has 285 to go. He's enjoyed every minute of it. John went to Rockwood's Pig Roast and they served 340 meals. He said it was impressive and the meals served probably tripled the town population. Last year the MSA did the president t-shirts for the presidents of snowmobile clubs. This year will be aimed towards snowmobile club trailmasters. John is hoping to hand one out to each trailmaster at each meeting. "It's rewarding to hand them out and more rewarding to see them wearing them out."

Executive Director, Bob Meyers reported that things are moving right along at the office. Clubs are doing a very good job getting memberships in and the online sales have been busy too. Don't forget that if you want to do a mailing to snowmobilers in your town to grow your membership, we do have the mailing lists for each town that we can e-mail to you. This has worked out well for a lot of clubs.

We may be approaching the light at the end of the tunnel on the Chadbourne Tree Farms issue with Bethel. Last week the selectmen voted to schedule a vote on a revised ordinance that closely reflects existing state law. The vote hasn't been scheduled yet, but it appears that Chadbourne's may view this as enough of a compromise that they will re-open their land to public recreational access.

At the beginning of the month, Bob went to Washington for the day to participate in a panel discussion about the Antiquities Act at the Heritage Foundation. Bob was asked to speak about Maine's perspective on the monument here. There were also speakers from the Navajo Indians and the Massachusetts Offshore Fisheries Association as well as Senator Mike Lee and Representative Rob Bishop from Utah who have introduced legislation to reform the Antiquities Act. Mike Grass spoke last month about the need for this to happen to prevent the kind of abuses of the act that have occurred during the past 20 years or so.

During the last week of September, Bob got a call from the folks from the Moonlite Sno-Skimmers, who were selling Super Raffle Tickets at the Cumberland Fair. They told him that someone from Gaming Control had stopped by their booth and said there could be a problem with the raffle. Apparently during the shutdown in July, some of the state gaming laws were re-written, including raffles. Bob talked to the Gaming Control office and told him they don't have the final language on it yet. The good news is that even though it is now law, they don't have the actual wording yet so they won't be enforcing it this year. In the future though, big changes. If the total of all your prizes exceeds \$10,000, you will need to get a license. Clubs will have to display the license when they sell tickets at a public event. Cash prizes will no longer be allowed. We will have to keep a separate bank account for the raffle and file a monthly report on money taken in and what we're spending it on. The license fee is yet to be determined.

Vice President, Mike Grass went to the Bridgton Easy Riders with Mark Chinnock to speak at their potluck. While Mike was there, he filled out a data sheet he had made for clubs. Some of the questions ask, who's the president, how many miles of trails does the club have, do they have a municipal grant, club grant or both, what kinds of groomers do they have, etc. At the end of his sheet, the last question reads, what would you like to see the MSA change or do for clubs? The Bridgton club supports mandatory membership and would like the MSA to try and figure out how to get that to happen. They are also very interested in a groomer repair grant. The Snowmobile Advisory Council will address this so it might be a possibility for the clubs that are trying to repair grooming equipment.

Northern Region, Mike Grass for Gary Marquis. The Fort Fairfield Club is out and about trying to get landowner permission. They have some wet areas on ITS-90 that they are trying to take care of. The Portage club has beaver problems and they have a few trappers out working on the issue. Ashland has a new PayPal account for memberships on their Facebook, Ashland Sno-Mobile Club, if you would like to join. They will be replacing a couple culverts and they are hoping to get their new New Holland Tractor within the next couple weeks. Caribou has been mowing and grading railed and other trails. They're working permission and access to use the Fort bridge which will help them gain new access to Fort Fairfield and Presque Isle.

Eastern Region, Eileen Lafland reported the eastern region is rolling along and there have been a few landowner suppers. Eileen reminded everybody that the meeting in February will be in Millinocket and to make your reservations early because its school vacation week.

Central Region, Jack Lord has talked to about twenty of his clubs and everybody has started to get their work done. So far there are no issues and everything is going along okay.

Western Region, Roland Bowie reported the western region still has the ongoing issue with Chadbourne and hopes that will

get settled. Clubs are out clearing trails and building bridges.

Coastal Region, Dave Watson stated that clubs are out getting trail work done and rebuild bridges. Memberships seem to be going well. Route 11 Streakers are currently building a new clubhouse and the building is finally up. Ossippee Mountaineers are also finishing up a new roof on their clubhouse. In regards to mandatory membership, Frank Carroll and Dave have reached out to a couple of people and are putting together bullet points and will have something to present at the next meeting.

Trails Committee, Mike Grass reported that the trails committee meeting wasn't at the beginning of the month like usual. The meeting will be held at the MSA Snowmobile Show at 1:30pm in the same room the trails workshop will be at. The ITS map is out and there are some changes. The ITS map is all GPS tracks so if your club hasn't been GPS'ed or there have been some changes to your trail, let Mike know.

Safety, Al Swett thanked the club for great food and inviting everybody. Al has been working with Life Flight and they are going to make a video with the Game Warden Service and snowmobilers to let people know how beneficial Life Flight is to our community. If you have a landing zone (LZ) in your club trail system, while you're out brushing, trimming, and mowing, please clear out your landing zone. A few weeks ago there was an ATV accident and Life Flight couldn't land their chopper because it was all grown up. Al's calendar is filling up for trail checks and if you're interested in it, he is willing to help. If you want to do them yourself, Al has the paperwork you can use to help get you going.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50p.m.

Respectfully,  
Candice Pinkham  
MSA Secretary