



Directors Meeting

Date:	Monday, April 3, 2017
Time:	7:00 pm
Place:	Sports Council Board Room

Directors:

Joan Bernard, Vesta Giles, Luc Guilherme, Dana Manhard, Raegan Markel, Rich McCleary

Regrets: Scott Decker, John Grover, David Hallinan, Maureen Light, Leslie Tucker, Alan Vyse

*Note: There are no March 2017 minutes due to lack of attendance.

Meeting was called to order at 7:01pm.

Discussion on ski suits for Ski League –get deposit from students?

Governance:

Policies:

1. **Hazard Trees:** a plan is needed for beetle kill trees; Trails Committee is working on it. There are some places on our trails we need to take care of. Dangerous tree assessment means looking at what is dangerous now? And if a wind goes through, what will happen?

We can't get people off the trails if they are already out, and winds can come up suddenly. We can raise awareness through newsletter, Facebook, website. Emphasize the phone number for the booth – in what areas do you lose cell service? Vesta will put something together this spring and summer - safety awareness, trail courtesy, send her any other ideas.

2. **Rentals:** tables, chairs and other things that can be replaced fairly easily are completely different from something like a snow cat or snowmobile. There is a document for renting the lodge, so why not for tables and chairs. With lodge rental washroom maintenance would be needed, plus turning the water on and off. Should get the renter to pay for a maintenance person to be there; either staff or executive need to be available, but we have to decide if it is worth the time commitment for the money.

A committee is needed to come up with a policy; can use day lodge policy as template. Snowmobiles, snow cat are off limits to rentals. Each request could be taken on a case by case basis. Need to decide on rental rates, cost of paying a person, admin fee, plus the expenses of being an employer. It was decided to talk with Alan at the next meeting.

3. **Flat trail fee:** in the case of the Polarthon our insurance indicated we needed a separate insurance policy because it was not our event. It is still a bit unclear how the events were covered by insurance; it seems the River City Racers insurance covered the ice but not the trails (i.e. did not cover ski and snowshoe). In the future we could provide a day pass which would provide insurance, but also the waiver is posted at the shack even if they don't get a day pass ticket in their hand. Events are covered by our insurance as long as we are organizing it, but the lake (ice) would be separate and CCBC probably won't cover it (e.g. they don't at Lake Windermere when ski trails are made there). Our officials weren't there, but if they were they have their own insurance. Could enquire with CCBC to be sure.

Membership: sent out Child Benefit Tax Credit, found out it has been canned for next year. Total membership for the year was ~698 people.

Discussion of whether lessons should come with a membership (not a season pass, but just the membership) in a similar way to what Kamloops Bike Riders Association does. It would cost us the insurance \$. Is there a benefit for grant applications by having more members? Possibly. Or we could give discount off season pass, or free ski day. We are still not sure if we're going with the city again next year. Giving membership with lessons is not much incentive for people on its own

– unless there are membership benefits. Does Spoke still offer 15% off?

Strategy:

Ways and Means: nothing to report.

Water: plumbed in, now going through testing.

Operations:

New machine/expansion: Sports Legacy Fund can offer money. We can't hold a bigger event now or in the future unless we meet the requirements for waxing. If we grow bigger the only place we can put a new lodge with water is across the road (dog trails area). Do we want to expand? Certain clubs get certain events right now. Bigger events do make money. Our groomers are trying out different machines right now e.g. at Sun Peaks

Ski League: working on wrap up banquet, will be held within next month or so. Also need to send note to parents to submit receipts for race fees to BC Cup. We cover BC Cup, Westerns, Nationals, Midgets.

Volunteer Recognition: discussion on the best way to do volunteer recognition. At the year-end banquet? The room is crowded and we might be at capacity. Awards could be streamlined, not all need to be awarded in front of 200 people – perhaps just the leadership awards and the rest done in smaller groups.

We should definitely acknowledge the trail guys – there were three overnights due to transformer blowout, computer on machine out of whack, wet and gooey conditions for setting. Track setters do have a year-end party on their own. We should also thank the trail clearers, race volunteers, stuffies people. We will send a special invitation to volunteers to attend. Will be first or second weekend of May. Coralee might have a list of volunteers, or Natalie.

Motion to accept the February 6th meeting minutes. Luc moved, Dana seconded. Passed.

Strategic Planning Session: tabled to next meeting since Dave was not in attendance.

Nationals: weather was all over the place - sun, rain, snow. Debuted the Overlander uniforms, with lots of positive comments. Caroline and Hannilee will do a talk about their experiences at the year-end wrap-up.

Other Business:

Newsletter coming out next week.

Ski Cross Country info due April 10 for their magazine. (contact #, website etc.).

We could use Sea Cans for a waxing facility? What location is best?

Joey Burton's funeral on Sunday

Put pictures of past members up in lodge?

Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.

Next Scheduled Director's Meetings:

Monday May 1
Monday, June 5

3.1 Registrar's Report

No registrar's report, except to say I've sent the parents their Child Fitness Tax Credit receipts.

4.2 Strategic Project

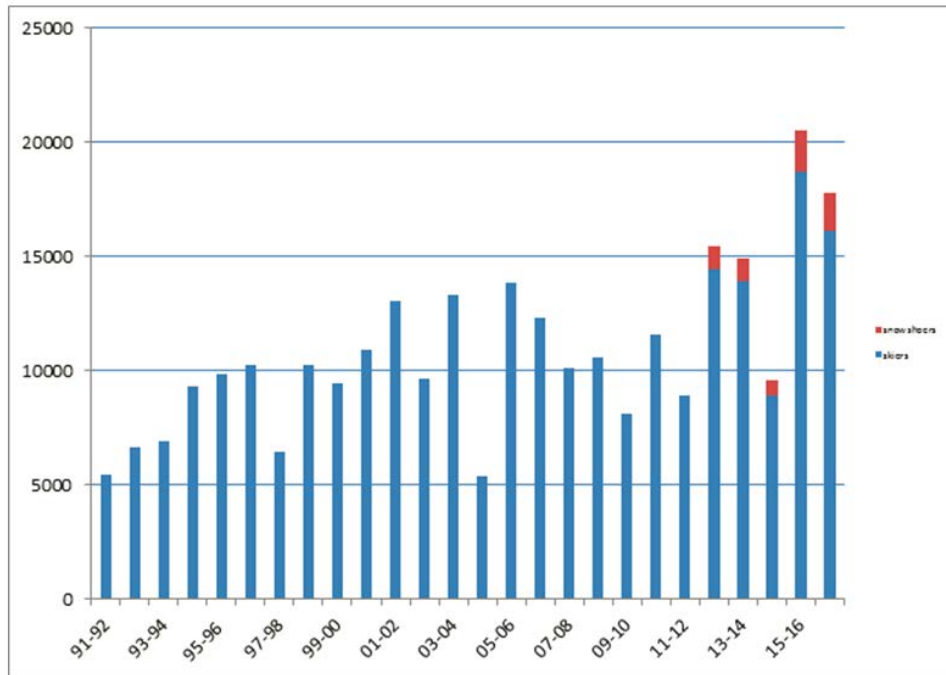
I don't have a lot to report other than the plumber is commissioning the water treatment system in the next few days. We will look to have the system active for the new ski year.

We have the Kamloops Makers Space looking for some of the old lights I replaced with LED ones. I have a few that we will not use and would like to donate them if people are ok with it.

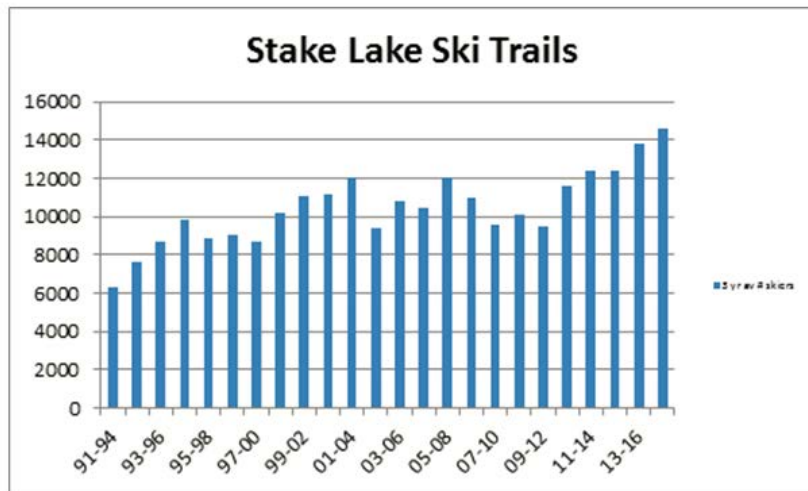
Luc.

5.2 Trails Report

Here is the end of season summary in graph form. You can see that attendance dropped a little compared to last season. This is due primarily to the shorter season of 107 days as compared to 122 days. The number of skiers per day was essentially the same (151 compared to 153). We did get a big boost from the BC Championships with an influx of 750 extra skiers over 4 days. Snowshoeing also did well this year. But we shouldn't get too confident ... there is always the possibility of a poor year around the corner as the graph shows.



The 3 year running average, which smooths out some of the season by season variation, shows that our attendance has been climbing steadily for the last 8 years or so. Part of this is attributable to the successful Ski S'Kool program which has added 1000- 1500 skiers every year since 2009.



Let me know if you want any more information. I'll be compiling a full report over the summer.

Alan

6.2 Email Discussions

Nationals - the two kids now going to nationals will provide a letter to the club following nationals with the request to pay for travel. An additional grant was received from Pacific Sport which helps with the long stay for some of the hotel costs ~\$500 each. This is in place in addition to the coaching grant with no other obligations.

Groomer fatality in the Kootenays February 14th at Nancy Greene Provincial Park

Notes from Alan: We have been aware of the problem for many years and especially since 2005 after the pine beetle outbreak and have tried to do as much as we can. The beetle logging removed danger tree problems on large chunks of the trail system. For the rest, Les Laithwaite was very diligent in raising the issue and began to map out the scope of the problem around 2010. He reported that mapping was not useful because almost every trail needed some work. We raised the issue with Recreation Site and Trails at that time, stressed that we need help to deal with the situation and pointed out that it was a summer as well as a winter issue. We have been promised fire crews most years but in reality no significant help has materialized. We have continued to pick away at the problem over the last six or seven years. And of course we are continually dealing cleaning up the debris when trees do fall on the trails.

WorkSafe might become involved because our employees do drive the snowmobiles on the trails. However, we have an unusual situation at Stake because the vast majority of our grooming is done by volunteers. They are not covered by WorkSafe (but we have special insurance coverage for our groomers). If WorkSafe do become involved, we can expect action to heat up! One point in our favour is that we do 90% of our grooming with the big machine, which does have a cab. However, I don't know if the cab would protect the driver in the event of a direct hit from a falling tree.

We have done lots of work on danger trees at the trails but lots more needs to be done. In addition, the staff warns the public about windy conditions. We have "closed" the trails in windy conditions but of course we can't stop anyone from skiing.

I talked to Tim Cole, one of our groomers, this afternoon and he expressed his concerns about the situation. Tim is an RPF and has experience with assessing danger trees. He will send me a note about what needs to be done. He stressed that the work will be expensive because we will need a machine to fall the trees and pile the debris.

- Les Laithwaite and crew have been very active assessing and dealing with danger trees on the snowshoe trails. The ski trails are a much bigger task
- the Partnership Agreement says 'the Agreement Holder must make a reasonable effort to ensure users do not enter the trail, if, in the Agreement Holder's opinion, the trail is unsafe due to existing or potential hazards'
- Wildfire management crews are available to do work, but usually for no more than one or two days

We need to review our process for determining the safety of a situation and develop a process to support staff in making the determination as to when the trails should be closed for safety reasons.

Future race events – courses should be developed well in advance and reviewed with the board.

Possibility of cougar presence on trails – tracks are more likely to be lynx than cougar. There are no confirmed sightings or tracks
- the local Conservation Officer might have more information. Kamloops Search and Rescue has some very experience trackers who might be willing to verify any tracks

BC Winter Games Biathlon – event will be held at McArthur Island

Trail fee payment for Polarthon – there were five adults, seven youth, and seven teams of three participants each. Flat rate of \$250 proposed.

Memorial for Joey Burton – discussion of possible bursary or donation to mental health

Table rentals – policy needed

6.3 Action List

Action List

Constitution and bylaws (New Society Act)	John
Grant applications – Gaming Grant	Maureen
Policies – trail closure, rentals, flat fee for race events	David
Signage – in Spring	Alan
Point of Sale system	Luc
Washroom water	Luc
Promotions – Ski S’Kool brochures, rack cards	Vesta
In Memoriam (plaques, bench, table) waiting for request	Luc