



**Whitehorse Cross Country Ski Club
Board of Directors Meeting**
Wednesday, August 23rd, 2023, 7:00 p.m.
Meeting held in the WCCSC waxroom

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Board Members Present

Jean Paul Molgat, President
Craig Thur, Secretary
Chad Walasek, Director

Leslie Gomm, Treasurer
Deb Higgins, Director
Heather O'Mara, Director

Regrets

Jan Downing, Director

Club Management Present

Jan Polivka, Operations Manager

Regrets

Ben Poudou,

1. Call to Order

Jean Paul called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm.

2. Approval and Additions to Agenda

Chad added the following four items to the draft Agenda:

Item 14: Board Communications

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

3. Review and approval of the draft Minutes from June 21st, 2023

Review and approval of the draft Minutes from June 21st, 2023.

Deb moved to approve the draft Minutes. All in favour. Approved by consensus. Carried.

Updates

4. Board Committee Updates

Note During the Strategic Planning Implementation meeting on Thursday, December 17th, 2020 the board members leading the **Strategic Plan Action Items** for 2021 were determined and initiated. A majority of these Strategic Plan Action Items were progressed and several were completed in 2021 and 2022. The committees mentioned in these Minutes have been prioritized to continue in 2023.*

Diversity and Inclusion Committee (Jan Downing, Deb Higgins, Heather O'Mara and Ben Poudou)

The committee has been re-named **READI Committee** for Reconciliation, Equity, Accessibility, Diversity and Inclusion.

See Agenda Item 12 in Discussions and Decision

Climate Change Committee (Jean Paul Molgat, Leslie Gomm)

Nothing to report.

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

Nothing to report.

Land Tenure Committee (Jean Paul and Bengt Pettersson)

Jean Paul spoke with Bill Cullen of ATCO inquiring about if there had been a change in ATCO's plan for their parcel of land and if there may be plans for more development where the Pierre Harvey trails are located. Bill said ATCO has no plans to dispose of any of their lands in the near future. The WCCSC lease with expires in 2025.

When Jean Paul meets with Whitehorse mayor Laura Cabott he will inform her about the ATCO land parcel and inform her that the ski club has an interest in knowing about whether development

of that land would ever be allowed by the city. The same concern will be posed by Jean Paul to Yukon Parks and Environment Branch when he meets with them.

Major Competitions and Events Committee

Sarah is no longer on the WCCSC board but she did inform the board that she would stay on the Major Competitions and Events Committee.

Jean Paul will speak with Sarah prior to the next board meeting.

5. August 17th Cross Country Yukon Board Meeting

Chad and Leslie attended the meeting.

CCY stressed that they are a “hand on” board and that they often make decisions via e-mail.

Allain Masson will be inducted into the Canadian Ski Hall of Fame in November in Montreal.

The WCCSC board discussed the advantage of having one or two consistent and committed board members or ski club members who could represent WCCSC as one of CCY’s affiliate clubs.

Safe Sport Training will become mandatory.

CCY will be organizing Level 2 Officials Training this season.

The WCCSC board was in agreement that this is a new situation for both the CCY and WCCSC boards and that the new board relationship will take time to build.

Chad and Jan Downing will (tentatively) attend the next meeting.

Standing Items

6. Financial Reporting

Leslie Gomm

Written reports were prepared and distributed ahead of the meeting.

Lesleie and Ben will meet and add the 2023/2024 budget to the website in advance of the AGM on September 20th.

Leslie informed the board that our new accountant Ben Robinson is great to work with.

The ski club remains in a healthy financial position.

7. Manager's Report

Ben Poudou

Ben provided a written report in advance of the meeting.

The board discussed the proposed earlier 8:00 pm Ski Base and wax room closing time at least for the first few darker months of the season. Further discussion to be had with Ben prior to next board meeting.

8. Operations Manager's Report

Jan Polivka

Jan provided a written report.

Extensive trail maintenance was required following the July wind and rain storms. Many trees were down all over the ski network but particularly at the south end and near Best Chance Corner.

There was some discussion about applying for FireSmart funding to remove some of the trees near Best Chance Corner.

New outhouses near the Harvey's Hut and Sarah Steele hut have been built.

A Kubota has been rented for 6 weeks for fall trail maintenance and will be used to mitigate some of the erosion on the trails.

9. President's Report

Jean Paul

Jean Paul prepared and shared a 'Key Points' document that he prepared in advance of a meeting with Whitehorse mayor Laura Cabott. Jean Paul will provide her with information about WCCSC, our role in the community as well as our successes and challenges. The meeting is scheduled to occur in the next week.

After his meeting with mayor Cabott, Jean Paul will request to meet with Yukon government ministers of the Environment and Sport and Culture.

Jean Paul informed the board that the CDF funding for Functional Planning for the Ski Stadium area was approved for \$19 500.00. Kobyashi and Zetta will be contracted and will be asked to receive input from interested and knowledgeable ski club members such as Grant Abbott, John Perry, David Grier, and CCY representatives.

Discussion and Decision Items

10. READI Committee Proposal

The plan to move forward with the renaming of Whitehorse Cross Country Ski Club to *Whitehorse Nordic Centre* was approved by the board. The committee will consider feedback received about their draft proposal and recirculate the plan to the board.

11. Lotteries Funding Application

Jean Paul amended the motion proposed by Ben to the following which was then moved by Chad:

“The board of the Whitehorse Cross Country Ski Club approves the applications to the City of Whitehorse Festival and Special Events Grant and Lotteries Yukon for \$7500.00 each for a total of \$15 000.00 to support the Nordic Spring Festival 2024.”

12. AGM Planning

The AGM is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20th. Three weeks notice is required.

The AGM will be both live and via Zoom Jean Paul will speak with Ben about preparations.

13. Board Commitments for 2023-2024

Jean Paul Molgat, Leslie Gomm, Jan Downing and Deb Higgins said they would like to return.

Chand Walasek is interested in returning but will be out of the country from November to February.

Heather O’Mara has not yet decided.

Craig Thur would not oppose anyone who wished to assume the role of secretary.

Moya Painter, Tracee Vickerman and Sarah Aasman have all indicated interest in joining the board.

14. Board Communications Ideas for 2023-2024

Chad Walasek suggested the following:

A newsletter from the board once or twice a year.

Pictures and biographies added to the website.

The board hosting an *Easy Like Sunday* date.

Adjournment: The chair adjourned the meeting at 9:12 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 13th, 2023 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.