



February 23, 2017
Saskatoon Nordic Ski Club
Executive Meeting Minutes
Held at residence of Kate Germin

Present: Randy Chapman, Lane Zabolotney, Daryl Sexsmith, Kate Germin, Sheryl Riis, Gail Motsi, Dan Brisbin, Jeff Thorpe, Ivan English.

Regrets: Bruce Simms

Meeting Chaired by Lane Zabolotney. Minutes recorded by Kate Germin.

Meeting called to order by Lane Zabolotney at 7:10pm.

1. Review correspondence – Lane Zabolotney. None
2. Approve order of business – Approved.
3. Review and approve minutes of January 12, 2017 executive meeting – Approved.
4. Matters arising from previous minutes:

- a. Discussions with Fat Biker's Group about dog-friendly trails – Ivan English.

Ivan communicated with Jeff Hehn of the Fat Biker's Group. The Fat Biker's Group has set trails in the Chappel Marsh area. Ivan explained the terrain and the work that has been done out there so far. They are interested in having trails for skijoring and skiing with dogs. They are not asking for skiing with dogs on SNSC existing trails. The SNSC Executive has agreed to give support to their group. Discussions will continue as to the type of support. Jeff wondered about using/borrowing SNSC grooming equipment. They are also talking about purchasing a SnowDog machine.

Some questions: Would their trails be open to the public? Could we advise our members to go there to ski with dogs?

Jeff Hehn is asking for a letter of support from the SNSC for this project. Our club is in support of the project. Ivan will check where this support letter is to be sent.

b. Kinsmen Park Update – Lane Zabolotney.

Lane communicated with the City. There are not a whole lot of new plans for the area. Ivan English talked to Cliff Speer of CanoeSki Discovery Company, so he understands what we are trying to do with Gordie Howe Management Area (GHMA). We, at one time, spoke loudly to the City of Saskatoon about Kinsmen being updated for skiing and our teaching programs. Ivan will speak to Andrew Roberts, Special Use Facilities/Capital Planning Manager, about where we stand now with regard to focusing on GHMA as a home for our club. We maintain interest in Kinsmen Park being tracked because many Saskatoon citizens enjoy skiing there but the Kinsmen will not be our focus of labor or finances.

c. Zone 4 and National Sport Trust Fund (NSTF) donations – Gail Motsi. We are not able to collect donations to the NSTF through Zone 4; the NSTF itself will have online donation capability “within the next three months”.

d. Friends of the Bowl Needs Assessment - Ivan English.

Ivan contacted Brian Kosteroski and will meet him next week along with Dan Brisbin, to see if he can help us liaise with other groups that use the GHMA.

e. Website issue – Kate Germin

Research about our website was started to see who could enter information on the SNSC website. Discussion about how old the technology of our website is. Discussion about the fact that the SNSC Website has several mechanical issues that make it difficult to add content. Members have asked for a place on the website where they can interact with each other. They want to talk with each other about where they have skied, ski items for sale and just general ski discussions. Research on our web traffic indicates that most members just go to the trails update page and then leave the site. We hope to engage members to stay on the site longer, to read the

news feeds and link to the calendar page.

Discussion re the need to update the SNSC website. Dan Beveridge has volunteered to put some time in on this project. The approved 2017 budget allows for an update to the website, so Dan will check with web designers and programmers, seeking to meet the needs and wants of club members. He will get back to the executive about what this entails.

5. Financial Report – Daryl Sexsmith.

The financial report has been circulated and is on track. Membership is down; therefore a net decrease of approximately \$1,500 is expected. This is likely due to the poor snow conditions.

The HiPer race brought in good revenue.

The ski-at-school \$30 from each class is looking like a break-even situation. Most expenses come in March so a clearer picture of finances will be available at next meeting.

Daryl spoke a bit on treasurer and bookkeeper jobs. Plan is to split these two functions after the 2017 AGM. Job descriptions are written and have been distributed to executive for comments.

6. Facilities Subcommittee – Ivan English.

Ivan and subcommittee member/s will meet with the Friends of the Gordie Howe Bowl next week. Facilities committee will carry on but will meet to suggest a new mandate.

7. Adult/HiPer Update – Bruce Simms

Adult Lessons – The weather played havoc with our lesson schedules. Re-scheduling and juggling class lists was the norm. Despite that, we had almost complete take up on our course offerings. My intention is to offer learn to ski at Wildwood next season, as well as Cliff teaching at Kinsman. Lighting from 8th St is sufficient in the stadium area. The clubhouse is there. I reflect that you have to be able to get on skis regularly to learn or improve technique and fitness.

Our HiPer, junior HiPer and masters skiers were successful at races here and provincials in Regina, bringing home numerous higher placed finishes. Skiers were also successful in Alberta. Several Saskatoon

biathloners are regular and most welcome members of our HiPer group. Again weather caused cancellations of events, Flin Flon, Humboldt, and La Ronge were re-scheduled twice to this weekend. Unfortunately this type of season is occurring with increasing regularity.

8. Youth Training/Ski-at-School Update –

There is no report from Jan Sedgewick at this time. Daryl Sexsmith says that both programs are going well.

9. Report on Eb's Day – Randy Chapman

The event took place February 12, 2017. 189 people registered for the social at the south shelter. Registration was open from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

The trails were groomed February 10. A few centimeters of snow fell on February 9, and a few more on February 11, after the grooming. These snowfalls nicely covered the ice from a previous warm spell.

Expenses charged to the event are as follows:

Social at the south shelter - \$615.83

Trail grooming - \$242.12

Total - \$857.95

We have been approved for an event grant from Cross Country Saskatchewan for \$500, which we expect to receive after the follow-up report is submitted.

10. Sask trails Association (STA) – Randy Chapman

The STA AGM will be held in Saskatoon on March 25, 2017. There will be two education sessions: 'Putting Trails on The Map' and 'Heading Down The Right Insurance Path'.

Jeff Thorpe expressed an interest in possibly attending.

11. Old Business -

a. Membership benefits with retailers – Lane Zabolotney.

Thinking of getting back into the 10% off to ski club members at some retailers in Saskatoon. Discussion re advertising versus notifying members of the 10%. An annual letter will be sent to merchants asking

if they will support the SNSC by giving our members 10%.
Acknowledgements in Kivilski newsletters AND with membership cards.
Dan Brisbin will talk to Eb's Source for Adventures re their thoughts on this.

b. Honorariums for groomers – Lane Zabolotney.

Volunteer appreciation was taken out of the budget.

The executive discussed the issue of honorariums for groomers and equipment manager at both our January 12th and February 23rd meetings. Ultimately, we resolved to thank our groomers and other volunteers in the Kivilski at the end of the year, rather than provide cash or near-cash gifts.

We considered giving the groomers gift certificates as suggested. While we all shared the sentiment, we were unable to agree on the criteria for who would receive a gift. We considered the suggestion of only giving gifts to groomers who log 50+ hours in a season, but felt that this could be perceived as a slight to the other groomers. This led to a discussion of the many non-groomer volunteers who would merit a gift. We ultimately decided that the best course would be to name these individuals in the Kivilski rather than spend several hundred dollars on gifts.

c. Update of Operating Procedures – Gail Motsi.

Gail has plumbed the depths of previous minutes. She circulated what she found to be moved and carried but is missing the equipment policy and Kivilski advertising policy. Operating procedures will be updated accordingly and approved at the next AGM. Discussion re executive members writing up more detailed instructions for their positions to provide to their successors.

12. New Business

• Wildwood Clubhouse – Lane Zabolotney.

At the meeting with the City, Andrew Roberts proposed that an arrangement could possibly be made for free use of the Wildwood clubhouse on weekends if we also welcome the general public skiers.

• Winter City YXE grant – Lane Zabolotney.

A grant of \$500 to \$5,000 is available from the City, with applications

due on April 21st. Discussion re applying for this grant to help with development of the GHMA. Ivan English will work on the Winter City YXE Grant. Gail Motsi will help with the application. Ivan will seek one more person's help.

13. Next meeting April 6th, 2017, 7pm at Kate's house.
14. Meeting adjourned Lane Zabolotney at 9:25pm.