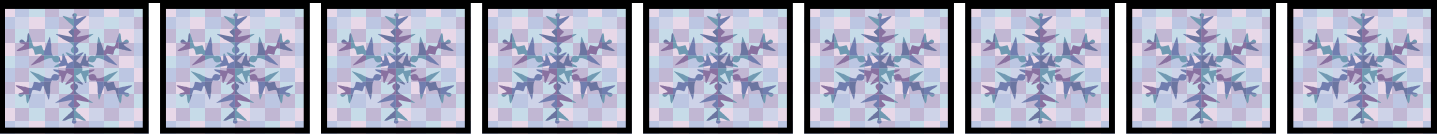


Lakewood Cross Country Ski Club

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January 2007



Winter Meeting

January 13th, 2007

2:00

to be held at the

Best Western—Lakewood Lodge

Ski Social — March 3rd

Don't miss the fun! Mark your calendars for March 3rd and join us in the Old 32 parking lot. Shirley Bubolz has once again volunteered to coordinate the event. She is looking for cookie bakers, chili makers and a set up and clean up crew. Call her @ 715-276-7737 if you can help out with this fun event.

Minutes of the October 14th, 2006 Meeting

The meeting of the Lakewood Cross Country Ski Club was called to order Saturday, Oct. 14 at 2:30 p.m. at McCauslin Brook Country Club. Minutes were read by club secretary Jody Korch and were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's report: Club president Fred Axelrod reported that the club is about \$27,500 in the black. Last year, the club received about \$4,000 in donations. Fred proposed to invest \$7,000 into a CD. Paul Romenesko's motion to put \$7,000 into a CD was seconded by Bill Moore and approved unanimously.

Membership report: Membership chairman Sandy Moore presented an updated membership list which shows the club has 180 members. The cost of club membership is \$30 per individual and \$45 per family.

Equipment and grooming: Grooming Chairman Lloyd Lundwall reported that the groomers were put away for the summer and are ready to go for the upcoming ski season. The Skandic needs two new batteries. The club can use the golf club hangar for storage again this year.

Trails report: Trail cleanup days were held Oct. 14, 21 and 28. Fred discussed plans for trail rerouting on the north end at County Trunk F. The trail will be rerouted off the roadside ditch. The new trail has been flagged by Fred and inspected by Lloyd. The U.S. Forest Service process for public input has not started, so the project won't be done for this winter. Fred hopes it can be done next year. The DNR will provide bulldozers, and the club will cut trees. The new trail will scale a small hill to get back to the trail. Club member Dale Keller expressed concern about the hilly two-way black trail near the north end. He wants it to be a one-way trail, counterclockwise, to avoid possible collisions around a blind corner. Dale's motion to have one-way signs erected to address safety issues was seconded by Bill Moore and approved unanimously.

Business solicitation and maps: Johanna Axelrod wrote letters to advertisers. She obtained a list of new prospective advertisers. The cost for club trail maps is \$660 for 2,000, and \$765 for 3,500. For this year, the club will buy 3,500 new maps. During the first week of November, Johanna will follow up on former advertisers she hasn't heard from.

Parking lot plowing: The guy who currently plows the Old 32 parking lot cannot do it anymore. Heather will contact the township about the possibility of doing the plowing.

New business: Heather Gryboski of Lakewood Ski & Sport reported that a group of mountain bikers is interested in the ski club. The bikers have a blueprint of plans for a parking area and trailhead along Highway 32. They would like the Lakewood trails to be multi-use for biking, hiking and skiing. A combination bike and ski club could benefit the ski club if mountain bikers do trail work before snow falls. Lakewood Ski Club member Dick Swain said the ski club and bikers could benefit from this affiliation. Currently, the ski club cannot advertise the use of its trails for biking because they're not mowed in the summer. The club will discuss the matter further with bicyclist Bob Sporie. Heather will chair a committee to study the matter further. Bill Moore, Mike Amann and Dale Keller will serve as committee members.

Old business: Paul Romenesko made a motion to make a plaque and present it to McCauslin Brook Golf Course in appreciation of all the golf course officials have done for the ski club. The motion was seconded by Johanna and was approved unanimously. The next meeting will be held Jan. 13 at the Lakewood Best Western. A motion to adjourn was made by Bill Moore, seconded by Dale Keller, and approved unanimously at 4:30 p.m.

Lakewood Cross Country Ski Club
P.O. Box 91
Lakewood, WI 54138

Dear Lakewood skiers,

While we have been waiting impatiently for snow, some new developments have arisen that may dramatically impact the Lakewood XC ski club and trails. A group of bikers from the Lakewood area have approached the ski club to use our organization, tax exempt status, reputation and our trail. They have an ambitious goal of developing an extensive network of mountain bike and road bike trails in the Lakewood area. This would include the existing Lakewood ski trail. In addition they are proposing building a multiuse trailhead in "downtown" Lakewood at the corner of County Road F and Highway 32. They have already received support from Oconto County on this project.

What's in this for the ski club?

1. We would tap into a new source of members.
We would make our trail a year around trail with perhaps more frequent mowing. While trail degradation could happen most managers of bike trails tell me this isn't a significant concern unless the numbers of bikers is large. If that becomes the case presumably we would have new resources to repair this damage. With our trails having plentiful rock and well drained loamy sand soil, I don't think this will be a big problem.
2. This might open up new sources of grants and revenues.
3. Our economic benefit to the community would be larger.

Certainly there are a lot of unanswered questions; such as would the US Forest Service approve such a change? How quickly could we get this going? How would this affect our liability insurance? We would have to advise the IRS that the scope of our organization has changed. Our 501 (c)(3) status will be reviewed in 3 years regardless. As long as our trails remain open to the public, our funds are used in the same manner as before, and we continue to serve the public good I don't think there will be a problem.

We will discuss this at our January 13 meeting. A proposal will be made to amend our constitution and change our name to incorporate biking and perhaps other silent sports. Any change in the club's constitution requires waiting until the next meeting (our annual meeting usually in March) to vote on any changes in the constitution. If you have any thoughts or concerns contact me at 715-276-9942 or email the webmaster at our web site.

Hope to see you on the trail **soon!**

Fred Axelrod, President