



COGGS Board Meeting

Nov 9. 2023

Attendance: Ansel, David, Abby, Jake B, Jake W, Mike, Mason, Ben, Nathan, Ryan, Dustin, Carrie, Erin

Time: 6:05 - 8:30

Agenda:

Recurring Items:

Approval of Last Month's Minutes

- Board approved of last months meeting minutes

Treasurer's Report

- Quarter 3 payroll tax filings filed by Oct 31st
- 990 was filed today - saved to financial/legal folder 2022
- MN Mountain Bike Series or Bike Duluth Festival proceeds?
- Reimbursement checks

Agenda:

General

- Snowmobile sale
 - We have a Hartley snowmobile with damage and looking into sales or repair
 - Repair costs
 - His estimates:
 - Sell as is \$800. Replaced exhaust \$1200. Replaced exhaust and fix skis \$1500. Fix everything and replace hood \$2200
 - With sale, we would need to provide public bid opportunities to ensure fair sale
 - Twin ports bid? Facebook sale?
 - Mike is on it! He will get snowmobile up for sale. Global fatbike day sale! Dec 7.
- Jake Wartman
 - Present to help connect running and biking communities.
 - Lots of involvement with local running organizations.
 - Would like to help smooth out relationships between runners and cyclists. In the end, we are all trail users and want to enjoy the outdoors.

- Concerted effort from running community to acknowledge the efforts of COGGS and the DT.
- Discussion if the COGGS board should create board position to help bridge that gap
- Helps with the COGGS goal of “trails for all”
- Board will work to come up with an official board title and position details.
- Member survey
 - We need to make sure to get membership survey created and sent out sooner than later!
 - What does COGGS as an organization want to know?
 - Survey helps solidify what the members wants from COGGS as an organization.
 - All weather trails and one way trails
 - Want to extend reach to individuals outside of COGGS members. Pursue those who are from out of town as well. Survey outreach to runners and hikers.
 - Jake, Ben, and Ansel to work together to put together survey.
 - Get survey completed for board overview by December board meeting. Post survey afterwards through the end of the calendar year.

Trails

- Winter Grooming
 - Piedmont grooming
 - Mike Adamzack is no longer available for grooming in Piedmont
 - Will need to figure out what equipment would be needed now for Piedmont grooming. Previously using a mountain sled.
- 2024 projects
 - Keene Bike Park
 - 14000 grant from Athletic Brewing
 - Submitted proposal to One Track Mind for funding
 - Give to the max funding focused on the larger jump features for the bike park.
 - Ryan present at the board meeting. He has been leading majority of the digging and building at the bike park
 - Perimeter skills loop with various kids features. Middle features being dirt jumps.
 - Most important features or aspects of the bike park?
 - Get a tangible product opened by next year.
 - Skills/kids features to continue opening trails for all.
 - Purchase of quality dirt (\$4-5k) for capping and shaping (ATK?)
 - Machine time/rental/equipment
 - Signage. Post work for labeling trails and official COGGS signs.
 - Places to sit down and make it more family friendly
 - Currently rideable, but not yet finely tuned.

- Trails include green, blue, and black jump lines with multiple lips on each line for progression.
 - Working on water drainage and helping overall sustainability.
 - Loll scrap bin for labeling the routes.
- Lester Skills Park
 - Discussion with IMBA and interested in 50 50 match for skills park.
 - Would need new pre design as it does not match what the master plan had previously laid out.
 - Will need to continue conversation with City of Duluth for skills parks/playgrounds approval.
 - Skills parks are desired to provide fun and safe environment for all ages to enjoy. Could utilize all wheeled vehicles, even roller skis!
 - Need to work towards decreased maintenance with all of the skills parks.
 - Ski Hut is willing to sponsor maintenance of all skills parks to help decrease demands on the City of Duluth.
- Hartley New Tunnel Reroute
 - Tunnel trail is in need of re route that will be completed next building season.
- Coggs Excavator Schedule
 - Ansel is putting together excavator schedule to help decrease transportation needs.
- \$15000 for maintenance from city tourism tax
 - Lester DT would be top priority due to erosion concerns and significant community use.
- Trail Funding
 - COGGS should work on putting together financial pieces that support the trails. For example, volunteer hours converted to dollar amounts. Where the money came from...fundraising, City of Duluth, Grant funding.
- Greater Duluth Traverse Maintenance and enhancements project
 - LCCMR Funding potentially available
 - Pincushion trails just received \$200,000 for "trail restoration"
 - Federal money that comes in and is allocated to the state.
 - Maintenance in the name of environmental sustainability.
 - Look into proposal for COGGS
 - David and Luke have some experience with LCCMR funding.
 - Environmental education is a part of funding such as signage for plant species or fragile trail areas.
 - Lester and Amity East have significant erosion concerns and could be quality areas to ask for funding.
- City Trail Survey Results
 - City of Duluth released survey results. Ansel will send out results to board.
- Tool collection/inventory next weekend
 - Will go through storage unit and help organize and inventory items.
- Donations? Anything we have to do?

- Some interest expressed regarding donations.
- COGGS tracks in kind donations.

Events

- Give to the max day
 - Working towards purchase of pre built Keene Creek bike jumps.
 - Will be at Bent Paddle next Thursday Nov 16th
 - Bent Paddle will provide table and we will bring table throw and any items
 - Last year we did trivia and gave away prizes. Could use Race Across Duluth buffs as a give away
 - Social media push and added to newsletter
- RAD
 - Additional timing chips? Ideas for growing numbers/participation?
 - New timing system and 150 chips would be additional about \$11,000.
 - This would allow us to use timing system for Bike Duluth Festival
 - Rental to other groups? Steep learning curve and high liability. Takes us away from
 - We have a significant tourist draw to hopefully help with permitting and growth of the event.
 - Do we look into hiring timing company to perform timing as the event grows?
 - Change of events? Super RAD (all of the Duluth trails), running race, shorter race?
 - Mason to reach out to Christine about possibility of growing the event to say...300.
 - Mason to look into costs to hire out timing company.
 - Tentative save the date - September 7th 2024
 - Same weekend as the Superior trail running race. Although weekend after conflicts with Chequamegon
 - Website
 - Ben and Carrie to work on getting RaceAcrossDuluth.com domain and linking it to COGGS square space.
- Gala
 - Email lists / mailing lists for save the dates
 - David to get that information to the Gala team. All of this information will be in constant contact.
 - Gala committee email access
 - Mason will help set up email access to Gala team
 - Ticket price - donation
 - For tax purposes, of the total ticket price, how much is a donation? This should be expressed to the attendee. Will need to figure out how much of the ticket price is specifically going to be donation.
 - Current thought of \$125 ticket price early bird and \$150 regular ticket

- Gala ideas
 - If you have any donations or experiences, please reach out!
 - Donations directly to equipment - For example, a rouge hoe is \$50. Every \$50 spent goes to purchase of a tool or pre built feature.
 - Theme continuing for “trails for all”. Focus on beginner riders and kids.
- Global fat bike day - December 2nd
 - Multiple group rides throughout the day out of Hartley
 - Rocky Mountain will have e fat bikes out there
 - Luke will be present with snow dog presentation
 - Loads of vendors and organizations
 - Saunas will be present as well.
 - Johnny B's and embark for food items
 - Rocky Mountain is donating a fat bike to help fundraise for grooming efforts.
 - Looking into avenues to raffle/fundraise the fatbike to help raise funds.
 - Outreach to foot traffic as well to increase awareness of grooming efforts and etiquette during the winter.
- 2024 Event Calendar
 - [2024 Coggs Summer Event Schedule](#)
 - COGGS events has continued to grow and need to increase organizing for permitting.
 - Current list of COGGS events. Goal is to put information into spreadsheet and get all permits approved at once.
 - Need to improve our updating of website events.

Governance

- Conflict of interest policy
 - Needs to be updated and signed annually.
- Giant Voices meeting 11/10
 - Ansel has facilitated discussion meeting to start discussion on what COGGS is looking towards now that the DT is nearing completion.
- Executive Director Job Search
 - Not much has been completed. Needs to take priority!
 - Job description to be completed by Monday Nov 13th. Job closes on December 1st. Interviews to follow with hiring start date Jan 1st. Post to newsletter and COGGS webpage
 - Provide Cover letter and Resume.

Cyclists of Gitchee Gumee Shores

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COGGS is dedicated to developing and maintaining world class mountain biking opportunities for all in the Twin Ports.

COGGS is a volunteer-run 501-c3 nonprofit organization and an affiliate of [IMBA](#).

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