

Saturday, March 20, 2010 General Meeting

Meeting called to order at 2:07 pm by Ole Olson. Board members present: Ole, Deb, Spencer, Ron, Lindsay, Mort, Addie, Absent: Joren

Sign in Sheet was available for members.

Ole has a list of committees and asked for the members to sign up to help on one or more of these committees. He said we need the members to come up and help. Lindsay said we are not pushing anyone out, but the board wants new people to come forward to allow volunteers to be gone for family reasons, etc during race season. It was further stated that being on the committee doesn't mean we just need laborers, but we need thinkers too. We need the members' ideas and help to make this work.

The By Laws were discussed. The board wants members' ideas on the changes to be made. Discussion was held on changes to the election process in order to simplify the process. Term limitations were discussed. It is proposed for a possible 6 year term limit, to where the member would be off the board for one year before being able to be reelected to the board. The idea of having one year board positions was discussed. There currently are different sets of By Laws, and it is difficult to figure out which is correct set. Time stamp will be put on the new set so that we have one set that can be referred to. Board members top four positions are currently one year terms. The board has suggested changing these to two year terms with these terms being staggered positions so all four officers are not changing in the same year.

Lindsay brought up the newspaper article of March 20, 2010. We know now that we are not racing until after the state fair. We did get a letter in September 2009 from the State Fair Board stating that no races until August 8, 2010. We had a glimmer of hope that we would be able to run races before the fair. Members past and present of NODAK have had a lot to do with the success of the State Fair. But we know now that we will not be racing until August 8, 2010. Renae Korslien, State Fair Manager, is a big supporter of NODAK. M&S also wants nothing more than for us to get in there and race. But the board has decided no races until after the fair.

Discussion was held on by laws. The input from the members was that they are in agreement with the term limits proposed and the change to the board members for the five (5) board members with three (3) of the positions at 2 year terms and two (2) at one year terms. And that the officers being two (2) year positions with the terms being staggered.

Ron said we were forced to make decision that our fiscal year starts October and ends September of the next year. This is to be better defined in the new By Laws. Membership year was also discussed. Ron suggests that the fiscal year and the membership year be the same. Several areas are to be defined. Free memberships have been an issue and who gets into the races for free. These matters will also be in the By Laws. Everybody has to purchase a membership, including board members. The club has several lifetime members which includes Hall of Fame members.

If you race for a purse, you will pay to get in. Workers will get in free, however if you are there to participate in the races you will pay. The By Laws will have to be approved section by

section, because if we try to approve the changes as a whole and one section doesn't pass we will have to start over.

Dick Wilson wanted to know who is paid and who isn't paid, i.e. workers, etc. Ron stated that that is something the board hasn't defined. The only person that we are paying now is that the board voted to pay Lindsay a commission to sell advertising. In the past there has been announcers, track prep, lap counters, business manager, grandstand cleanup, ticket takers being paid. Ole said that we are looking at having the State Fair clean the grandstands so they are cleaned to their standards. Lindsay brought up that we do not know what they are going to charge for rent. We paid \$500 a night in the past. We cannot afford a large increase in rent even with the new facility. The State Fair Board will have to approve what Renae Korslien comes up with for rent of the facility for NODAK. Lindsay doesn't believe our rent will be the same.

\$12,500 that was provided by the State Fair for the diminished seating during available during August 2009. The \$12500 commitment from M&S was that money is earmarked for us to move forward. They want us to bring in the big shows, but they can't expect us to put on the big shows without help from them. Nothing further has been offered due to our short racing season. The issue of the rent being increased to a point that it would run us out of business is big. Discussion was held that if we walk away from the facility someone else will come in and run races.

The issue was brought up about us being tax payers and that we have already helped pay for the facility. In the past we were to pay \$500 and a percentage of the tickets sold. We always paid \$500. Ron is not sure if we didn't have enough tickets sold to pay the percentage. Ron said he is nervous that we don't have a signed contract with the State Fair yet and what are we going to do if the price is not fair. Ole thinks they need us as much as we need them. The State Fair is very aware that if they push us over what is financially feasible for us it will not be in their best interest.

A letter to the members was sent out. The 2009 membership list was incomplete as free memberships and lifetime members were not on the list. We are trying to capture everyone's address and email to use as for notification purposes. We have additional copies for anyone that did not receive the letter in the mail.

April 21, 2010 will be the move in day for mall show. At 5:30 to 6pm the cars should line up at southwest corner of the mall so that we can start getting the cars in right away. The mall has requested that we do not bring in cars that were just painted due to the fumes.

We were optimistic of a July 4th race. That is now gone. We will still be doing the State Fair enduro. It will take a lot of work to get the track back into shape. We will need to build a new flag stand. August 8, 2010 will be our first race night. August 15, 2010 is the NLRA late model tour race. Lindsay explained about racing this tour and still keeping it to where our racers have a race night also. There is the idea that we have is to start races at 5pm to race the hobby and legends classes complete program. This segment should end at 6:30pm. Then we will have a 30 minute break. And at 7pm start the races for the late models, modified, and stock car

classes. This is something we are going to try to give everyone the opportunity to race as many nights as is possible. A Double header is scheduled for the World of Outlaws for August 20 and 21, 2010. Mandan will not have a World of Outlaws race date. Fargo does not have a date this year at this point. Tickets are available for sale at the Wild about Wheels event for the World of Outlaws race. A credit card machine is available and there will be a \$2 handling fee charged for credit card sales. We make \$2 a ticket if you purchase your ticket from NODAK. If you purchase the tickets through SLS we will get nothing on that sale.

Ron has a blueprint of the new grandstand for members to review. Ron said he feels that we are done parking in the infield. Part of the rent issue is that we were charged \$175 for every night that we parked outside the track. We may have to have the stock cars and modifieds pit outside of the track and pit the legends and hobbys in the infield for the late model races. Ron said we haven't even figured out where we will be coming in. The board is working with the State Fair on these issues. The issue was brought up that maybe someday we can have a night or two of racing at the State Fair. Ron explained that putting the dirt on and off the track is going to be NODAK's responsibility. Discussion was held on how much time we lose before and after the fair for racing in future years. The board is negotiating this issue with the fair. Discussion was held on the issues the board is going to be facing with the new track.

The issue of resurfacing the track was brought up. The board has talked about it. Once the construction of the new grandstands is finished, we don't know what we are up against for the cost of putting our track back in shape. Ron said there is going to be a large amount of cleanup that will be needed after the construction is done.

The issue was brought up of having a longer racing season. Weather is the least of our worries. We have looked at the end of year races other tracks have scheduled and we don't want to step on their toes. We have talked about it. There may be an opportunity to race into September. The board has talked about having races on the Friday at Motor Magic. Traditionally the club has lost money on this Friday race. Lindsay took a hand vote of everyone who is interested in running on that Friday. It was brought up against as it may be hard for drivers to get off work and how do we put people in the grandstands. Lindsay is hoping to double up on sponsorships for some nights so that maybe we can absorb a loss for one night.

Ron asked how they feel about not being sanctioned with IMCA this year. Rosie said that we wouldn't get any cars to race. Sanction fees are \$725 up front and then there are nightly fees. The cost would be approximately \$350 a night. The idea was brought up about running all of the 2010 races as specials, and having a special/series championship for each class. Is it a deterrent not to have the IMCA sanction? The general consensus of the members was to stay sanctioned.

Ron showed copy of the blueprints for everyone to look at.

Transponders were discussed. The only thing that is a barrier now is money. We do have some people looking for someone to sponsor the transponder system. Looking at the same system, AB system that is being used by the other tracks. The general consensus of the members is that it is a good idea to get a transponder system.

Robert Roselli made a motion to adjourn. Bonnie Joern seconded the motion. All agreed.
Meeting ended at 3:09pm.