**Minutes**

**Yellowknife Ski Club (YKSC)**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

Monday, November 2, 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); Damian Panayi (Programs – DP); Toby Kruger (Secretary – TK)

**Regrets:** Greg Littlefair (Facilities – GL); Kevin Hodgins (Treasurer – KH);

1. **Call to Order and Opening Remarks by the Chair**

The President called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

No conflicts declared.

* 1. Approval of agenda

Moved: TH – Seconded: CJ  – Approved

1. **Consent Agenda**
   1. Approval of October minutes

Moved: TH – Seconded: MCP  – Approved

1. **Discussion and Decision Items**
   1. Monthly Potlucks proposal (JS)

JS reported that club member Kerry Wheeler sent a proposal for monthly potlucks to be held at the chalet one Sunday every month, on Dec 13, Jan 10, Feb 14 (NWT Ski Day), Mar 13, and April 10 (Biathlon Polar Cup).

**Motion** to approve potlucks and to add them to calendar of events.

Moved: TK – Seconded: CJ – approved

* 1. Review of Yellowknifer Ad (RM)

RM is working to finalize this ad.

* 1. Fall trail clearing update (CJ)

CJ reported that good progress on trail clearing was made last weekend. The only trails that still require a first run are either side of back bay, previously inaccessible because before freeze up. Unfortunately, the long list of volunteers that have signed up for trail work have been non-responsive and only a few core volunteers have made an effort. CJ is considering other ways to obtain better engagement from membership to encourage higher levels of participation. CJ to send RM a blurb for the newsletter in this regard.

* 1. AWG trials planning (JS)

JS reported that the club is hosting territorial Arctic Winter Games (AWG) trials on December 10 - 12. Friday and Saturday are race days. JS mentioned that as a club we need to put together a race committee and put on the race. DP and MCP will assist with timing, others asked to assist and recruit volunteers. A coordination meeting will occur soon.

* 1. Canada Winter Games 2023 - discussion and YK Ski support in principle (JS)

JS commenced this discussion by emphasizing that YK has an opportunity to host the Canada Winter Games (CWG) in 2023. The decision is currently sitting with city council, which should make a decision based on a recommendation from the working committee (on which JS sits in his capacity as school trustee). Funding would come from all 3 levels of government and could present a significant opportunity for the ski club, which would host skiing and biathlon. JS emphasized the potential benefits to the club of such a big undertaking, both in the years leading up to the CWG and afterwards as a legacy and inspiration for participants. For the club infrastructure this would mean expansion of the biathlon and stadium areas, trial widening, and facility improvements, collectively worth $1M for the club alone. JS is enthusiastic and would like the Board to support it with the support of the membership.

RM wondered whether we need to be vocal in our support before city council makes its decision. If we go to the membership the club would need to host an information session.

CJ emphasized that if this is something the Board wants to support, there should be two motions – one from the Board to recommend endorsing the bid, and one to put the matter to the membership for approval.

JS wanted to know whether the Board was in favour, as wants to have a mandate from the Board to speak to City Council to present a positive reaction.

DP wondered whether supporting the bid was worth it, if it already seems that the general feeling in the city is that CWG may not happen.

**Motion**: That the Board supports in principle the bid submission for YK to host the CWG, and pending support from the membership at large, the Board will formally endorse the bid submission.

Moved: CJ – Seconded: MCP – approved (DP abstaining)

There was a general discussion as to how to present this to the membership, resulting in JS calling for a general meeting of the membership to be held to vote on the issue.

**Motion**: That JS call a general meeting to be held on November 18, from 7 – 830 pm at the ski chalet for the purpose of informing the membership of the CWG proposal and to seek endorsement from the membership to support the CWG bid submission.

Moved: RM – Seconded: CJ – approved

* 1. Appointment of YK Ski Board member as representative on NWT Ski Division Board (JS)

JS explained that the club is a member of NWT Ski Division, and that the Board has an opportunity to nominate a member to represent the club. JS canvassed the Board for volunteers.

**Motion**: That JS be appointed to continue as YK ski club rep to NWT Ski Division.

Moved: CJ – Seconded: MCP – approved

1. **Roundtable Updates**

**Communications (RM) –** Presented the draft brochure / trail map, which everyone endorsed and thanked him for. RM will print 200 draft copies for the snow show, and will make some further refinements for the final version. In particular, there was a desire to recognize the sponsors of the brochure.

**Motion**: That Northland Utilities, Tait Communications, and Overlander Sports be recognized on the brochure as sponsors.

Moved: RM – Seconded CJ – approved

RM also mentioned that he cannot be here for the snowshow, but that KH will run it with assistance from others. Overlander will be there to do some fat bike demos. Board members should wear name tags.

**Registrar (MCP) –** reported that the link on website for membership is now live, and that several people are registered already. He is working on an initiative with Overlander so that people can register for the club in store with a discount from having purchased a package in store. MCP mentioned that the early bird discount on membership will end the day after the snow show, and reminded us that he can print off lists of various membership volunteer categories (trail work, building, loppet etc.)

**Trails (CJ)** – reported that the trail crews are using safety precautions to alert other users of the trails by wearing high visibility vests. He has purchased new blades for the brush clearing equipment, and will work in the coming weeks with the snowmobile crew to get ready for the season. CJ also reported on his work as club representative on the NWT ski division strategic plan committee, which will result in a plan to put forward to the Board.

**Programs (DP)** – reported that programs and coordinators are coming together. There is a proposal to lower the age for track attack to overlap with Jack Rabbit 4s. At JS request DP will make contact with the biathlon folks to obtain the status of their insurance registration.

**Fundraising (TH)** – reported that she heard from Cannor that the timing and amount requested by the club was positive, and that the funding proposal was still in the assessment phase. JS reminded everyone that contributions/donations to the club should be recognized, and that TH should be made aware of the recognition so that we can keep track of our donors and properly thank them.

**President (JS)** – reported that phase 3 of the trail lights replacement has been completed. Maintenance of the roughly 2k of new trial lights will be of no cost to the club. Reported that Northland would like to hang a banner in the stadium recognizing their contribution.

JS also reported that we have a $20k grant from the national trails commission, and that we have secured $10k in matching funds of our own ($5k from the city, $5k from Terra X). JS would like to see us construct a kiosk for users of the trail system and purchase signs with the money. RM emphasized the need for a sign on the highway for the club, as it is currently not signed.

JS also wants to meet with each of the directors over the next couple of weeks to have a conversation about each director’s plans for the year.

1. **Schedule Next Meetings**

The next meeting will be on Monday, December 7.

1. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned.