

**May 8, 2003
NH Mushers Association
Meeting Minutes**

Attendance:

Tom Dimaggio	Candia, NH
Rhonda Hendry O'hearn	Sandown, NH
Jim Lalla	Bradford, NH
Leif Erickson	Gilmanton, NH
Bob Joy	Milford, NH
Bob Heckman	Kingston, NH
Keith Bryar	Moultonboro, NH
Donna Johnson	Webster, NH
George Cook	New Hampton, NH
Christine Richardson	Canaan, NH
Bill Bartlett	Newport, NH
Bob Spoere	Bureau of Trails Representative

The meeting started with a review of the April 17th meeting minutes.

- It was decided that the "face and voice" of the organization should be Tom or his appointee.

Constitution and Bylaws in addition to the Articles of Incorporation were prepared and presented by Bob Heckman.

- (By-Laws discussion tabled until everyone has a chance to read them)
- Rhonda proposed reviewing and confirming the Articles of Agreement for submission to the State, all agreed.

Bob Joy had a question on membership and definition of musher in A of A.
Should only mushers be members?

-no

All also agreed that all mushers on state trails, local or not should be recruited for membership.

Article 3D and 3E were re-worded with all in agreement that now the A of A were ready for submission. George Cook suggested that the original members sign, it be done.

Tom Dimaggio, George Cook, Keith Bryar, Bob Heckman, Christine Richardson

Rhonda provided a checking account application for signatures at the same time.
Signed by: Tom Dimaggio, Keith Bryar, and Bob Heckman

Trail use permits for ATVs were then discussed as an aside. Trail supervision is changing from State to Corps of Engineers and back ...but we must make sure the state has a list of approved users and all will be sorted out later. Affected trail systems are Hill Village, Sanbornton, Bear Brook, Auburn, and all Corps of Engineers maintained trails in S. NH.
Tom is organizing permission slips.

8:00pm Committees reviewed:

Membership - Rhonda

- suggestions on how to collect members:
 - ad in Team and Trail or press release
 - names from Races and clubs
- sleddog central
- sleddog-L
- John Herrigan from the Union Leader has offered to help write
- Christine will manage PR for now

Safety and Education -

- seminar and booth at Oct trade show suggested

Trail Rules Etiquette (brainstorm)

- to be developed
- suggestions include reflective equipment and lighting systems....
- discussion on regulation
- George Cook has access to wholesale reflective gear

Rules- (brainstorm)

- sanitation
- Bob H suggested reflective brush bow sign for NHMA
- light on sled, even in daytime
- LED lights
- Donna thought simple suggestions are key i.e. Avoiding peak use times, knowing your trails, don't stop on blind corners or hills etc...

Of course this spurred more conversation on costs, startup money and how to present info to members

The RTP state education grant is available...(need more info...anyone???)

-Bob Spoerl suggested to USE the Sno-Traveler to get info out there

-Signage: Lydia WILL recreate her signs. Rhonda has the contact

-Bill Bartlett encouraged the membership to and interaction with local snowmobile clubs

Jim Lalla will put together a proposal about our safety measures to present to snowmobile clubs

Further discussion about the format of the membership form, dues vs. donation and encouragement of musher participation.

Christine and Rhonda will put it out online with a press release.

Dues discussed further- no membership dues requested at this time, \$10 donation suggested.

Website of <http://www.geocities.com/nhmushersassoc> was accepted as the organization's website.

Next meeting scheduled for June 12th at 7pm