

Wasi Cross Country Ski Club Annual General Meeting April 1, 2019

Present: Board members: Scott Taylor, Terry Shakell, Stephen Hart, Kerry Somerville, Donna Burton, Joan Clark, Gordon Valliant, Ivan Rand, Emily-Ann Smylie, Elaine Oshell; and non-board members Miranda ... and John Wipprecht.

1. Welcome and Call to Order

- Kerry welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

- The agenda was approved without change.
- *The members present voted to approve the agenda.*

3. Approval of the Minutes from 2018 Annual General Meeting, April 10, 2018.

- The minutes from the April 10, 2018 AGM were acknowledged
- *Steve moved to approve the minutes. Donna seconded the motion. The members present voted in favour.*

4. Business Arising from the Minutes – None

5. President's Report – (see attached President's Report) Kerry read the President's annual report, thanking Board members and other club volunteers for their hard work. She summarized hi-lights from the 2018-19 season including:

- Successful snowshoe loaning program in partnership with the East Ferris Library
- Some group visits to the Club's ski and snowshoe trails
- An early start to the ski season and very good attendance at all Special Events
- Successful advertising initiatives

One problem continues to plague the Club:

- Trespassing on the trails by ATVs and snowmobiles during deer rifle season and the ski/snowshoe season resulted in warnings being issued and one trespassing snowmobiler was charged by OPP.

6. Treasurer's Report

(see attached Treasurer's Report) Tim was unable to attend due to family commitments but sent his report via email.

- Membership and Daily Pass revenue was up over last year
- Our major expenses were a \$3627 Flail Mower, \$774 for our GoDaddy Website over six years and the outstanding Liability and Property Insurance.
- Our net worth as at March 20, 2019 was \$51495.90. Kerry clarified that is the value of our cash and GICs. Our buildings are on leased land, so not included, nor do we include equipment in assets as we sell them after we are done with them for what we can get. Since a new snowmachine runs about \$20000 we are in good shape.

7. Web Masters Report

- John Roberts continues to maintain the website. He was not at the meeting nor did he submit a report. We have paid for the website for the next six years and John maintains it, updating it with event photos.

8. Registrar's Report

- Donna reported the season got off to an early start with the bulk of registrations in before Christmas.
- 276 membership tags were issued (for an approximate value of \$12000) plus the Zone 4 online registrations.
- Zone 4 is working well and growing in popularity.
- Our membership continues to stay in the 270 - 300 range although it went as high as 320 one year in the past.
- Donna is retiring from her position and the Board and was thanked for her work. Emily-Ann Smylie has agreed to take on the registrar position and was thanked as well.

Trails Report – (see attached document) – Steve summarized the 2018-19 season as follows:

- Due to an early start to winter and regular snow throughout the season the groomers were able to get the trails open before the end of November and maintain them in Excellent condition for most of the season
- The snowshoe trail network was expanded and we continue to see increased numbers on them.
- We had a nine-member grooming team, which did a fantastic job and they were thanked. Two will not be returning next year so we will be looking for more next year.
- The flail mower purchased to pull behind an ATV did not prove effective in mowing the trails in the fall. We will probably need to sell it and look into purchasing other trail mowing equipment.

Advertising Report for 2017-2018 Season

Joan reported on the procedures undertaken over the past season to publicize the Club and planned events. (see attached document) A summary of the report is as follows:

- Joan has everything in place to cover all the print, electronic and social media. She has had requests to also post on Instagram and Twitter and she will investigate that.

Building Report

Kerry reported that overall the building is in good shape for another season. (See attached.)

- Kerry thanked Ivan Rand for his help with the chalet this year.
- There are some small projects to be completed during the summer. Steve suggested we replace the stovepipe with a telescoping model for easier chimney cleaning.
- There have been requests for some sort of change area within the chalet.

New Business

New Business was held over to the board meeting.

Open Topics, Issues and Suggestions

- Kerry opened the floor to discussion. John Wipprecht wondered if the current grooming equipment is doing an adequate job of breaking up the snow after icy, frozen conditions. Steve said they have learned the most effective way to deal with that (mainly in spring) is to give the trails time to dry out. Grooming too soon

turns it to ice. Rather than buy a \$10000 tiller, which would also be hard to store, Steve and Scott felt we would be better off perhaps sharpening or replacing out current knives.

Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 7.27 p.m.

As recorded by Elaine Oshell.

REPORTS

President's Report for 2019

I want to thank all of the Board members for their dedication and hard work this season.

Thank-you to all the volunteers who helped with chalet hosting, special events, trail preparation and grooming. A special thank-you to Gerry Dyer and Agnes Legault for their dedication with maintaining and improving the snowshoe trails and Katherine Macleod for taking on the Chalet Host Co-ordinator duties. Also, thank-you to John Roberts for his continuing expertise in maintaining the club website.

The snowshoe loaning program partnering with the East Ferris Library is still successful. They report more loans than last year with certain periods where all the snowshoes were loaned out. The library is very pleased with the program and will continue it for next year. Two pairs of snowshoes were damaged and replaced by Canadian Tire at no cost. The program has been so successful that the library is wondering if we could add more snowshoes next season.

John and Barb Roberts brought their PROBUS group to ski and snowshoe twice this year.

Ski season started on November 20, 2018 and was very successful. a big thank-you to the grooming captains and groomers who did an incredible job this season.

The Special Events were well attended. The Moonlight Ski and Snowshoe are still popular and with good ski conditions, the club was able to have Ski Backwards Day.

Our advertising is proving beneficial and effective in attracting new people to the Special Events.

There was a trespassing incident in November during deer rife season. A local Astorville resident was warned that once the trails are groomed, he is to stay off the ski and snowshoe trails. He was provided with the club Land Use Permit (LUP). Two snowmobiles trespassed on the snowshoe trails on February 23, 2019. The incident was witnessed by myself and Steve Hart. The OPP were called and a trespassing charge was issued to John Bos Jr.

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Financial Report for 2019 AGM

Wasi Cross Country Ski Club Treasurer's Report – T.Collins

This has been a good year in regards to Membership and Daily Pass revenue. In the 2017-18 Annual Report we had revenue of \$21 201 (\$2024 Donations) and as of March 26, 2019 we have revenue of \$22, 364.80 and Expenses of \$13 467.39. We have two remaining major expenses – Liability Insurance – \$1080 and Property Insurance \$2307 (2018 costs) due in April. We will have some small expenses to finish off the 2018-19 season and the Financial Books will be reconciled in April.

We had one major capital purchase this year; Flail Mower attachment for Kubota \$3627.30. (Thanks to Steve for working on this and he will report on the future use of it.) We also purchased our GoDaddy Website for 6 years at a cost of \$774.18 thanks to the work of John Roberts.

September 1, 2018 - March 26, 2019 – TD Bank Statement

Revenue - \$22 364.80 – Memberships/Daily Passes + (\$100 Woodstove & \$800 Warm-up Sale)

Expenses - \$13 467.39

Balance - \$38 860.01

GIC – \$12 635.89 (Locked in to November, 2019)

Total - \$51 495.90

Thank you, sorry I am unable to attend due to family commitments. If you have any questions you can ask Kerry and she will forward the any concerns.

T. Collins

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AGM Trails Report April 1, 2019

The 2018/19 Ski season marks one of, if not the earliest, start to the ski season ever at the Wasi Cross Country Ski Club. We started rolling the trails on the third week of November and had most of the trails track-set before the end of November. With the large amount of snow that we received this winter we had Excellent conditions for the bulk of the ski year and lost no days of skiing due to weather.

At the end of August we purchased a tow behind ATV flail mower for the ski club in hopes of reducing the amount of manual labour required to mow the ski trails. This was an experiment and, unfortunately, it was an unsuccessful one. The purchase of the mower cost \$3600 and due to the roughness (rockiness) of our ski trails it proved to be ineffective. The board will be looking at possibly selling this equipment in the Summer of 2019.

Our snowshoe trail network was increased this year thanks to the on going efforts of Gerry Dyer and Agnes Legault. We now have three new snowshoe trails, the Beaver Pond Trail, the Rabbit Run Trail, and the Chickadee Trail. The popularity of the snowshoe trails continues to increase and we are seeing new users coming to the club because of it.

The ski trail grooming this year was fantastic thanks to our dedicated team of volunteers.

We had nine members on the grooming team this year. A huge thank you to the groomers: Scott, Tim, Martin, Gilles, Duncan, Sonje, Thorston, Ray and Steve. With a steady stream of snowfall all winter the trails were in Excellent shape, smooth and level.

This winter we had snowmobilers trespassing on our snowshoe trails a couple of times, despite having No Trespassing signs and a fence on their access trail. Luckily on the second incident of trespassing we actually witness the individuals on the trail and we were successful in having the OPP charge Johnny Box with Trespassing.

This summer it is my hope to sell the failed ATV flail mower and look into purchasing some additional trail mowing equipment.

Stephen Hart
Head of Trails

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PUBLICITY REPORT FOR AGM 2018-2019 SEASON

The month of October is a busy month for publicity as it is the month where all the preparation takes place once the events have been decided after the October meeting. All events listings, ads and posters have already been created over the previous years: the only task is to change the dates to the current ski season's dates .

WASI AD:

During the Month Of October Joan emailed the Wasi Ad to Monique McIsaac asking her to run it in the Chisholm Newsletter (admin@chisholm.ca) for the months of November, December & January at a cost of \$ 20 / Ad. The usual cost for a business card sized Ad is \$ 10. Our ad is the size of two business cards, therefore the cost is \$ 20. The November newsletter came out at the end of October and our ad did indeed show up in the newsletter. The bill was to be sent to our current Post Office box 46 at the Astorville Post Office.

The Wasi Ad was also emailed to Patti Carr & Sue at the North Bay and District Chamber of Commerce (NBDCC). They run the ad for the duration of the ski season at a cost of \$ 60. They also were kind enough to include our events listing as the events come up therefore a copy of our events listing was also emailed along with the ad.

EVENTS LISTING:

The Events Listing was forwarded to the following recipients for inclusion on their websites/newsletters:

Municipality of East Ferris (jennifer.lefebvre@eastferris.ca)
NBDCC (sue@nbdcc.ca , patricia@nbdcc.ca)
North Bay Nugget (nbay.bulletin@sunmedia.ca: Notice of registration day is sent in early November and the rest of the events listing is usually forwarded in early to mid December.

Joan checked each site on a monthly basis to verify that the events were indeed being listed. The 2019 January events were not showing up in the Nugget or Nugget Extra but

Joan realized that she had forgotten to send them! Once they were forwarded to the Nugget, both the weekend Nugget and the Nugget Extra had our events listed.

EVENTS AS THEY OCCUR:

The event details were posted on the following sites in their "Community Events/Sports" section:

Tangr.com

Kijiji.ca

Cogeco.ca (now Your TV.ca North Bay)

CTV.ca (Sudbury, North Bay)

Other sites:

Our website: Wasiski.com

Our Facebook page: Wasi Cross Country Ski Club

POSTERS:

During the month of October, Joan created, printed and distributed posters for all the events to be held during our 2018-2019 ski season, to the following board members, who graciously agreed to take on the task of posting the Events about a week or two before they were to take place at various locations in their communities:

A big Thank You goes out to:

Powassan: Elaine Oshell

Astorville: Terry Shakell

Chalet: Kerry Sommerville

Callander: Yvan Rand (new area added this year)

Ferris: Emily-Anne Smylie (new area added this year)

North Bay: Gord Valiant

North Bay Health Centre: Gerri Van Amelsfoort (new area added this year)

Thank you all for helping to get the word out and contributing to our successful year of well attended events!

Report completed by Joan Clark

Wasi AGM 2019 Building Report

- Thanks to Ivan Rand for helping with the chalet this year.
- The door trim was finished and will be painted this summer.
- A used wax form was donated by Allen Bale and needs some small adjustments to fit all skis.
- A Kindling Cracker was purchased in early winter safe splitting of kindling. The woodshed will also need some boards replaced and stained.
- There are some small projects to be completed during the summer. Steve Hart has suggested to replace the stovepipe with a telescoping model to facilitate easier chimney cleaning.
- Over the chalet is in good shape for another season.

Prepared by Kerry Somerville.