

Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club - Board Meeting

May 29, 2018 – Alpenhorn, Smithers

Board members

Present: Steve Osborn, Anne Harfenist, Ben Forsyth , Jill Krause

Absent: James Cuell, Kara Przewczek, Daryl Wilson

Meeting started at approximately 6:56 pm

1) Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes from April 5, 2018 meeting reviewed

MOTION: Ben moved that the minutes from the April 5 meeting be accepted and posted on the bvnordic.ca website. Approved.

Action item: Posted May 30

2) Directors Reports

a) **Membership** – Jill by May 28 email

2016-17

- Members 533
- Ticket booth income for the season \$10185.40
- Payment to NSDP for manning the ticket booth for the season 57 (half days) x \$30.00 = \$1710.00
- Store sales \$4920.00
- Net ticket income: \$13,395.40

2017-18

- Members 556
- Ticket booth income for the season \$9316.85
- Payment owed to NSDP for manning the ticket booth for the season 84 (half days) x \$30.00 = \$2520.00
- Store sales \$5296.00
- Net ticket income: \$12,092.85

Overall this year we had more Season pass holders and less day tickets. The cold weather around Christmas was the main factor in decreased day ticket sales.

b) **President** – Daryl by May 29 email

- We have some lodge rentals coming up
 - Vanderhoof grads June 12-15
 - Ministry of Forests June 18-19
 - Ministry of Environment June 27-28
 - Sorry I will be away all those dates
- I am still trying to get into credit union to sign online authorizing
- I am available tomorrow only until July 5

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c) **NSDP & Events** – James

- no report. focussed on review of financials

d) **Volunteer** – Anne by May 28 email

- tested draft members' survey on 18 (non-random) people; results suggest that results of abbreviated questions discussed by board at last meeting not likely to be helpful in our discussions about fee increases; fat bike question likely to be successful.
- how to proceed?
- found volunteer to help produce basic club information brochure
- items to discuss at next/future meeting
 - idea of incorporating a volunteer appreciation aspect in to Buchfinch Lodge Day (would require board's involvement making pancakes or whatever - can't really ask volunteers to help out on volunteer day)
 - possibility of volunteer photo board in lodge (envisioning constantly changing photo display)

Action: Defer poll, if any, until fall

e) **Communications** – Ben by May 28 email

Items of Note

- Recent request from Gladys Atrill from Tourism Smithers for pictures of the nordic centre in action for use in an ad Cross Country BC material. Have linked her to pictures I've taken in the past few years and the ones that Annie Thompson took at the Loppet.
- Have had a few quick discussions with Steve about automated grooming status tracking and other smartphone mapping ideas. May have a potential recruit to help with this.

To Do

- Meet with Lisa to discuss YouTube and other social media ideas for next season
- Announce mailing list group
 - members as of:
 - (a) May 28: 456
 - (b) April 3: 458
- Social Media Stats
 - Facebook
 - (a) Followers
 - (i) May 28: 555
 - (ii) Apr 3: 556
 - (iii) Feb 27: 554
 - Instagram
 - (a) Followers
 - (i) May 28: 52
 - (ii) Apr 3: 25

Action: Ben & Anne to send out club update by email with next volunteer work request. (Steve will relay request with reasonable lead time.)

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f) **Treasurer - Kara by May 26 email**

- distributed May 24 financials

g) **Secretary and Nordic Centre – Steve by May 28 & 29 emails**

- prepared agenda for May 29 meeting, seeking dates for AGM and budget meeting
- Nordic Centre project report attached

3) **Agenda item - AGM date**

- October 4, 2018 at lodge

Action: prior to AGM, board needs to recruit directors for treasurer, events and possibly secretary.

4) **Agenda item - Schedule for future Board Meetings**

- June 11 for budget meeting. location to be determined
- No scheduled meetings during July and August.
- Starting September, 1st Thursday of each month (Ben away first week of Sep)

Action: Steve will look into meeting room options (Roadhouse? Directors' homes?)

5) **Agenda item - Next year's events**

- Noted only 2 races scheduled next year.
- Discussed possibility of incorporating a volunteer appreciation aspect into Buchfink Lodge Day.

Action: Board will decide on Buchfink Day and dates for other events in the fall, (prior to AGM?)

6) **Agenda item - Entrance Signs**

- Steve described plans for new signs at access road entrance, parking lots and near lodge.
- Great support from Rec Sites and Trails
- Need to have signage visible for traffic coming down from HB Mountain.
- Should consider delaying large info kiosk at lodge until we know if available funds are sufficient.

Meeting adjourned approximately 8:30 pm

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NORDIC CENTRE REPORT (content of May 28, 2018 email sent to directors from Steve Osborn)

Here is an update on Nordic Centre projects.

The synopsis: lots more good stuff happening again this summer with awesome support from key volunteers Kevin Kriese, Wally Lesawich, Peter Tweedie and I and huge support from Rec Sites and Trails BC, Wetzin'kwa and Rural Dividend.

Woodshed

Mar 9-11, 2018 board emails approved a budget of up to \$10,000 for firewood shed and splitter. April 5 board minutes noted that Daryl, Wally and I decided to not buy a splitter and rely on occasional renting. The woodshed materials and labour is expected to cost around \$7000 but I still don't have a detailed cost estimate. Wally Lesawich is leading the project and is recruiting other members to carry it out (probably 2 paid workers plus some volunteers). **The cost to club funds might be as low as \$2000 or maybe lower.** Recreation Sites and Trails BC already purchased \$1900 of materials and a grant application to Wetzinkwa is asking for about \$3,000 toward the woodshed. (The grant application also requests money for the machine shed project below.) Daryl is exploring the possibility of getting a lumber donation.

Trails Project

We have approvals for the new dog trail and the new section near the biathlon range. Approval for the extension of Wetzin'kwa trail is expected after the Wet'suwet'en locate an historic trail that will be crossed. Wetzin'kwa Community Forest (WCF) will log the trails in July or August and construction will take place August or September.

WCF will clean-up and grade our trails that were impacted from last winter's logging of dead pine.

Other trail improvements (drainage, levelling, grass seeding) will start around July 16.

Most of the funding for this year's trails project is coming from the Rural Dividend grant \$77,954. The total project (\$132,360) covers two years ending November 2018 and includes work done last year with funding and supplies from Wetzin'kwa, Rec Sites and Trails and club funds. The overall project counts the maps and signs project and several trail related costs. The clubs share of costs over two years is \$14,000. So far we have spent \$6,078 as we were able to count the \$4000 roller and some map and sign costs that RSTBC did not cover. Our 2018-2019 budget will need to allocate \$8,000 of eligible costs. Most of this will be in lieu of our normal \$6000 trail maintenance budget.

Recreation Sites and Trails BC has approved our request for two new gates. One will be on the Valley View trail to prevent traffic beyond the junction with Upper Logging Trail (at Fuhr's Furlong). The other will be at Dahlie's Connector to prevent any traffic into the Chris Dahlie trails. Cost of the gates will be paid by the Trails Project (from available Rural Dividend or club contribution) We will be required to notify our members about these new gates.

Maps and Signs

Once we have approvals for all the new trails, and given the work already done on trail optimization and recent discussions Recreation Sites and Trails about Entrance signs (another topic for conversation for

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anyone interested), we will have enough information to revise the map and produce trail signs (you-are-here maps) and new brochures. There are also more trail-name signs to buy and install. The new signage will cost at least \$3000.

RSTBC continues to provide incredible support. The current plan as I understand it is that they will pay for the new signage and also provide us with a work order that we can use for producing the new map brochures and for the entrance sign structures. What they don't cover, we may be able to charge to the Trails project (either the RD funding or the remaining club contribution). If we decide to proceed with automated grooming reports and/or georeferenced digital maps, the costs would also be eligible for funding under the Rural Dividend trails project.

Machine Shed

Kevin and I discussed the plan which is solidifying with input from Brant Dahlie and Steve Howard:

- 28 X 40 (my notes might be incorrect) wood frame construction on concrete floor. Brant estimates \$41,000 materials. Assume \$41,000 labour = \$82,000 total cost.
- Locate new building between current shed and parking lot.
- Fuel tank to be installed nearby but outside
- Repair the current shed with laminated beams 3 x \$1250. This allows the tracksetter to use it until new shed is ready. Then it will be used to store snowmobiles and other equipment.

Originally we wanted to apply for funding from Wetzin'kwa, NDIT and Gaming this summer/fall to be ready to build during summer 2019. We then realized it will be much better to delay funding requests until next summer/fall to allow time to get other projects completed this summer and then prepare the management plan required by funders.

Our May 28 grant application to Wetzin'Kwa is for \$15,000 for fuel tank, repair beams and woodshed. We also expressed interest in talking to the community forest board about past accomplishments and the future machine shed project.

Check-in Radio

As discussed at our last meeting, a communication system is essential for tracksetter safety. I looked into options and discussed with Brant and Steve Howard. We will get a radio and direct dial tel service from Tower Communications. The Rural Dividend funding can pay for the \$400 radio and next year's Nordic Centre budget will include \$500 for the monthly fee and airtime. I will start the service in July so that it can be used for our trail project supervision.