

Whitehorse Cross Country Ski Club
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, October 1st 2014
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Curling Lounge, Mt. McIntyre Rec Centre
DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to order (Anne) 7:05 p.m.

President Anne Kennedy welcomed everyone and introduced present ski club executive Tom Ullyett, Ian Robinson, Mia Lee, John Wright, Claude Chabot and Craig Thur who were all present.

Director Bill Curtis was not able to attend.

WCCSC manager Mike Gladish was not able to attend however WCCSC Office manager Corinna Warren, Operations manager Jan Polivka and Programs manager Nick Stratis were present.

2. Review and Adoption of Agenda

It was proposed that item 5.3 (Operations Manager's Report) be reported on after item 5.4 (Program's Report) since Jan Polivka will be reporting on items 5.3, 5.5 (Dog and Sun Dog Trail) and 5.6 (Skyline Trail). Motion to accept Agenda made by Jim Hawkings and seconded by Jim Gilpin. Agenda adopted with proposed change.

3. Approval of Minutes of AGM of October 2nd, 2013

The Minutes of the 2013 AGM were not available and will have to be presented during the Special AGM that will be held in February or March 2015 in order to change and amend WCCSC By-laws .

4. Financial Report

4.1 2013/2014 Financial Report

Claude Chabot spoke about the current situation of the WCCSC. WCCSC had over 1300 members during the 2013/2014 season. The club has one of the longest ski seasons in Canada with trails usually skiable from November through April. There are 85 kms of trails, almost \$1 000 000.00 in assets and 14 employees so it is in many ways similar to a medium sized Whitehorse business.

The primary focus of the club is to provide high quality ski trails and this costs money. Over recent years, the club has made significant Capital Expenditures, primarily with grooming equipment (Sherpa, Pisten Bully, Bearcat snowmobile, new roller and track setter etc...) The use of highly effective but older model snowmobiles has also contributed to significant repair costs. These machines are being phased out over time because of their age and the expense involved in keeping them operational.

The club has also initiated a LED Lighting project to replace required trails lights over several years.

Additionally, WCCSC has purchased the Ski Base operations from Mike Gladish and negotiated that the purchase occur with 3 payments over two years.

WCCSC has a lease agreement for the facilities with the City of Whitehorse however rent, utilities, and insurance are significant expenditures.

Although the club does access some funding through City of Whitehorse grants, the Community Development Fund and Lotteries Yukon, these sources only cover a portion of the costs of Capital Expenditures.

WCCSC operated with a deficit of \$37 000.00 for the 2013/2014 fiscal year. This was greater than expected and attributable to Capital Expenditures totaling \$48 000.00 of which only \$13 000.00 was funded. WCCSC had an operating surplus therefore capital expenditures account for the deficit. The Capital Expenditures in 2013/2014 were:

- Purchase of a new bearcat (snowmobile)
- Purchase of a new roller for grooming
- Purchase of a new tracksetter for grooming
- Repairs to the Tidd Tech for grooming
- Repairs to the storage shed
- Lighting project to replace old lights with LED lights
- Signage Project

4.2 Motion to Waive Requirement for Audit

Claude Chabot introduced a motion to waive the requirement for having our financial statements audited. Seconded by Al Lucier. Carried.

4.3 Budget Forecast for 2014/2015

With significant Capital Expenditures behind us for a few years, the WCCSC Board has budgeted a surplus of \$20 400.00 for the 2014/2015 fiscal year.

5. Reports

5.1 President's report: (Anne)

Anne specifically addressed the following:

The board striving for transparency in decisions and that the Board meeting Minutes were available on the website.

The boards focus has been trying to meet the needs of over 1300 members in a fiscally responsible way to provide and safe and enjoyable skiing experience

Land Tenure at Mt MacIntrye is an ongoing issue that requires vigilance by WCCSC and other stakeholders.

The significant Capital Expenditures that running the club requires and the work done by John Wright in preparing a Capital Equipment Plan.

2013/2014 was our first full year of running the ski base and working with the new staffing model.

The mutually beneficial relationship WCCSC has with Cross Country Yukon.

This past year we celebrated Olympian and Paralympian Emily and Graham Nishikawa

The need for club members to become involved and help out where their interests and talents lie.

5.2 Club Manager's Report: (Corinna Warren for Mike Gladish)

Corinna presented a summary of a written report that had been prepared by Mike Gladish.

- 2013/14 ski conditions: mid-Nov. to April with record snowfalls in Dec. and thaw in Jan. creating grooming challenges
- Memberships: over 1300 (1260 season/60 spring passes)
- 2500 day passes
- 2000 school visits
- Sponsorships: new developments and changes
- Land tenure: worked with several groups during the year on items related to access to Mt. Mac ski trails area including Hillcrest walkers, snow bikers, City of Whitehorse
- Several policies initiated/under development during the year including a cold weather closure policy
- Member communications: enews upgraded to resolve mobile device issues; website updated regularly and is well-used by members

Al Lucier inquired about the club's land tenure and Claude Chabot explained our License of Occupation as well as our agreements and relationships with ATCO, Coyne and Sons and the City of Whitehorse and the Official Community Plan that envisions the Mt McIntyre recreation area as a park.

5.4 Programs Report: (Nick)

Nick Stratis provided an overview of his first year as Programs Manager and the plans for 2014/2015 which include Northwestel as the new title sponsor for the Jackrabbits and Bunnies ski program.

5.3 Operations Manager's Report: (Jan)

Jan Polivka informed the board about the maintenance of grooming equipment, summer trail work, the trail signage project and spring/summer/fall wax room rentals.

5.5 Dog and Sun Dog Trail: (Jan)

Jan Polivka informed the AGM about the widening of Sun Dog Trail and the improvements to the Dog Parking Lot such as the reduction of the grade from the parking lot to the trails and the addition of dog hitching posts designed to make accessing the ski trails with dogs a easier.

5.6 Skyline Trail Report: (Jan)

Jan Polivka informed the AGM that he would be monitoring trail conditions over the 2014/2015 season.

The Kwanlin Koyotes under Gary Baillie may obtain permitting to trim the willows on the Skyline Trail.

6. Election of Director/ Officers

Tom Ullyett ran the elections. The Board for the upcoming season is:

President: vacant
Vice-President: Cord Hamilton
Treasurer: Claude Chabot
Secretary: Craig Thur
Directors at large: Marcus Watterus, Diane Billingsly and Bill Curtis
Past President: Ann Kennedy

7. New Business

7.1 Strategic Plan: (Claude) Report on the Strategic Plan was presented by Claude Chabot. The Strategic Plan will now be renewed every year looking ahead three years and is on the WCCSC website.

7.2 Proposed February 2015 Special General Meeting: (Craig)

Craig Thur explained the need to hold a Special General Meeting in February or March 2015 to bring the WCCSC By-laws up to date. The board will provide sufficient notice for this meeting as required under the Societies Act.

A discussion about the costs of maintaining trails that are used by dogs was held with different points of view presented and heard by the old and new board.

8. Announcements

8.1 Jackrabbit Registration is October 4th 2013 between 10:00 and 12:00 at Mt. Mac.

8.2 Ski Swap Day is October 18th 2013 between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm at Mt. Mac.

9. Adjournment

At 9:00pm Jim Hawkings moved that the meeting be adjourned. Carried.