**Board members**

Present: Jen Chapman, Barb Guillon, Anne Harfenist, Ali Howard, Susan Kinkela, Steve Osborn, Sarah Sacharoff

Unable to attend: Aurora Lavender, Sarah Newton, Joanne Reid, Adrianne Rosenberger

Meeting started at 19:05

**1) Minutes of Last Meeting**

***Motion:* Susan moved to accept March Feb. 12 draft board meeting minutes; Jen seconded. Approved.**

**2) Directors Reports**

**Barb**: Treasurer (financial reports circulated by Steve April 12)

**Steve O:** Nordic Centre (emailed April 9)

**Lodge**

Northern Development Initiative Trust approved a grant for 70% of new heating system.  We will contract Hunterbilt Industries from Telkwa as soon as we have a signed funding agreement with NDIT. Installation soon after.

 April 3 updated quotes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Quote** | **Phase** | **Excl GST** |
| 1601 | Replace unusable wood furnace with new heat pump furnace with electric backup. Existing vents plus new vent upstairs. | 24,769.75 |
| 1600 | Heat recovery ventilator to bring fresh warm air into the lodge and toilets | 8,813.20 |
| 1599 | Mini split heat pumps for upper floor | 17,817.17 |
|  | **Total project before tax** | **51,400.12** |
|  |  |  |
|  | NDIT grant (70% of application excluding GST) | 35,530.52 |
|  | Club contribution (balance excluding GST) | 15,869.60 |
|  | Club will pay GST and eventually receive rebate | 2,570.01 |

**Trails**

Jan has completed most of the end-of-season tasks. Jan ordered the Polaris Ranger that the board previously approved.

I recruited volunteers for:

* emergency kit shelters (Tim Penninga, Mark Moes & Steve Bishop)
* sign maintenance (Jeremy Penninga)
* Summer trail work helpers (several names given to Kevin Kriese)

Roger McMillan has been working with the consultant, and club reps on the race route homologation / additions. The consultant's report and more feedback from club people still coming. He hopes to be ready for presentation to the board in May. His early impression is that we could get an extra 4 km of skiing while being grooming-neutral.

I recently met with Brandy Hughes of Recreation Sites and Trails regarding outstanding trail authorizations (general maintenance, Pine swamp bypass, Valley View Connector) which we need prior to applying for grants to fund them.  No problem expected.   
We also discussed the process for possible new trail applications and a proposed change to the recreation site that the Nordic Centre is located in.

At the board meeting, I will discuss the attached map with proposed change to the recreation site boundary, the new trails awaiting approval and possible new trail applications.

Added at board meeting: Nordic Centre may have $8700 deficit after putting money into the tracksetter fund

***Action Item: Steve*** *to ask Tisha to include a detailed report for Events in future months*

**Sarah N.:** Communications (no report)

**Position open:** Grants & Sponsorships

**Ali:** Events (emailed April 8)

— race committee met to discuss this year’s races and to lay groundwork for next year. Robbie Dunbar is willing to take on the role of chief of course again for 2024/25. We will once again host a race weekend, preferably early February. Trying to recruit for new chief of stadium. We will need to host a officials course in late September or October and at least Robbie and I will have to attend a level two course to meet CCBC’s new requirements.

Added at meeting: A level 2 course is being organised for the fall; can’t be completed on-line.

**Sarah S.:** NSDP (emailed April 14)

Masters Performance

* wrapup party held

Registration

* Denise is finalizing our spring summer zone 4 registration.  Should open this week.
* Athletes will get hot pink sport t shirts with reflective lettering with registration (idea is to wear when roller skiing or biking).
* summer programming will be offered for U10-20, generally keeping same training times and days as the F/W season.  Impossible to work around soccer, etc.  Given that we expect our training times to conflict with other activities, Andrea will shift the daily focus week to week.  For instance, on the first week, the strength session will be tuesday, second week it’s wednesday, third week it’s thursday, etc.
* U14+ will have some sessions at Titan Fitness to learn how to properly use gym equipment in a safe environment (included with registration)
* ADP has decided that our Spring/Summer season will run May 1 -  September 1st.  Sept 2 - April 30 will be F/W.
* ADP has decided that we will do our own zone 4 F/W registation for September 1.
* We would like to leave Masters Performance registration and Rabbits registration with the club registration in October.

ADP

* wrapup parties held, fun chocolate bar awards to athletes
* Finlay Gagnon will continue training with us as a U20 next year
* 2 BV Nordic Athletes made the Talent Squad team, 5 BV Nordic Athletes made the Dev Squad team.  ~4 other BV Nordic athletes are on the Talent Squad reserve list.  This is unheard of for our club.  So many of our athletes will have lots of opportunity to go to provincial camps this year.  Currently trying to coordinate between parents to divide and conquer the driving responsibilities to take advantage of these camps.
* Last week Andrea held a coach meeting to collect feedback about the year.  Lots of great discussion and lessons learned.

Rabbits

* wrapup party held with treats

Coaches

* all coaches and key NSDP voluteers received a gift certificate to McBike as a thank you for the season.

Ski Skool

* lower numbers , 911 this year vs ~1400 in the past.  I believe this is mostly because of weather.

Racing

* Sacha Fleury Allen and Finlay Gagnon competed at Nationals.  Haven’t seen a report but sounds like they had a positive experience
* Andrea when on a CCBC sponsored B tour in the US with the BC Ski Team and a bunch of other provincial coaches.  She says it was a very valuable experience.

Financials

* I believe ADP has fundraised over 18k this year!  Catering (snow camp, chris dahlie and loppet) made about $4600 of profit.
* Sounds like a group of ADP parents and athletes (~15) will be helping at the McBike Mothers Day run and will be given about ~1500 for this.
* currently predicting over 10k surplus.  Might be significantly more if we aren’t able to make approved purchases (more test skis, wax trailer) before the end of our fiscal.
* Steve Wickham needs input for the minor capital Gaming Grant ….
* In general, I believe NSDP is in excellent shape for being able to keep a balanced budget going forward without the CCBC and NWSDA transition grants we have enjoyed over the last 3 years.

Other

* completed a contract extension with Denise for April, May, June
* CMT will hold a performance review with Andrea and revisit her contract in the next couple of weeks.

**Susan:**  Membership (no report)

**Anne:** Secretary (emailed April 9)

* Signed Partnership Agreement with Rec Sites and Trails.  A copy can be found in the Agreements and Authourizations folder (RSTBC sub-folder) on the shared board drive.
* Sent out survey on skiing direction on dog trails.  Have >200 responses so far.

**Joanne:** Director at Large (emailed April 13)

On April 3 Roger McMillian and I explored for 3 hours the flagged -proposed trail system that would be beneficial to multi users. I could visualize added improvements for children, Jackrabbit program and the recreation skier ( for example on Down and Out on way to the lodge the recreation skier who is intimidated with the last big hill , a trail to the left follows a bench and gentle rolling terrain, offering a  choice of getting back to the lodge.

Roger had ideas to  give Jackrabbits another choice as well which I support.

I did examine the "racer"interest and see the thrill of hills and turns .

I'd be happy to continue as a board rep in future examination of the proposed system.

 Roger says he looks forward to meeting with the BVXC board next month??

**3) Action Items from Previous Meeting**

* *those directors who have not already done so to prepare job descriptions – some still outstanding*
* *Aurora to check dog trail direction situation in other clubs – maybe not necc.?*
* *Anne to set up survey; circulate wording to board for comment - done*
* *Sarah N. to send email to all members reminding them to save passes – put in newsletter*
* *Jen to look into how other clubs compensate volunteers - ongoing*
* *Tabled: Steve O to ask insurer about bundling snowmobile coverage and forest fire coverage*
* *Tabled: recalculate what our targets for reserves are*

**4) New/Continuing Business**

a) Motions that were approved by email:

**Motion:** Steve Osborn moves that the Club purchase a Polaris Ranger side by side with the specifications and accessories described in the attached proposal. The net cost of $39,432 will be paid from the Tracksetter Reserve with the understanding that at least that amount will be replenished to the Tracksetter Reserve from the eventual sale of the PistenBully; Anne seconded. Approved.

**Motion:** Steve moves that the club use one or more high interest savings (HIS) accounts through Edward Jones for savings and operating funds that are not expected to be needed right away. As GICs mature, funds may be moved into our BVCU bank account, HIS or a GIC, whichever is more appropriate. The total amount in the Edward Jones HIS account(s) will not exceed $200,000. Moving money into and out of the HIS at Edward Jones would be authorized by Steve or Jen at Barb's request or after her agreement; Anne seconded. Approved.

The second motion above was amended at the meeting to read:

**Motion:** Steve moves that the club use one or more high interest savings (HIS) accounts through Edward Jones for savings and operating funds that are not expected to be needed right away. As GICs mature, funds may be moved into our BVCU bank account, HIS or a GIC, whichever is more appropriate. The total amount in the Edward Jones HIS account(s) will not exceed $200,000. Moving money into and out of the HIS at Edward Jones would be authorized by the president or director on Nordic Centre operations at the treasurer’s request or after her agreement; Anne seconded.

b) Trails and Rec Site Boundaries

* Described benefit of Valley View Connector and how Valley View tail might be a "bonus" section of trail with low-priority grooming. Authorization pending. Grant application drafted. Board supported.
* Described benefit of Pine Swamp Bypass and how it creates a more efficient loop without cutoffs. Authorization pending. Grant application drafted. Board supported with some discussion about how members would feel about change in status of the 5K cut off.
* Described the concept of a future trail change to allow Pine loop skiers to bypass dog trails from the tunnel. Board conditionally supported: depends to some degree on if/how new trail would be connected to existing trails.
* Described the work done to date on a possible new trail addition (purple on map). Potentially grooming-neutral compared to original Pine 10km loop. Further discussion required: potential to not add yellow separator trail if connect purple trail to pooch paradise to be investigated; some skiers find hill on entry to pooch paradise scary; some directors want to deal with skiing direction issue before deciding. Steve will discuss with Kevin and bring to board for decision in May or June. Want to bring some dog skiers into discussion if trail is to be a dog trail.
* Described purpose of the recreation site and the reason for updating. Board supported.
* Board supported funding applications:
  + Wetzin'kwa Community Grant Program -  $12,000 with $2,000 club in kind to build Pine swamp bypass and Valley View Connector. (application deadline May 31)
  + Outdoor Recreation Grant - $7,000 with matching contribution from our DDF trail project to upgrade existing race routes to allow use in low snow. (application deadline April 30)

c) Fees for next year

* Default is to raise season’s pass by consumer price index
* Discussion about applying to raise day pass rates; last raised in 2018
* Seniors’ discount not supported by board (reasons included data from 2022-23 season when offered a discount – seniors used the discount at half the rate of younger adults, 12 % and 24% respectively; also if offer discount to seniors then other members will have to pay more)

***Action Item: Anne*** *to apply to RSTBC for increase in day pass rates to: adult $18; youth $12; <6 years free; family $40.*

d) Gaming Capital Grant

* Minor capital projects: Ali and Sarah S. to decide
* Major projects (>$20K and needs matching funding): possibly fund old shed foundation repair and fuel tank cement pad & cover

***Action Item: Steve*** *to work with Jan on preparing some estimates for major projects*

e) Recognition of groomers for this year’s efforts

* McBikes gift certificate

Meeting adjourned 21:05

Next meeting: May 13 or 27 because May 20 is a holiday