

Minutes

Yellowknife Ski Club (YKSC) Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, January 18, 2015
Yellowknife Ski Club Chalet 7:00 pm

Present: John Stephenson (President – JS); Chris Joseph (Trails – CJ); Tania Hercun (Grants & Fundraising – TH); Mark Cliffe-Phillips (Registrar – MCP); Richard McIntosh (Communications – RM); Toby Kruger (Secretary – TK); Greg Littlefair (Facilities – GL); Damian Panayi (Programs – DP)

Regrets: Kevin Hodgins (Treasurer – KH)

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks by the Chair

1.1 Approval of agenda

Moved: RM – Seconded TH – Approved

1.2 Declaration of conflicts

No conflicts declared

2. Consent Agenda

2.1 Approval of January 4 minutes

Moved: TH – Seconded MCP – Approved

3. Discussion and Decision Items

3.1 Debate on motion from January 4 meeting:

The Chair (JS) made some introductory remarks and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to debate and vote on the motion put forward at the January 4 meeting: “The YKSC formally supports the bid submission for YK to host the CWG in 2023.”

TK explained the procedure for the meeting and voting.

The mover of the motion CJ held the floor first and explained that in his view, the Board should have a position on CWG one way or the other. He explained that YKSC does not need to accept all of the recommendations for changes to the club in the CWG report, but that the YKSC should support the CWG in principle. He acknowledged that CWG would involve some risk, but that on balance it is something we should support. He also reiterated that the YKSC’s decision is not the same as the City’s decision and does not consider the same factors.

The seconder of the motion MCP held the floor second and explained the legacy benefits that the CWG could bestow on the YKSC. From the point of view of the YKSC, he thinks CWG is something we should support.

The Chair then assigned the floor to other members of the Board.

TH said she acknowledges the concerns expressed, but also feels inspired by all of the good things that could come from CWG.

GL explained his concerns that the required CWG infrastructure would ruin the club as we know it. He explained that our site is simply not like the other sites that have hosted CWG in the past and would not be a good fit.

DP raised a concern that we would have difficulty finding enough volunteers for CWG, as we already have enough difficulty getting volunteers as it is. He also expressed concern about the temperature – YK is a cold place in February and there is a high risk that events would need to be cancelled due to cold.

RM summarized the concerns of the membership received by email. 7 members sent in comments that opposed the CWG, 2 members sent comments in favour.

JS outlined his experience with CWG and other games and spoke of the legacy that the games could bring to the YKSC and the city. He shared some success stories and highlighted the benefit of young athletes having something to be inspired by. He spoke of the collateral benefits to the YKSC from hosting other national events and emphasized that an opportunity like this may not come YK's way for a long time again.

The Chair then assigned the floor to any member of the Board wishing to respond to comments made from the membership:

-Brian Latham explained that, judging from the Maddox report, the impact of the CWG-required trail improvements would be devastating on the YKSC as we know it.

-Chris Carthew shared his concerns about how the details of the CWG would be worked out, but suggested a flexible approach and that the YKSC might consider supporting the CWG in principle.

JS responded to the concerns from the membership by emphasizing that this is not a vote to support the exact trail configuration set out in the Maddox report, but rather a vote to support the CWG in principle. This is just the beginning of the conversation.

TK commented that the current YKSC lease is set to expire in 2026, and that the addition of infrastructure in 2023 could improve the YKSC's bargaining position at lease renewal time.

The Chair called the vote: 5 in favour, 2 opposed. Motion approved.

The Chair did not vote.

4. Schedule Next Meeting – February 15

5. Adjourned