

Monday, May 31, 2021

Kanata Nordic Ski Club Annual General Meeting

Zoom Video Conference

Attendance:

David Bentley, Andy Weekes (minutes), John Clarke, Heather McCulligh, Marlene Alt, Heather Boswell, Chris Teron, Marsha Kelly, Roger Colbeck, Nigel Wallis, Sunida Hurst, Harris Kirby, Rich Russell, Graham Satterthwaite, Megan McAllistair, Jeff Tait, Blair Carroll, Ralph Quapp, Amy Fraser, Steve Howard, Jeff Pappin, Robert Galdins, Monica Ficker, Eugene Vigneron, Olaf Schwab, Jeanine Ewert, Michael Duivenvoorden, Anne Wilson, Chris Lindsay, Amy Thomas, David Vanderzon, Mike Laska, Richard Batty, Peter Niedre, Trent Abbott, Dan Zur, JJ Bellamy, Christine Butler, Sylvia Torrance, Scot Pegrum

1. President's Welcome

David welcomed everyone to the Kanata Nordic AGM 2021 at 7:04 pm including our community partners participating in the meeting. Similar to last year, the meeting happened via Zoom due to COVID. He was appreciative of everyone attending.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda made by Heather M and seconded by Heather B. Approved by consensus. No new business.

Following adoption of the agenda, Councillor Kavanagh made a few comments and also welcomed everyone attending. She is very appreciative of all of our volunteers and for the club providing inspiration to the community with all of the trails and programs. She would like to pass on a huge thank you to everyone and is looking forward to next season.

3. Review of AGM minutes from June 29, 2020.

Motion to approve minutes from last year with no changes made by John C and seconded by Harris Kilby. Approved by consensus.

4. Annual Reports

Reports to follow. Questions/comments will be taken throughout as well as at the end.

5. President Report (David Bentley)

This is second AGM via Zoom. Unfortunately, we are getting used to this and it has been a difficult year for planning related to COVID. The executive has been working hard to run the club. This is a chance for the membership to find out what has happened over the past year and have input with upcoming plans, regarding our operation at WCP and involvement with the newly created Ottawa West Winter Trail association (OWWT). The club has been very diligent about our cash reserves with an increase of ~\$10K per year. There are 3 motions at this AGM that involve spending a considerable portion of these reserves.

Last year the club made contingency plans for programs and skiing wrt COVID. We had record numbers enrolled for programs. Despite the contingency plans (eg. smaller group sizes, run classes on both Saturday and Sunday) the hard shutdown in December meant that programs realistically needed to be cancelled for the season. At this point, plans will be made to run a full slate of programs next season.

The ski swap was also cancelled. Kunststadt offered an "in-store" swap instead. Both Fresh Air Experience and Kundstadt offered members/racers discounts. The club had a record number of membership sales which were capped at 1600 with weekend access restricted to members only.

Although the season started slightly later than normal, the quality of skiing was excellent with no midseason thaw. Grooming stopped in the 2nd week of March. The club has 2

Monday, May 31, 2021

landlords for trails and parking (WCP and the NCC). Magic of Lights (MoL) interred with 411 parking and the restart in February made evening access unavailable for 10 days.

6. Treasurer Report (Marsha Kelly)

The cash position for KN went up fairly substantially this year due to increased membership. Membership revenue increased by \$50K. The club received a 1 time COVID funding grant for the City and NCC of \$7.5K. Sponsorships and donations were up \$14K. Revenue totalled \$226K. Net assets at the end of 2021 were \$72K and projected to be \$23K next season. The club had a large number of donors this year and received a substantial amount from the NCC/City of Ottawa via the UWTA. The rental shop also generated money (and was set up initially via the Ottawa Community Foundation). Money spent goes towards WCP lease/parking, coaching, education, insurance and equipment maintenance.

Motion to accept Treasurer Report made by Nigel W and seconded by Heather B. Motion approved by consensus.

7. Membership Coordinator Report (Sunida Hurst)

1601 total memberships were sold compared with 720 last year. This number would have been larger, but was capped by the executive, mainly due to COVID. 296 family, 159 couple and 19 individual memberships were sold. This represented a huge increase with many new members. 336/604 members volunteered with 268/604 opting to pay the fee-in-lieu. All programs were refunded with a portion of this refunded to KN by XSCO. The club absorbed the administrative fee cost of ~\$1.5K. A membership map was presented. Members are concentrated in Kanata, but come from all across the city.

8. Trails Coordinator Report (Eugene Vigneron)

Another successful year. The start was somewhat delayed due to later snow. However, we had excellent conditions throughout the season (decent snowfall with no thaw/rain

Monday, May 31, 2021

event). There were considerable challenges related to COVID and equestrian quiet times wrt grooming/training. The snowshoe loop length was increase (thank you to Pat Kirkham). Thank you to signage volunteers Gregg Shimokura and Mary Anne Trenker. Trails groomed are at 401/411, OWWT and trial grooming along other shared trails. Thank you to Rich Russell and team for equipment maintenance. The club currently uses 2 Skandic skidoos and 2 BRP Outlander XT quads. Thank you to WCP for support and assistance in trails and site operations, NCC, City of Ottawa and OWWT. We aim to continue existing trail grooming despite any ongoing COVID-19 restrictions as well as continue to improve the quality of trails and grooming. Additionally, we will continue to recruit trails team volunteers with specialized skills/knowledge where possible.

Richard B suggested that visible signage be placed along the OWWT to indicate that KN is involved with grooming.

9. Facilities Coordinator Report (John Clarke)

Due to COVID, the club required additional new signage ie. Signs, signs and more signs! Gate ambassadors were a new addition on weekends (staffed by volunteers). Essentially, the club had the same amount of parking with double the membership. We also had a new inside dry storage area. There were new restrictions to the 401 maintenance area/glen training area due to concerns related to horses. This prompted the decision to move the 401 maintenance area that will now be away from the horses. The current structure will need to be dismantled and rebuilt at the new site and will likely happen when restrictions ease as more individuals will be needed.

Marlene Alt gave an update on the rental shop and community program. We were able to open the rental shop despite COVID. This allowed people to experience skiing who might not otherwise have had the chance. Revenue amounted to \$4390.00 and people were very appreciative, many of whom indicated they would consider joining the club next season. Only 1 community session took place this year (due to pandemic restrictions and MoL).

10. Jackrabbit, Teen Skate, Masters Coordinator Report

No programs were offered this year due to COVID-19.

11. Racing Coordinator Report (Heather McCulligh)

This was the only program that was not shut down this year. Ages 10-18. Very popular and sold out. The majority of the training season happened safely with no COVID outbreaks. Unable to cross the provincial border to ski in the Gatineau. No races were held. There is indication for a high return rate next season. Heather would like to thank everyone involved in the program, both coaches and volunteers. Hopefully the program will continue to grow in the upcoming seasons.

12. Motion to accept all reports as presented or amended

Motion to accept all remaining reports made by Rich R and seconded by Harris K. Approved by consensus.

13. Ottawa West Winter Trail Report (Roger Colbeck)

A brief overview of the OWWT was given. It was a major success and is multiuse. The rebranding did cause a little confusion regarding who was involved with grooming. Lots of followers on social media. There will be more signage for next season wrt rules and who is involved with grooming. The hope is to have an increased network of shared trails for the upcoming season (expansion of existing network). A dedicated core of volunteers looked after grooming, signage, shovelling and social media aspects. Roughly 11 km of trail was groomed (Watts Creek, Rifle Rd spur, TCT, trail of DND loop, rolling of stretch between Moodie and Holly Acres). 4-5 times per week. Funding came via donations and through the UWTA (via KN).

Several comments/questions: Facebook was very informative for conditions. OWWT grooming appeared to be of greater quality, especially in the early part of the year. This was mainly due to the fact that it is paved and flat (and therefore needs less snow). In fact, it was groomed less often than the club trails. Funding from the City/NCC is key to allowing grooming of the trail to happen, so as not to rely on membership fees.

14. Motion: New Coordinator role for the OWWT/UWTA

“A motion to add the new role of the Ottawa West Winter Trail/Urban Winter Trail Alliance Coordinator to the Executive Committee.”

Motion proposed by Nigel W and seconded Steve Howard.

Approved by consensus.

*** For the following 3 Motions, please see the slide presentation for the background ***

15. Motion: Expenditure over \$5K.

“A motion to increase the Kanata Nordic racing team’s budget by \$10,000 in order to support coaching and equipment purchases”

Motion proposed by Heather M and seconded by Amy Fraser.

Heather M and Nigel gave a brief overview of what the funds would be used for (additional coaching which will allow the program to continue to grow, waxing, etc). A discussion amongst members then took place.

Approved by consensus.

16. Motion: Expenditure over \$5K.

“A motion to allocate a sum up to \$10,000 for the hiring of a seasonal administrator for the 2021-22 season. The decision regarding the role and hiring will be researched and a recommendation made by a committee appointed by the KN Executive, reporting to the President. Final Approval of the expenditure will be made by the sitting KN Executive.”

Motion made by Andy W and seconded by Marlene A.

Approved by consensus.

17. Motion: Expenditure over \$5K.

“A motion for the purchase of a used 60 hp Kubota L6060HST tractor fitted with a snowplow blade, Soucy tracks and a Mueller tornado 2.0 tiller/tracksetter for \$85,000. This grooming equipment has been used for 3 years and has 1,000 hours on the clock. Final approval of the purchase will be made by the sitting KN Executive”

Motion made by David B and seconded by Nigel W.

There were several questions regarding why the unit is being sold, how competitive the price is, expected life span, and which trails it can be used on. These were answered to members satisfaction. A detailed report was submitted to the KN executive regarding the groomer, prior to the AGM, all of whom were in agreement to move forward with this motion.

Approved by consensus.

18. Election of 2021-22 Executive

President: Nigel Wallis

Vice President: Andy Weekes

Treasurer: Marsha Kelly

Secretary: Jeff Pappin

Membership Coordinator: Sunida Hurst

Events Coordinator: Joanne Murray

Jackrabbit Coordinator: *Vacant*

Trails Coordinator: Eugene Vigneron

Promotions Coordinator: *Vacant*

Monday, May 31, 2021

Racing Coordinator: Heather McCulligh

Teen Skate Coordinator: Heather Boswell

Masters Coordinator: *Vacant*

Volunteer Coordinator: *Vacant*

Facilities Coordinator: John Clarke

OWWT coordinator: Roger Colbeck

Past President (ex-officio): David Bentley

Motion to approve Executive for 2021-22. Approved by consensus.

Non-Executive Volunteer Roles:

Website: Anee Wilson

Community Programming and Rental: Marlene Alt

Fundraising (Sponsorships & Grant Proposals): *Vacant*

19. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned @ 9:15 pm.

Thank you to all who attended as well as those who provided questions/comments. Despite COVID, this was a very successful season in many aspects and we look forward to seeing everyone on the trails next year!!!