The Fall meeting of TMHSDC was held on Sunday November 8th at Viles Arboretum in Augusta, Maine. The meeting was called to order at 12:40 PM by our President Jill Carter.
1.  The secretary's report was read and accepted.
2.  The treasurer's report was read and accepted. A motion was made to replace the money
     that was donated to the Willow Fire Dog Musher's Fund. The motion was accepted
     and $200 will be put back into our Animal Welfare Fund.
3.  Lindy Howe then spoke about animal welfare issues. There are 2 issues up before the
     legislature.
     a. the protection of dogs during extreme weather.
     b. no more dogs or cats for human consumption.
Darlene Farr then mentioned the availability of low-cost shot clinics. There will be no more
clinics at Tractor Supply locations. Only licensed Vets with established practices will be able to provide them. Julie mentioned an upcoming clinic in Vassalboro and Valerie said there was on scheduled in Bradford.
4.  Julie B then gave the corresponding secretary's report. She thanked Darlene for help with
     proof-reading her 1st newsletter before it was published. She said that she needs input
     from club members to include in future newsletters. She would also like a list of e-mail
     addresses and physical addresses of the club's members. Julie B said that the club saved
     a lot of money by doing the newsletter on-line. Only one copy was sent through the mail.
Gary Chapman commended Julie and Darlene for the creation of the postcards sent to
members announcing when and where our Fall meeting would be.
Julie B was wondering if we were happy with the picture she used on the postcard since
it only depicted Siberians huskies and also questioned what information we would like to
see on the postcards in the future. Jessica said that the club logo should be on it and
Julie said that a statement about sled dog sport education offered by the club should be added.
Julie B said that the next order of postcards should last the club for 2 years. She then showed us her design for the club's business cards and requested $100 for their printing cost. Gary made a motion to allot $150 for the cost. The motion was accepted.
Julie B said that our club should be posting more stuff on Facebook and that we could use volunteer administrators to do this. Jill said that Julie B and Darlene should do it since they are our corresponding secretaries. Julie B called upon Savanna to help them and Jill said that she would help post things if the information was sent to her.

Old Business
1. The success of the Summer cook-out and auction was discussed.
2.  The 2015 Basics and Beyond training was then discussed. Joan Chapman was not in
     attendance but she did send a written suggestion with Gary to put before us. She thought
     that it might be nice to award a scholarship for one musher 1-18 years old with a team and
     a handler to attend Basics and Beyond. The musher wanting to apply for this scholarship
     would have to submit an essay stating what their goals are and what they would like to
     learn from their Basics and Beyond experience. A motion was made to accept Joan's
     proposal and it was passed by the attending members.
     Terry then suggested that we take our big meal at lunch-time at Basics and Beyond. This
     would make it much easier for the volunteers preparing our meals. Also the applications
     for Basics and Beyond would now contain menu items for the participants to choose
     from.
     Terry said that it is now mandatory for any team to bring their own handler.
     Rhonda stated that she would do Vet checks and shot record checks at future Basics
     weekends. She said that participants need to make sure that their dogs shots are
     given soon enough as for them to be effective by Basics weekend.
     Basics and Beyond will be held in 2016 on Columbus Day weekend.
3.  Jill thanked Val and Gary for taking care of acquiring the new sound system.
     Gary said that the speaker cord is just a little too short. Dave said that there is
     enough money left from the initial purchase to buy more cord. Valerie said that she will get
     another 20 feet.
4.  Jill said that she bought 4 new snowboard helmets in assorted sizes at Northern Outfitters
     in Greenville and was able to get 30% off. Jeff McRobbie said that we should make helmets
     for children mandatory. Elaine said that it makes it more of a liability if they are required
     and said that we should just highly recommend to parents that their children wear one.
     Val said that maybe if the adults wear one that the kids will wear one too.
5.  Julie B mentioned that the club rules should be posted on Facebook and the club web-site
    so they are more accessible. Terry said that the club rules and the race rules are already on
    the web-site in the club by-laws. Terry said shame on the person that isn't reading the rules
    before participating in an event. Dave said that he and Darlene will help Julie B condense
    the rules and put them in writing. Gary said he will post them at events.
6.  Jill than spoke about the proposed 1/2 day skijor clinic. She talked with the people at Quarry
     Road and they told her that they have a very busy Winter season already and were not sure
     when they would have any open spots. Jeff McRobbie offered his property in Wayne, Maine
     for the clinic. Jill will speak with Kevin Quist about combining this training day with the
     Downeast club. Jill said that will need to have an experienced ski instructor there.
7.  Julie B said that being a newbie to the world of sled dog sports that she thought that it
     would be helpful to her and others new to the sport to allot some class time at Basics
     to learn mushing terminology. Terry said that most participants have been to Basics many
     times before and already have a grasp of basic terminology. Kevin suggested early arrival
     for new people and a class for them before repeat students arrive.

New Business
1.  A vote was taken for a change in the by-laws about a recreational class at events. A motion
     was made to accept the changes and it was passed by the attending members. Terry said
     that he would update this change on the club's web-site.
2.  The Benson Family won the Leonard Seppala Award this year by popular approval. They will
     be presented with their award at the spaghetti dinner after the Brownville event. There
     were no nominees this year for the Sportsmanship Award.

3.  Terry then spoke about the changes for the Brownville event. The Saturday 30 mile race
     will be an 8 dog class with a minimum of 6 to start. The Saturday 20 mile race will be a 6 dog

 class with a minimum of 4 to start. The Sunday 20 mile race will be timed 6 dog class race with a minimum of 4 to start.
Elaine questioned whether there will still be a Saturday Fun Run; Terry said yes. Terry also said that we need volunteers for the Brownville event.
Jeff McRobbie said he would do equipment checks.

Gary Chapman is the Race Marshall.
Terry will be the Race Coordinator.
Jill and possibly Jan McCannon will be flaggers.
Valerie will take care of the sound system.
Chris Mitchell will be the Trail Boss.
We still need volunteers for these positions: Chief Judge, parking lot attendant, trail marking
                                                                         and trail help: 2 people at Front St., 2 people in KI
                                                                         (Neil volunteered to go to KI) and 2 people at the 30

 mile turn around (Bill Graves and Chris Mitchell).

4.  The new date for the Garland Race will be February 6th.

Jill then asked for general comments
Julie B said she thought that the club should offer its merchandise for sale on the club
web-site. Kevin said that selling and shipping could possibly turn into a big project and that
maybe we should put pictures of our merchandise on the web-site but only have it available for sale at our events.
Terry then thanked Julie B and Darlene for their hard work on the recent newsletter and the postcards that were mailed to everyone.
Jeff mentioned a new movie promoting dog powered sports that is now in production. The name of the film is "Dog Powered Sports". Jeff said that maybe our club should donate for its production. Terry said that the producers should look for corporate sponsors and Gary said that after the movie’s release the producers should donate copies of it to libraries for more public exposure.
Jill mentioned that she had been contacted by a teacher in the Windham school system that is interested in doing an Iditarod project with his students and is looking for some knowledgeable help. Thomas and Charlotte volunteered to help and Jill said that she would give them the teacher's contact information.

A motion was made at 2PM to adjourn the Fall meeting of TMHSDC. The motion was seconded and accepted by the attending members.

Jan McCannon   Secretary TMHSDC