



Whitehorse Cross Country Ski Club
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, January 18th, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
Meeting held at Canada Games Centre Boardroom

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Board Members Present

Jean Paul Molgat, President
Jan Downing, Vice President
Moya Painter, Secretary
Tracee Vickerman, Director
Sarah Aasman, Director
Brian Terry, Director
Lorrie Lech, Director
Deb Higgins, Director

Regrets

Chad Walasek, Director
Leslie Gomm, Treasurer

Club Management Present

Ben Poudou, Club Manager
Jan Polivka, Operations Manager

1. Call to Order

Jean Paul called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

2. Approval and Additions to Agenda

Deb moved to approve the Agenda and all board members present were in favour. Carried.

3. Review and approval of the draft Minutes from December 13th, 2023

Tracee moved to approve the draft Minutes from December 13th. All in favour. Approved by consensus. Carried.

Updates

4. Board Committee Updates

READI Committee (Jan Downing, Deb Higgins and Ben Poudou)

The news announcing the name change from WCCSC to Whitehorse Nordic Centre went out last week. A few comments were received by email, both positive and negative. Some comments were made to board members personally. There was one email comment about the need for more engagement on the topic. The board will need to prepare for these types of comments at the special general meeting. If during the meeting the people there decide that it is not something we want to proceed with, there will not be a new name considered. Jean Paul suggested that if there is a lot of negative feedback the board could consider moving the meeting back to April to give people more time. Suggestion to announce special general meeting on facebook with disabled comments and possibly an embedded survey. Jan P. raised question whether it would be worth sending out a one question survey either before or after SGM to get a better idea of the general feeling surrounding the name change, with a section for comments. READI committee will ask Teresa to advise on this.

Climate Change Committee (Leslie Gomm, Lorrie Lech, Sarah Aasman and Moya Painter)

Nothing to report. Committee will meet with Leslie once she is back.

Human Resources Committee (Jean Paul Molgat, Chad Walasek and Leslie Gomm)

Nothing to report.

Land Tenure Committee (Jean Paul Molgat, Jan Polivka and Brian Terry)

Drilling permits were authorized for Gladiator Metals by the City of Whitehorse. Only one permit was authorized.

The new License of Occupation is drafted in a final draft and ready to be signed. The biggest change is that we now have some occupation authorized over the summer in order to do brushing, minor trail work and maintenance.

Major Competitions and Events Committee

Jean Paul to meet with Mathias to see what races are still available.

A member suggested hosting the Canadian Master's in the Yukon. It is a smaller event, easier to organize, supports tourism, etc. Master's is the best category to target for future ski tourism.

Jean Paul has talked to Yukon Ski Marathon organizers about trying to attract people from outside of the Yukon, but there was some concern about environmental footprint of travel. Deb suggested maybe inviting Alaskan neighbours as a first step (drive vs. fly). Climate change committee will look at the environmental cost of running a major event. Joe Sparling article.

Establish a purpose statement for each race that is run. Take another look at the goal of ski tourism and whether that is something the board wants to pursue.

Cross Country Yukon Board Meeting

Jean Paul and Deb attended the last CCY board meeting. We should communicate with CCY when our board meetings are and encourage them to set a regular schedule.

Now that CCY has a strategic plan they will be bringing up to date their policies. Jean Paul suggests adding a governance policy, bring that up at the next meeting. CCY has a new website up in two weeks where they will post all of their policies and minutes.

CCY is bringing up Stephen Novosad to do some athlete and coach development. Jean Paul asked if JDP had been informed and Jen said yes. Jan D. will follow up with Brian to make sure JDP coaches are in the loop.

CCY voted to approve the 5-year strategic plan. They will be reviewing 2 or 3 policies per meeting and need to coordinate with affiliate policies.

Standing Items

5. Financial Reporting

Leslie Gomm

Ben presented the financial report. Day passes are a bit below normal. Program lessons are getting there in terms of revenue and the empty adult lesson spots filled up.

Nordic Canada membership is paid through seasons pass, but was raised from \$10 to \$12 this year, which was not budgeted for. Comment from the CCY meeting was that Nordic Canada is experiencing some financial pressure and were questioning why they don't get a fee for day passes.

6. Manager's Report

Ben Poudou

Ben provided a written report in advance of the meeting.

Ben is putting a lot of resources into the Don Sumanik Races. The race is becoming more of a community event, and there will be a radio announcement this week. In regards to postponing races, there needs to be some sort of policy.. Diane follows ICR rules for postponement. Jan P. says the decision based on weather should be set based on the forecast so that there are no last minute decisions that result in volunteers and staff preparing unnecessarily.

Planning for the spring festival is in the works. There will be laser rifles from Biathlon Canada and Grandma Treesaw with Stew and Bannock. Ben is hiring a graphic designer to create a new logo.

Ben had an unofficial session with Diane to think about the new chair for AWG. They hope to get Dahria Beaty to co-chair with Jan Horton (the current chair). This would be a good way to transition into a younger generation of volunteers.

The CoW said we can rent out the club room this summer so the renovations will not be happening then. The plan for renovations is still in the works and there will be a meeting soon with stakeholders.

7. Operations Manager's Report

Jan Polivka

Jan P. provided a written report in advance of the meeting.

There was an emergency on December 30th - broken hip. There was some miscommunication between dispatch of EMS and fire department so it took an hour to get to the person. Jan P. asked why there was a problem and they said there was a training issue which has been addressed. Jan P. added a lot more emergency backpacks to the trails and outside of the huts. Going to improve what goes in the backpack but the location is good.

Ben suggested that during the managers challenge some of the stations be placed where the packs are so people are more aware.

Is there an opportunity to do a test with the Fire Department and EMS?

8. President's Report

Jean Paul

Jean Paul provided written report prior to the meeting. Moved on from this due to time constraint.

Discussion and Decision Items

9. Amendment to the budget

Jean Paul moved to amend the budget to add 8k to inventory purchases for rental skis, 4k to budget for trail signs, and 5k to the event expenses category. Amounts will be coming from the operating surplus. Consensus. Carried.

10. CCY Strategic Planning

See board committee updates above.

11. Presentation to the Minister

Jean Paul reached out to Minister Mostyn to organize a meeting about raising awareness on how we are growing, the services that we provide for health and wellness, diversity and inclusion, etc. Hopes to talk about the needs that this growth brings - facilities are being stretched, buildings, equipment, stadium, etc. Another topic for discussion is land tenure - importance of creating a park.

Minister Streiker (EMR), Minister Clarke (Environment) and Minister Mostyn (CS) will all be in attendance. Jean Paul suggested bringing Matthias along to represent CCY.

12. Emergency response on the trail

See operation manager's report above.

13. License of occupation

Tracee moves that Jean Paul be authorized to sign the new license of occupation with YG. Consensus. Carried.

14. Special general meeting

READI committee will meet with Teresa and then send out email to board members to finalize the decision on when the meeting will be.

The ski club lounge is booked for Feb 21st. Proxy vote? Proposed to move the meeting to March 6 to allow more board members to attend.

Adjournment: The chair adjourned the meeting at 8:16 pm

Next Meeting: February 21st, 2024 at the CGC Boardroom