**Minutes Meeting 2/12/2025**

**BVSC and WI-DNR**

Present:

BVSC: Linda Hobbs, Kathie Culhane-Pera, Tammy Brown, Greg St Onge  
DNR: Gervase Thompson, Matt Leischer

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| **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Decision** |
| **Grooming** | BVSC praised DNR for its overall grooming and asked for input on some aspects of grooming.  Discussion focused on:  1. Last weekend grooming.  Last week when we had new snow on Saturday, the trails were not groomed on Sunday, but wonderfully groomed on Monday. DNR explained that they made the decision to not groom on Sunday due to temperatures. BVSC asked DNR to communicate with Greg St Onge, who can then communicate with the community.  2. Expand workforce with trained BVSC volunteers.  Both DNR and BVSC want volunteers to assist the DNR. The volunteers need to have some experience with machines, in addition to interest, time flexibility, and aptitude to learn. They should call Matt or Kurt, ride along several times, then handle the equipment with Matt or Kurt present, learn the details of each trail, and learn the principles to do a quality job, not bring up ground dirt/sticks, not over-groom, and prepare both skate and classic tracks.  Currently the schedule is set, with grooming on Mondays and Fridays set, and the groomers have weekends on and off,  Call or text via work cell Matt Leischer 715-815-7047 Kurt Janko 715- 817-0288  3. Grooming for the River View Loppet 3/8/2025  DNR can work the trails one week before the race- “prep” work. They take multiple passes on each trail, on the left, right, and in the middle, in order to have good conditions for both skating and classic skiing, including expanding the trail to classic skiers poles don’t fall through the unpacked snow (perhaps include a snow mobile pass on the far right).  4. Skijoring trail.  DNR has rolled it three times. There is still stubble sticking up. They will try to level today with the groomer and if possible, will set tracks. | WDNR groomer will communicate with Greg, who will communicate with others via Skinnyski.com,  Facebook group,  Website, email, etc.  BVSC will find volunteers, and refer to Matt and Kurt, via work cell phone numbers. |
| Signage | 1.Money. BVSC reported receiving money from North Coast Cycling Association to use for additional improvements to the bike trails, such as signage. Also received a grant from a ski club member for signage on ski trails.  2. We discussed key items to enhance orientation as well as safety: - maps with signs ‘You are here’ that are clearer (and more accurate) than today’s maps - maps always oriented towards north - numbering each post (helpful for any 911 calls) - simple arrows with ‘Return to Trailhead.  -make sure printed maps available (DNR staff checks routinely with other chalet checks)  3. Trail Maps: DNR again repeated their limitations in terms of state process and outcome steps. They have a temporary worker assigned to improving signage. State wants maps to be accessible via mobile phones. We could encourage people to track themselves on an ap, such as ONX, AVENZA, AllTrails, or to download maps before starting, as perhaps some coverage is spotty (AT&T has good coverage except in a few valley locations). | No specific decisions were made.  After the meeting, BVSC discussed creating laminated signs with arrows’ To Trailhead’ to help orient visitors. Will send the location where these signs would be used, to DNR for their approval before stapling on posts. |
| Communication | We discussed optimal methods to communicate between the club and DNR, including phone calls, texts and emails. |  |