



**Whitehorse Cross Country Ski Club
Board of Directors Meeting**
Tuesday, March 7th, 2023, 7:15 p.m.
Meeting held virtually via Google Meet

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Board Members Present

Jean Paul Molgat, President
Craig Thur, Secretary
Jan Downing, Director
Chad Walasek, Director

Sarah Murray, Vice President
Deb Higgins, Director
Deb Gohl, Director

Regrets

Leslie Gomm, Treasurer
Heather O'Mara, Director

Club Management Present

Jan Polivka, Operations Manager
Ben Poudou, Club Manager

1. Call to Order

Jean Paul called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm.

2. Approval and Additions to Agenda

Jean-Paul requested that item 15 (Functional Planning Discussion) be removed from the Agenda and added to the April Agenda and in its place an item 15 should become a discussion about Operational Emergency Procedures and Policy.

Jan Downing moved to approve the revised Agenda and all board members present were in favour. Carried.

3. Guest Presentation and Discussion

Mattias Purdon_ President of Cross Country Yukon

With the aid of a Power Point presentation Mattias Purdon informed the WCCSC board of the following:

CCY is the sport governing body and its mandates include supporting affiliated clubs with such things as administering insurance, running coaching clinics and other programming and being responsible for coaching and competition for high performance athletes which in the Yukon includes running the youth squad programs where over 100 athletes are enrolled.

Due to the pending retirement of CCY head coach Alain Masson, the CCY board of directors held a visioning session on February 20th, 2023;

CCY has hired a consultant to assist them with strategic planning in preparation for the upcoming period of change and transition;

Hiring a coach to replace Alain requires numerous considerations because a coach needs to have a wide range of technical expertise while also being a good fit with the Yukon community for purposes of athlete and family engagement and communications.

CCY is considering the possibility of a direct hire;

WCCSC president Jean Paul Molgat and director Jan Downing requested that WCCSC have a voice with input into the hiring of the new coach given the importance of WCCSC to the success of CCY and the importance of CCY to the success of WCCSC.

Mattias Purdon proposed a joint workshop with WCCSC representatives to continue to build the partnership.

Mattias was asked if the consultant's report for CCY strategic planning could be shared with WCCSC. Mattias said he would discuss this with the CCY board.

4. Review and approval of the draft Minutes from February 1st, 2023

Review and approval of the draft Minutes from February 1st, 2023.

Sarah Murray prepared the Minutes at the February 1st, 2023 board meeting due to secretary, Craig Thur's absence.

Deb Higgins moved to approve the draft Minutes and all board members were in favour. Carried.

Updates

5. Board Committee Updates

Note During the Strategic Planning Implementation meeting on Thursday, December 17th, 2020 the board members leading the **Strategic Plan Action Items** for 2021 were determined and initiated. A majority of these Strategic Plan Action Items were progressed and several were completed in 2021 and 2022. The committees mentioned in these Minutes have been prioritized to continue in 2023 .*

Diversity and Inclusion Committee (Jan Downing, Deb Higgins, Heather O'Mara and Ben Poudou)

The committee has been named **RIDEA Committee** for Reconciliation, Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility.

The discussion was focussed primarily on contracting a consultant to work on a 'rebranding' of **Whitehorse Cross Country Ski Club** to something else. Hiring the right consultant is important however so far only one quote has been obtained. At least one more quote is required. Based on the one quote, work and timeline proposal already submitted to the committee it would appear that this engagement would continue into 2024. The board discussed that having a rebranding of the club ready to coincide with the completion of the Mt. McIntyre venue building upgrades could work well.

Review and discussion about the RIDEA Action Plan that was prepared a distributed in advance of the board meeting was adjourned until the next board meeting.

6. Other Committee Updates

Climate Change Committee (Jean Paul Molgat, Leslie Gomm)

The committee met in February and two members of the committee, Virginia Sarrazin and Samantha Barnes offered to take the lead for a Climate Change Risk Workshop. The workshop is being planned for April 2023.

Human Resources Committee (Jean Paul Molgat, Sarah Murray, Chad Walasek, Leslie Gomm)

Club Manager Ben Poudou's request/proposal to work reduced hours during the summer months will be given consideration when the committee next meets.

Land Tenure Committee

No updates.

Major Competitions and Events Committee

No discussion.

Standing Items

7. Financial Reporting

Leslie Gomm

Leslie prepared a WCCSC Financial Report to Board in advance of the meeting. No concerns that required discussion.

Leslie will explore moving the \$125 000.00 currently held in a Term Deposit with the First Nation Bank and another \$50 000.00 at BMO into a GIC where an interest rate of 4.5% could be earned.

Both the Air North Challenge and the Yukon Ski Marathon resulted in more revenue than was anticipated.

Payment was received from the Yukon Ski Patrol for the snowmobile sold to them.

8. Club Manager's Report

Ben Poudou

Ben provided a written report in advance of the meeting. Highlight included the following:

The Yukon Ski Marathon was a successful event.

The Air North Challenge had strong participation again this year.

Organization for the "Nordic Spring festival" is ongoing.

9. Operations Manager's Report

Jan Polivka

Jan provided a written report in advance.

Operations have been going well.

Signage has been erected on the 10 km trail near the turn from the long downhill while heading south and the short steep downhill when heading north.

10. President's Report

Jean Paul

Jean Paul prepared the following written report which he reviewed with the board during the meeting:

The board had a lengthy discussion about a serious collision on the 10 km trail, the response from staff, the fire department and paramedics. The managers and board is confident that the response was timely and professional and there was no negative impact from not having the Yukon Ski Patrol active at the club this year.

Jean Paul wrote a letter to the injured party to express WCCSC best wishes for her recovery and address her concerns.

Jean Paul also wrote a letter to a ski club member who would like to see increased access to the trail network for skiers with dogs. A new dog friendly trail was opened this past season and the board believes that there is currently a good balance to accommodate skiers who wish to ski with dogs and those who prefer not to ski on trails with dogs.

Discussion and Decision Items

11. Update of Strategic Plan

Jean Paul

Work and working meetings completed by the board in February 2023 advanced an update to the Strategic Plan. Jean Paul will find a person with the skills to prepare a professional layout for the presentation of the Strategic Plan.

12. Cross Country Yukon Coach Hiring

Based in part on this evening's discussion with Mattias the board decided that Jean Paul should draft and e-mail or letter to CCY stating the WCCSC board's position and our desire to have some involvement in the coach hiring process and that WCCSC is supportive of CCY working with club affiliates other than WCCSC and having increased sport building engagement.

13. Pisten Bully_CDF Funding Approval Downing

Jan

WCCSC is still awaiting a decision on the CDF application.

Jan Polivka has made inquiries about selling the old Pisten Bully and it may be worth more than was previously expected. The club will therefore have to make sure we do not earn a profit from the sale after the CDF funding is factored in to the purchase of a new PB.

14. WCCSC Input on Mt. McIntyre Renovations

Ben

The board discussed the proposed floor plan of the ski club's space and it was generally agreed upon that more change room space may be desirable.

15. Operational Policy on Emergency Procedures

Jean Paul

Jean Paul will work with Ben and Jan to draft the policy and will seek a review and input from board members.

16. Operational Procedure_Skiing with a biathlon rifle

Ben

Nothing to report other than Ben will seek to organize a meeting with board members Heather O'Mara, Deb Gohl and Craig Thur prior to the next board meeting.

Adjournment: The chair adjourned the meeting at 9:45 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 5th, 2023 at 7:00 pm.