



Saskatoon Nordic Ski Club
Annual General Meeting **Draft** Minutes
Monday October 28, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
Gordie Howe Sports Complex, Main Hall, Saskatoon, SK

Members in Attendance:

Gail Motsi, Daryl Sexsmith, Eric Lamb, Randy Chapman, Ken English, Joanne Ferguson, Jola Kedra, Ivan English, Alison Meinert, Geoff Meinert, Andrew Brisbin, Sheryl Riis, Bruce Simms, Toni Villiers, Scott McGibney, Nancy Howse, Rob Howse, Ann Popoff, Jason Stone, Sandra Sawatsky, Brian Anderson, Darrell Lutzko, Kevin Robinson, Susan Wall, Devin Bradly, Earl Gebhardt, Richard Koch, Colin Whitfield, Jelmer Wiersma, Kimberly Dobrowolski, Kate Germin.

Meeting chaired by Gail Motsi. Minutes recorded by Kate Germin.

1. Introduction and Welcome: President Gail Motsi welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Order of Business: The agenda, as circulated was accepted.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes:

Moved by Sheryl Riis and seconded by Brian Anderson that the minutes of the October 18, 2018 Annual General Meeting be approved. Carried with one abstention.

4. President's Report: Gail Motsi

Thanks to all the members who helped make last season a success for the Club - the executive, program managers, groomers, instructors, officials, hike leaders, newsletter editor, bookkeeper, Eb's Day organizers, woodcutters and clearing, special event volunteers, parents, competitors and anyone else I have forgotten to mention.

Members may not be aware of all the activities run by the Club – adult and children instruction, recreational skiing and hiking, competitive programs for youth and adults, blind and visually impaired skiers, Ski At School Program for elementary school students, grooming of trails at Kinsmen/Wildwood/Eb's Trails, and outreach to

newcomers. For this year, we will continue to offer those activities. We will hear more about those programs' progress and plans later in the meeting. Congratulations to Club members who were recognized for their contribution to the sport last year – Al Theede as an official and Jan Sedgewick as a promoter of the sport.

Note the passing of a couple of members who were also active contributors in the past – Neil Sedgewick and George James.

Retirements – Randy Chapman as Director for Eb's Trails and Kate Germin as Secretary. Member expressed their appreciation for their service through a round of applause.

5. Treasurer's Report: Gail Motsi.

(PAGE 4 AND 5 OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT)

Financial review report posted on website covering the General Account and the Blind Skiers. Gail reported on the General Account

Revenues totalled \$67,853 and consisted of membership sales and donations, fees, grants from Cross Country Saskatchewan, and grants from the City of Saskatoon. Revenue was lower compared to the previous year primarily because we did not receive a facility grant from CCS, an equipment grant from the City, or transfer funds from projects with the National Sports Trust Fund (NSTF).

Expenses totalled \$86,722, up from the previous year primarily because of a donation of \$25,000 to Friends of the Bowl Foundation for the Gordie Howe Sports Complex. Repairs and maintenance were also higher because of major repairs to one of our machines.

We therefore had a \$18,869 deficit and drew on our retained earnings, reducing our equity to \$88,615. There is also a total of about \$8,000 with the NSTF for our four projects – the new facility, grooming, Eb’s Trails, and Ski-at-School. We did not draw on the National Sports Trust Fund last year, and do not plan to do so this year.

Motions:

- i. By Gail Motsi, seconded Randy Chapman. That the financial statements dated September 5, 2019 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, as reviewed by Gabriel Ng CPA P.C. Inc., be approved. Carried unanimously.
- ii. By Gail Motsi, seconded by Bruce Simms. That the requirement for an audit of the financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 be waived, and that a financial review of the books be conducted instead. Carried unanimously.

6. Committee and Program Chair Reports

- a. Membership – Jeff Thorpe (not in attendance)
Email from Jeff encourages folks to send in their

memberships.

b. Facilities – Ivan English

Status of Shared facility at Gordie Howe Sports Complex

- Provincial and Federal funding approved
- Total of 20.8 million between City, Federal, and Provincial governments
- Construction hopefully to start this winter on multi sport building
- Some requirements to access funding still need to be met
- Other buildings such as garage for grooming equipment and timing hut to be built in same phase.

Grooming for this year

- Wildwood and Kinsmen to be groomed by SNSC as before
- Wildwood already has been rolled
- Loss of building to store machine at Kinsmen
- City has been asked to look into where we can store for this year
- Eb's Trails have been cleared and ready for winter grooming

Ski Trails Holiday Park

- Grooming to begin by SNSC there this year on existing terrain
- Cooperation between city groomer and SNSC groomers
- Improvements to use terrain better, make a hillier

training loop

- Storage of machine at fenced golf course compound or possibly container
- Intention is to also groom at the Glenn Reeve ball fields (adjacent to the facility, aka "Jackrabbit loop")

Ski Trails at Holiday Park

- Ski trail design refined this year with help of Robin and Kathy Butler
- Trails to include outer loop similar to previous years, and training or advanced loop
- Other additions to trails include sections of classic only trails on cart paths
- Golf course architect was hired by SNSC to to get accurate estimates of work proposed to further upgrade ski trails
- Proposal for upgrades initially submitted 2017 with rough estimates
- SNSC now has accurate estimates for six sites for trail improvements
- Sites can be developed as funding available if needed

Ski Trails at Holiday Park

- Least expensive upgrades for landscaping and seeding on existing hills - between \$7,000-12,000
- Most expensive upgrades to build new 2 new hills on golf course - Between \$50,000 and \$62,000
- Total cost estimate \$148,975
- FOTBF will assist our club with new campaign

once trail upgrades approved by City of Saskatoon

- Still needing to develop estimates for lighting on HP trails

Next Steps

- Further defining relationship within Gordie Howe Sports Complex
- GHSC has been building their business model of how to run site
- Will have to determine costs associated with using the facility, lighting of trails, snowmaking, etc..
- SNSC with many important programs but with limited income from some of these programs (ie: Ski at School, outreach to new Canadians)
- Will need to negotiate fair deal for our club
- Get accurate estimates for lighting on golf course

Next Steps

- Present complete plan to city council for approval
- Once approved, SNSC not required to do any of proposed changes, and can choose do parts as able.

Member congratulated the facilities committee on the progress to date.

c. *Eb's Trails* - Randy Chapman

The trails were scouted and deadfall removed during August. We completed the mowing on September 27. Deadfall continues to drop and

volunteers continue to remove it. The hand scything is also completed. The slough on Willow View had logs showing that are now removed, using grappling hook, saws, ax, rope and superhuman effort. We plan to install the tracks on the pulling machine on November first and cut firewood for the shelters on November second. As the snow comes, we are then ready for the ski season.

Bob Katarynych has rebuilt the roof on the biffy at the south shelter. Heather is painting and redecorating at both shelters and biffys.

d. Equipment – Brian Anderson

This past year the motor on the Wildwood Skandic was rebuilt (\$5,904). It was used in light service and is now ready for work this winter. Richard will roll the trails at Wildwood with it to finish the break in period. The drive belts on the Defender and on the Rhino both had to be replaced this past winter (2019-2020).

The Kinsmen Skandic was given a maintenance check over this summer. The pull starter was repaired and the electric module that keeps the battery charged was replaced as were the slides on the bottom.

Currently the old Alpine machine is having the seal on the transmission replaced so it can be utilized at Holiday Park golf course this winter (2019-2020). It is great to use the new trailer to haul

equipment around when required.

In the spring (2019) the shipping container where we store equipment at Wildwood was moved into the fenced in secure area at Wildwood. (The city was paving the parking lot where the container had sat) Recently we moved the fence so that we can access the container to move equipment in and out of it.

The city storage shed at the Kinsmen Park where we stored the Kinsmen Skandic in the winter (when we used it) has been removed by the city. We have a meeting with the city upcoming to see what we can do about finding access to a different building or if and when the city will be building a new equipment storage building will be discussed. We have found that using the Rhino and the Defender on tracks in winter work quite well as far as pulling and turning. The Defender had been used at Wildwood golf course last winter when the Skandic skidoo was being repaired. Richard the main groomer at Wildwood found that in light snow conditions as we faced last winter the aggressive tracks did make for a rougher skate track so required weights put onto the Tidd Tech grooming machine to help keep the skate track smoother. The other issue was the ice and snow build up on the drive train and boots which required chipping off the ice after every use to stop damaging the boots and drive train: if the ice was

not removed and it froze in place the boots and steering would be compromised. I think the groomers at Eb's Trails and at Wildwood deserve a huge pat on back for the additional work it requires to continue to keep their equipment running properly in a challenging environment. Fuel has been purchased for the early season city grooming.

e. Youth Instruction – Eric Lamb & Kirsten Ketilson
No report at this time.

f. Youth HiPer – Alison Meinert
24 kids signed up already. Training started in September. The team is heading to Lake Louise for a week long intense training. Last year did well in the several races, at home and away. The junior racers have a few new banners to hang in the new facility.

g. Adult Instruction – Bruce Simms
New schedule to be posted shortly. Three beginner classic courses and at least one skate ski course are planned. There was very little uptake from the intermediate level class offered so there is no plan to have that course this year. Poor snow conditions caused many challenges last year but enrollment was very good. Classes run over 3 evenings under the lights at Kinsmen. Registration will be open on Zone 4 soon. Possible plans forming to do some

teaching at Diefenbaker Park so folks get a bit more hill skiing experience.

h. HiPer and Racing – Bruce Simms

We have about 6 new youth this year. Training started last week. Training is 3 nights per week. Grapefruit Cup will start soon and is every Tuesday at Wildwood. We have many participants in various age categories, youth and master skiers.

- i. Cross Country Saskatchewan, Provincial News - Andrew Brisbin (as a member of CCS and SNSC)
Andrew is the HiPer coach for the province. Robin Butler helped with out-of-province venues in larger racing categories. There are provincial training camps for 10 years of age and older. All 3 SNSC HiPer coaches help to coach for these races away.

j. Touring – Sheryl Riis

We had five lovely spring hikes, thanks to a lower wood tick population. We have a total of seven fall hikes, with our final one, next Sunday. We generally have between 4 – 41 people on our hikes, depending on the weekend, and the weather. The hikes are about 12 km long, and the fall hikes usually end with a Fall Supper, in a small town. Sometimes, we have a wiener roast. For the last two years, we have also had a delightful tour and supper at the wild west Champetre County, near St. Denis. It's a great opportunity to meet club

members, and get physically ready, for the ski season.

Thank-you to all our hike leaders, who keep us safe, and provide us with a variety of hiking locations!

Sunday Ski Tours for the winter. Car pooling leaving from Lawson Heights Parking lot at 0945, returning around 3pm.

k. Ski at School & Outreach – Alison Meinert for Jan Sedgewick

Registration opens Oct 30th. We have enough instructors but could use more on the sub list.

l. Blind/Low Vision Ski Group - Joanne Ferguson

This year we have 10 skiers, 9 guides and 6 volunteers. We started our walks Saturdays October 5 with a hike and wiener roast. We will walk weekly on Saturday mornings 10 a.m. and start skiing once there is enough snow.

Our initiative this year is recruitment of new skiers. With increased exposure thanks to Jola's efforts on Facebook and an initiative last year with low vision students and the Ski-at-School program we have had increased exposure that the weather unfortunately interfered with. We will continue our efforts and hope Mother Nature cooperates this year.

When they became affiliated with the SNSC they had a bank account of their own. Part of their

fundraising is for Ski-for-light is in Western Canada (5 plan to go – up from 3 last year). They have their own treasurer, and turn over their books to the SNSC for the financial yearly review.

7. Proposed Budget – Gail Motsi

Total revenue is projected at \$71,490.09. In addition to regular CCS and City grants, we have received a Winter City Grant of \$2,000 for work on the new facility. Fees for youth instruction have been increased to \$50 and \$60 for one lesson per week.

Total expenses are projected at \$74,699, based largely on historical expenses. \$12,340 has been budgeted for a consultant to detail trails on Holiday Park, but the proposal has come in for a much lower amount. We could use the savings to make a contribution to Friends of the Bowl again this year or for other expenses. Ski At School (SAS) expenses are budgeted higher than actual expenses last year based on all sessions proceeding which has not historically happened. SAS expenses are covered by the City grant and contributions from schools.

The projected deficit is \$3,209.

Motion: By Gail Motsi, seconded by Ivan English. That the draft Budget for the 2019-2020 season, as prepared by the Treasurer, be approved. Carried unanimously.

8. Executive Nominations

President – Gail Motsi

Vice President – Ivan English

Past President – Dan Brisbin

Treasurer – TBD

Gail Motsi nominates Kimberly Dobrowolski as treasurer.

Secretary – TBD

Randy Chapman nominates Sue Wall as secretary.

Directors – Jeff Thorpe, Eric Lamb, Brian Anderson, Sheryl Riis, TBD

9. Executive Elections – the above mentioned executive members are elected by acclamation.

10. Announcements

Question – re Vision 2020 – will the club revisit that plan and adjust the strategic plan? So much has been accomplished successfully.

This will be discussed at the executive level.

Question - member asks about increased signage at Wildwood to prevent people from walking on the ski trails.

This will be discussed at the executive level.

Alison Meinert posts on Facebook and states that she is happy to post items for any of the other groups about club activities.

11. Adjournment by Gail Motsi at 8:40pm.