

## **Wasi Cross Country Ski Club Annual General Meeting Sept. 2, 2020**

Present: Board members: Kerry Somerville, Tim Collins, Emily-Ann Smylie, Scott Taylor, Steve Hart, Joan Clark, Terry Shakell and Elaine Oshell; and non-board members: Martin Lachapelle, Chuck Holtz, Doug Croskery, Neil Brown, Kay White, Auburn LaRose, Susan Weiskopf, Peter Taylor and Debbie Faith.

- **Welcome and Call to Order**

- Kerry welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6.33 p.m. in the parking lot. The original meeting, scheduled for April 2020 had to be postponed due to the Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic

- **Approval of the Agenda**

- Two changes to the agenda were voted on and approved by all.
- Joan Clark was recognized for her great work as media co-ordinator since 2010 and presented with a gift with thanks from the board.
- Steve Hart resigned from the board but will continue to help with grooming and trail work

- **Approval of the Minutes from 2019 Annual General Meeting, April 1, 2019.**

- The minutes from the April 1, 2019 AGM were acknowledged.
- Terry moved to approve, Emily-Ann seconded the minutes. All approved.

- **Business Arising from the Minutes – None**

- **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 2019-20 season including:

- The snowshoe loaning program in partnership with the East Ferris Library continues to be successful and six more pairs of snowshoes were purchased by the North Bay and Parry Sound Health Unit.
- Trespassing and trail damage continues and the OPP have been involved.
- Parking lot upgrades were made possible through an agreement with East Ferris Township.
- Permission has been granted to locate a shipping container behind the garage.
- Attendance was good for all events.
- The season ended one week early due to Covid-19.
- Kerry announced she will be stepping down as president but will stay on the board.

- **Treasurer's Report**

(see attached Treasurer's Report).

- Club revenue is up approximately \$3000 over last year.
- Our net worth as at April 1, 2020 was \$58 618.20.

### **Web Masters Report**

- John Roberts has been maintaining the website. He was not at the meeting nor did he submit a report. We have paid for the website for the next five years.

- Martin Lachapelle offered to take over webmaster duties and his offer was gratefully accepted by Kerry.

**Registrar's Report**—see attached report.

- Emily-Ann provided the Zone 4 break-down between couples, seniors and families for a total of 142 members and a total of \$13 295 in registration fees. Zone 4 is working well although online day fees are low.

**Trails Report** – Steve summarized the 2018-19 season as follows:

- The season ended suddenly and strangely due to the coronavirus shut-down. All the equipment has been serviced and is ready to go.
- There were no equipment problems

**Media Report for 2019-20 Season**

Joan reported on the procedures undertaken over the past several years to publicize the Club and planned events. (see attached document)

- Joan has everything in place to cover all the print, electronic and social media ready for our next Media Co-ordinator.
- Joan thanked her helpers and was in turn thanked for all her work over the past ten years on behalf of the board.

**Building Report**

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

- The generator hook-up is complete so we have lighting in the chalet when needed. A change area was installed, the door trim and ski rack painted, ski board maps have been replaced, a safe was installed in the kitchen for the chalet host float and the parking lot was improved with gravel and boulder removal.
- Kerry also reported the insurance coverage was reviewed over the summer re loss of revenue and/or liability against board members and the club.

**New Business**

1. Neil Brown asked if those sending correspondence to members could include "Wasi" in the subject line. Kerry assured him the board would try.
2. Sue Weiskopf asked about the possibility of offering ski rentals, Kerry said we receive about 25 requests per year and the club has investigated various possibilities and options. To date we have not come up with a workable solution due to space and volunteer staff shortages. Auburn asked permission to investigate further and the board agreed.
3. Martin broached the topic of whether we should have the chalet open this season because of the virus. Various issues and possible solutions were discussed from outhouses needing to be open, how to have an outdoor sign-up desk, methods of paying day fees, cleaning and social-distancing. The board decided to watch the developments and discuss again at the next board meeting.

**Adjournment** – meeting adjourned at 7.22 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 rifle 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  
Asterville: 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

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**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.