

## **Wasi Cross Country Ski Club Annual General Meeting - April 15, 2014**

Present: Brenda Holbein, Kerry Somerville, Stephen Hart, Jennifer Brown, Bryan Boothe, John Roberts, Roger Proulx, Terry Shakell, Agnes Legault, Gerry Dyer, Peter Taylor, Donna Burton, Gord Valliant, Jane Minden, Dave Minden, David Lawrie, Patti Graham and Marlene Gillis.

### **1. Call to Order**

- Brenda called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Emerson, Joan and Lily were not able to attend.

### **2. Review of Agenda**

- *Bryan made a motion to approve the agenda. Kerry seconded the motion. The members present voted in favour.*

### **3. Review of Minutes from the 2013 Annual General Meeting**

- The minutes from the April 17, 2013, AGM were acknowledged.
- *Steve made a motion to accept the minutes. Kerry seconded the motion. The members present voted in favour.*

### **4. Business Arising from the Previous AGM - Nil**

## **5. Reports**

### **1. President's Report**

- Brenda distributed her report outlining the highlights of the past season.
- Highlights of the season included:
  - a brushing and woodcutting party in the fall
  - the building by Bob of new amazing his and hers outhouses - decorated/painted by Kerry and Patti
  - the building of a wonderful new ski rack by Taylor Graham
  - design and development of new trail maps by Kerry and Steve and construction of map holders by Rick Liberty
  - well received new snowshoe trails thanks to the efforts of Paul - signage to be further developed
  - purchase of a double track setter and introduction of double tracking - a change that was received with mixed results and generated much discussion (double tracking will be reviewed in the fall by the new board)
  - acquiring a defibrillator from the Heart and Stroke Foundation
  - Club's annual pancake breakfast - donating \$400 to the Gathering Place
  - Club members volunteering at the Astorville Winter Carnival - a special thank you to Lily was extended
  - review/revision of the Club's Emergency Plan and development of a working relationship with the Fire Chief of East Ferris
- Brenda noted that we had a longer ski season this year - late December to April 7th when the trails were closed. Brenda thanked the Club's outstanding groomers and noted that they kept the trails in excellent condition - notwithstanding the weather challenges.
- During the past year, future short-term and long-term projects were discussed by the Board. These will be reviewed and acted upon by the new incoming Board.
- Brenda thanked all of the Board members for their dedication and hard work.

### **2. Webmaster's Report - Brenda for Emerson**

- Brenda provided Emerson's report.
  - The report addressed the following matters:

- costs associated with the Club's website: domain name registration (rent for the name wasiski.com and hosting of the website on servers through GoDaddy).
- protocol developed to provide new President, Vice-President and Secretary with access to the website for maintenance purposes in the event that the Webmaster is ever incapacitated.
- potential future website changes, such as providing more members with the ability to update the Events page, were mentioned.
- it was noted that the Club's Facebook page is used by many - but not all- members and that we have 93 users signed up to access our Facebook page. Photos posted on the Facebook page can be easily copied to the website photo album.
- website updates will be provided once the new Board is put in place.
- Emerson is willing to stay on as webmaster.

### **3. Registrar's Report - Kerry**

- Kerry distributed a report with statistics and data about the Club's 2013/2014 memberships and fees collected.
- In 2014 the Club had 298 members. In 2013 the Club had 319 members.
- In 2014 the Club had 80 new members with 101 members not returning from 2013.

### **4. Trails Report - Steve**

- Steve provided a report in which he thanked the many Club volunteers who helped out with trails for the wood cutting weekend, the two brushing weekends and trail grooming. He especially thanked Bob and John for helping lead two of the three teams responsible for grooming. Due to weather issues, the trail prep work was completed two days before the groomers started trail rolling.
- Grooming - the grooming teams put in excess of 300 hours and 1600 km of grooming between the three snow machines. The groomers are very happy with the new Ginzu groomer - it is allowing them to create a much more level trail with consistent conditions. The 550 Skandic Snowmobile experienced an electrical short part way through the season and will require repairs.
- Equipment Maintenance - all three of the Club's snow machines are currently in for servicing. The bill is likely to be \$1-\$2K range. It is expected that the oldest snow machine (Alpine) will be retired in the next 4 to 5 years and the Club will purchase a new snowmobile at an estimated cost of \$16K.
- Trail Maintenance Summer 2013 - the board approved the spending of up to \$3K for trail work. Approximately \$1800 was spent on two loads of sand fill, one load of top soil, grass seed, and hiring a loader for one day to level out the fill and soil. Most of the sand fill was used to make improvements to the Bunny Trail, the remainder was used to widen a turning area at the back door of the garage and fill in wet spots along the main trail. Additional money was allocated for the purchase of the new Ginzu groomer (approx. \$7.5K), new outhouses and ski rack (\$1.5K), new trail maps and signage (\$850).
- Planned Trail Work for the Summer of 2014 - with board approval Steve hopes to undertake several trail maintenance projects, equipment replacement, etc. If possible, the snowshoe trail network will be extended all the way to the beginning of the red trail with signage and mapping improvements. Steve also hopes to purchase two new hand pruners and a new gas brush saw to replace old equipment, purchase a second push brush trimmer and continue with trail improvement work such as filling wet spots and culverts.

### **5. Treasurer's Report - Bryan**

- Bryan distributed the Income / Expense Report for the time period June 1, 2013 to April 15, 2014.
- The Club's current bank balance amounts to \$21,242.34. The Club's current reserve funds amount to \$31,572.59.
- A discussion was held in regard to insurance coverage for the Club and its assets.

## 6. Newsletter

- Joan is willing to continue to prepare the newsletter next season.

## 7. Building Report / Chalet Hosting - Jennifer

- Jennifer noted that skiers who use the Chalet are responsible for picking up after themselves.
- Kerry has purchased a new kettle for the Chalet.
- Adequate coverage for Chalet hosting continues to be an issue. Existing sign up process not resulting in more volunteer hosts.
- Sometimes day skiers require change and there is no volunteer host to provide it.
- There are no hosts during the week. Day skiers pay on the honour system.

## 8. Nomination Committee

- The three person Nomination Committee was chaired by Brenda with Barb Roberts and Patti Graham as the two other members.
- Four existing board members decided to not seek nomination for the new board: Bryan, Marlene, Lily and Brad.
- A number of long term members who ski a lot were contacted by John Roberts and asked if they were interested in being nominated for appointment to the board. Six individuals expressed an interest in serving on the board:
  - Donna Burton
  - Dave Lawrie
  - Peter Taylor
  - Terry Shakell
  - Gord Valient
  - Jeanne Cantin
- Eight serving board members agreed to be nominated to continue serving on the board:
  - John Roberts
  - Bob Graham
  - Kerry Somerville
  - Stephen Hart
  - Joan Clark
  - Paul Revenboer
  - Jennifer Brown
  - Emerson Hunt
- Brenda will remain on the board as Past-President.
- As the Club constitution permits up to 15 board members, it was not necessary to hold a vote.
- *Dave M. made a motion to approve the slate of new / existing board members. John seconded the motion. The members present voted in favour.*

## 9. Matters Raised by Members Dave and Jane Minden

- A discussion was held in regard to the matter of double tracking ski trails.
  - It was noted that double tracking is contingent upon appropriate trail conditions. The 2/Orange, 4/Blue and 6/Yellow are being double tracked when conditions permit. The 8/Green, 11/Purple and 15/Red remain single tracked.
  - Members were previously asked to provide input in relation to double tracking. Of the 31 members who responded, approximately one half were in favour of some form of double tracking.
  - Roger mentioned the tightness of some of the turns on the double tracked trails. The groomers are working on this.
  - Patti indicated that she enjoys the double tracked trails.

- The matter of double tracking will be revisited next November / December by the new board. The new board will also determine whether there is a need to further survey the membership on this issue.
- A general discussion was held in regard to grooming trails / grooming teams.
  - It was suggested that pink and green flagging may be helpful to the groomers.
  - Jane asked about the possibility of paying groomers. It was noted that the groomers spend approximately 400 hours a season on grooming-related tasks. Track setting the trails takes the grooming team 3 hours each time.
  - It was noted that if the groomers were to be paid, all other volunteers might need to be paid as well. This would be a financial hardship for the Club.

#### **10. Chalet Trespassing**

- There have been no further concerns in regard to trespassers at the Chalet.

#### **11. Ski Backwards Day**

- The Ski Backwards Day brought out fewer skiers this year than last but was quite enjoyed by those who participated.

#### **12. Adjournment**

- *Bryan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kerry seconded the motion.*

As recorded by Marlene Gillis