



## **Wapiti Nordic Ski Club General Meeting Minutes 7 p.m. November 4,2020**

### **Meeting held via Zoom**

#### **Welcome and Attendance**

##### **Attendance**

Michael Morgan	Christine Rawlins	Lori Brough	Doris Gordon
Randy Hopkins	Dan Martin	Cori Janes	JoAnn Cazakoff
Liz Tinworth	Theresa Thompson	Matt Wild	Brad Tomlinson
Rosemary Kay	Dave Kay	James Proudfoot	
Jasmin Greavett	Amber Gaultier	Leonard Scharbach	
Gordon Meyers	Rob Blackburn	Greg Poirier	
Sharon Mittelstaedt			

- Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm

Michael welcomed everyone. In the current reality of COVID a lot has happened and a lot is going on and changing. Time is being spent to make sure the club is ready with procedures to follow COVID recommendations.

**Approval of Agenda** Michael reviewed the agenda items. The budget will be presented and elections postponed from the spring meeting will be held. The role of Director positions will be determined by the executive committee.

**Approval of Minutes from Fall General Meeting, November 21, 2019** Randy made a motion to accept the minutes from November 2019, seconded by Matt. Carried.

#### **New Business**

- Impact of COVID
  - Due to COVID WNSC programs quit in March. Trails were still groomed and members were skiing.
  - A committee has looked at recommendations for lodge opening, following the Alberta Health guidelines. There will be daily cleaning of high touch surfaces, recommendations to wear masks in the lodge, one person in the stairway, one way entry and exit out of the lodge and a reduced number of people allowed in the lodge. The website will post new guidelines and updates as they occur.

- Fall programming
    - The bike programs did not run in the spring, but Lori was able to operate a Youth Bike Program in September as no school programs were operating. The skill development worked well - especially without mosquitoes. Lori was also able to operate 2 Gals and Gears sessions this fall.
    - Don't Get Lost In the Woods - Thanks to Lori who organized a staggered start to the DGLW so we could hold the event. That meant the race lasted the whole weekend! There were many positive comments and most folks were happy to have "a real race". The staggered start also gave us time to talk to the people participating.
  - Winter Schedule
    - Both Biathlon and Cross Country Teams have started dry land training. The executive is working hard to have programs operational when we get snow.
  - Ski Swap - The Ski Swap is going ahead, with limits on number of folks in the lodge according to COVID protocols.
  - Impact on Trails - Highway 40 access to Gravel Pit - There have been a number of meetings with Highways in regards to the road going to the gravel pit that will be developed with the twinning of Highway 40. This will have a significant impact on the south trails. Right now meetings are highlighting the impact and negotiations are in place to see what compensation the ski club will get. At this point we have described the impact, they have acknowledged it and are working with us. Travis Toews has met with Matt and Dan in regards to the work. As of now they have told us that the work will not start until the spring.
  - Banff Mountain Film Fest - Due to COVID the BMFF will not operate in the usual format. Christine presented a slide show with the current options for the BMFF. This has been a major fundraiser for the club and will have a significant impact.
  - Summer Membership Update - An "estore" is on the website and summer day passes were available. The club received \$2,254 in day pass revenue.
  - Summer/Fall Work Bees - There have been many volunteer hours spent working on the trails. Both in the spring and this fall the area around the bike park and the 1 km Forest Trail was "fire smarted". Dead pine were cut and dead branches were cleaned up. All the trails have been trimmed of brush and low hanging branches.
- The key issues are following the COVID recommendations for the lodge and the trails.

### **Business Arising**

Issues that we had been dealing with have taken a back seat to dealing with COVID.

- Secure the Land - Matt has done extensive work with the leases and highway 40. Looking at costs to survey the land and apply for the lease would cost approximately \$60,000. Recommendations are to take a step back for now. We still have time to work on the leases as they are not up for renewal immediately. Matt is developing an agreement with the Church of Christ for winter access to the camp.
- Business Plan - The executive are still working on the draft copy and work was sidelined dealing with COVID protocols.

### **Financial Report and 2020-2021 Budget - Lori**

- Lori reported that the books have been audited. Lori presented the budget for the year ending September 30, 2021. Some revenue for the summer was lost due to the cancelation of the Mountain Bike spring programs. Summer memberships were up. There has been a decline in assets and they are depreciating. The insurance rates are based on the number of members. We expect fundraising to be down, due to the change in the format of the BMFF. A welcome surprise was the County of Grande Prairie offering to pay insurance for non-profit societies within the county. The budget presented in balanced, using some reserves available.

**Motion to Accept Budget- Matt Wild made a motion to accept the Budget as presented, seconded by Leonard Scharbach. Carried.**

This year there will be a program fee for those programs that are frequent users, such as Chicks and Biathlon. This provides a more consistent support to the club. We recognize recreational skiers are the majority of our members. There have been questions about “non-skiing” winter memberships but at this time we are not going to do it.

### **Director and Coordinator Reports**

- Jackrabbits - Dan has registration open for Jackrabbits on Zone 4, and it will start in January. There will be a training session for new leaders December 12 and 13th. Dan may need to restrict the number of children participating. He is expecting to stagger the times that each group starts to minimize numbers in the lodge. Each child will need to COVID screen prior to class. Unfortunately there will not be hot dogs and hot chocolate available.
- Biathlon - Last season we had athletes compete in a total of 12 different races in the Calforex Cup series and 4 athletes who competed in the Alberta Winter Games. James Proudfoot also attended the World Masters Games in Austria. In the Calforex Cup series, James Proudfoot finished first in the overall standings in the Master Men's category, Cori Janes finished second in the Master Women's, and Liam Tinworth finished third in Senior boy's. Congratulations to all of our athletes who competed last season. This biathlon season is proceeding with COVID-19 protocols in place. We currently have 18 athletes and 2 coaches. We have been having range practices since May. Biathlon Alberta and Biathlon Canada are currently working on protocols and procedures for hosting races. Once things are in place we will decide if we are able to host our race in February and what it will look like. We are also currently reviewing our Biathlon Bears program to determine what kind of program we can run. Special recognition goes out to Liam Tinworth. Liam was selected to the U20 National Development Team. As well, each year Biathlon Alberta recognizes a young athlete who personifies an incredible work ethic and passion for life in their pursuit of excellence in biathlon. Liam is this year's recipient of the Jupi Award. Congratulations Liam.
- Cross Country Race Team Claire was nominated for and received the Nordiq Alberta (formerly CCA) coach of the year. Aiden Armstrong was nominated to be on the Alberta development ski team this year and Liam Tinworth made the junior national biathlon team. The team as a whole, did exceptional at the Alberta Winter Games and were obviously disappointed when Arctic Winter Games were cancelled but the zoom sessions held over the summer were well attended by the team and a bit of a reprieve for the athletes during shutdown. Thank you everyone!!
- Trails - This summer Matt and Lori set up some time trials for mountain biking. This was well received and helped maintain the trails. It seemed the shorter tracks were liked better. Matt built a new bridge - thanks! Travis Toews was interested to hear about the increase in use of the trails and liked how we had programs for both children and adults at the facility. We received a donation of wood from Ipaper/ Weyerhaeuser.
- Programs - Theresa presented information about a NCCP Community Coaching program and a CANSI recertification to be held December 12 and 13th. People with CANSI should let Theresa know if they are interested in the recertification.
  - Ski Lessons - Once we have snow a schedule will be developed. If anyone is interested in coordinating this program please contact Theresa.
  - Chicks - Chicks is starting it's 17th year! We are switching nights and will be running Monday and Wednesday this year.
- Communication - Christine presented information about the interest in our newsletter, webpage and Facebook. Christine said we have lots of interactions on our posts.

### **Nominations for Executive 2020 - 2021**

Michael thanked all the members who are giving their time to keep things going. He felt we have a remarkable membership. Normally elections are in the spring but the general meeting

was cancelled due to the “lockdown”. Elections will be held again at the spring general meeting. Voting will be done on the Zoom polling. Michael will be able to count votes.

All of the following have allowed their names to stand.

Past President - Grant Bourree

President - Michael Morgan

Vice President - Christine Rawlins

Treasurer - Lori Brough

Trails - Matt Wild

Biathlon - Randy Hopkins

Jackrabbits- Dan Martin

Programs - Theresa Thompson

Member at Large - Liz Tinworth

Marketing - Christine Rawlins

All were approved by a majority on the poll.

Jasmin Greavett let her name stand for the position of secretary. Michael asked for a show of hands, which was approved by the majority.

JoAnn nominated Amber Gauthier for the Race Team Parent representative. Michael reported approval by a majority.

Michael thanked everyone who joined the meeting and for their interest in the club. It will be a trying year and Michael feels we have the folks to handle the challenge.

**Adjournment 8:29 p.m.**