Agenda Summary
August 29, 2017

Agenda Item No. 5
NENSA Pre-Olympic Roller Ski Invitational

Summary: Enclosed is an email from Carol Van Dyke and Justin Beckwith on behalf of the New England Nordic Ski Association requesting to use the public right-of-way for “an elite Cross-Country Roller Ski race to be held the morning of Saturday, November 4, 2017. The event would be organized and insured by the New England Nordic Ski Association. The goals of the event are to gather the very best skiers from the East for a high level race prior to their winter competition period, and to make a spectator friendly event to highlight the sport of Cross Country skiing, Trapps, and the Town of Stowe…The course would begin near the intersection of Nebraska Valley Road and Beech Hill Road, continue onto Moscow Road then turning left onto Barrows Road, then making another left up Luce Hill and Trapp Hill.” (See Enclose Route Map). The applicant has met with Chief Hull and the traffic / safety provisions are acceptable to him. Carol and Justin Beckwith will be here to introduce the event and answer any questions the Selectboard might have.

Town Plan Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Recommendation: Move to approve with the understanding that the roads will be used “as is” with no extraordinary measures taken by the Town in the event of inclement weather or otherwise.
Hi Charles and Chief Hull,

I have copied our proposal below as well as sent a PDF in a separate email. Please contact me with any more questions, suggestions, etc.

Thank you so much for your help.

Best,
Carol Van Dyke

Proposal for the NENSA Pre-Olympic Roller Ski Invitation

Please consider this proposal for an elite Cross-Country Roller Ski race to be held the morning of Saturday, November 4th, 2017. The event would be organized and insured by the New England Nordic Ski Association (NENSA). The goals of the event are to gather the very best skiers from the East for a high level race prior to their winter competition period, and to make a spectator friendly event to highlight the sport of Cross Country skiing, Trapps, and the Town of Stowe.

The event would be an interval start ski race in the classic technique. The start interval would be staggered with one skier every thirty seconds with a 5-10 minute break between women and men. The goal is to invite: 20 male/20 female = 40 total (with a maximum of 50).

The course would begin near the intersection of Nebraska Valley Road and Beech Hill Road, continue onto Moscow Road then turning left onto Barrows Road, then making another left up Luce Hill and Trapp Hill. The course is primarily uphill and would end at the Trapp Outdoor Center. All intersections would be marked with cones and marshaled by educated volunteers. NENSA would post small signs near the intersections to alert local traffic. The week prior we would write announcements for the Stowe Reporter, FPF, etc.

The current proposal is to have the start at 10am. With 40 athletes and a five-minute break between groups we would have 25 minutes of starting traffic. The race would be seeded slowest to fastest so our window of finishers is likely to be closer to 20 minutes. As the last skier moves up the road we can pull cones/signage and provide a “sweep” vehicle. Course is approximately 6 miles and +/- 25 minutes. We anticipate the race would be completed by 11am.

Skiers would follow all rules of the road as a bicyclist would. By skiing in the classical style we are using less of the road and overtaking skiers is safer. The uphill terrain will result in relatively slow speeds.

We look forward to creating a safe, festive and unique event in the Town of Stowe and welcome any suggestions you might have. Thank you.

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