

**NICKEL PLATE CROSS-COUNTRY SKI CLUB
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING
MARCH 31, 2008**

PRESENT: Mike Bartier, Dick Reimer, Esther Scrypiczajko, Colleen Schneider, Gwen Marsh, Keith Schultz, Barbara Pehudoff, Tom Kampman

Meeting called to order at 7:07pm.

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Minutes of the February 20, 2008 meeting were reviewed. The comment attributed to Esther re: Welcome to NP day being free this year was actually made by Keith. Moved by Esther and seconded by Colleen that the minutes be approved as corrected.

KEITH'S CONTRACT

Keith is a valued asset for the club. He did not receive an increase in pay last year. **MOTION:** NP will provide Keith with a \$1000.00 bonus for his services this year. Moved by Tom Kampman and seconded by Dick Reimer.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP: Colleen Schneider

Colleen referred us to her written directors' report. Keith noted that Van Pratt & his wife have offered to coordinate the snowshoe trails. Marg & Henry King are other members of NP who may be interested in developing the snowshoe trails. This topic will be discussed in the organizational restructuring.

DIRECTOR OF FUNDRAISING: Gwen Marsh

Our Pisten-Bully grant application has been turned down. Gwen & Tom Kampman will review the application & resubmit it.

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL EVENTS: Esther Scrypiczajko

Esther referred us to her written report. The members' mug cupboard is a hit. Leaving the kitchen open is working well. Gwen suggested putting the dates of the moonlight skiing in December's newsletter.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Tom Kampman

Peggy has booked a basement room at Leir House for the AGM on June 4, 2008.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Dick Reimer

Our license to cut has been received. Dick has the name of a group in Kelowna regarding replanting spruce & pine trees & will follow-up. Gwen suggested that we look at incorporating tree planting in the spring into the grade 5 program then while skiing in the winter, they can observe planted trees. Dick can find small areas to plant & provide the necessary tools.

Dick listed the following projects to be done this summer:

- flooring in cabin needs to be done
- old portion of cabin needs painting inside & out
- heavy equipment work: trails & terrain park
- cutting wood
- build more directional markers for loppet
- phone line repair
- rental equipment replacement – Keith to give Mike a list of equipment needs
- move NP sign closer to road

Dick is to send Mike an estimate of costs for the above.

MANAGER’S REPORT: Keith Schultz

The 2007-2008 season was very successful. Daily operations ran smoothly, the trail system was in great shape with Motherlode being the most requested trail for the second year in a row. We had a decrease in bus traffic this year, we had 2 bus tours this season, down from 6 last year. Day pass traffic was good & should be consistent with last year.

Our programs were well run this season. The rabbit program under the outstanding direction of Charlotte Vankatamaran & her supporting coaches was flawless. The school program was successful again this season thanks to the strong efforts & commitment by the coaches. This is an excellent youth program & also gives NP extensive local exposure. The feedback was very positive & the schools are excited about returning next season. The terrain park was an excellent addition.

The loppet was outstanding & continues to be a showcase & a small revenue generator for the club. The social calendar was fun & well organized, many thanks to Esther.

The coaching program through Peach City Runners & Nordic under the direction of Frank Perrier was excellent. Both lesson availability & quality were very good. The equipment rentals continue to be an important part of daily operations. The rental pool will need some new equipment for next season.

The new Pisten Bully was everything we had hoped it would be. The configuration of the tiller gave us the added width we needed to solve the soft pole plant & in turn benefited both the skating lane & the classic track.

Staffing at NP was excellent. We were fortunate to hire a groomer & window person that were responsible, courteous & a pleasure to work with.

The addition of the weather station to our already excellent website is a luxury. Keith made the following recommendations for the 2008-2009 season:

- fundraising: continue to aggressively pursue government grants & requests for funding.

- website & promotion: prepare a promotional package to accompany Apex Alpine’s promos. We should have a couple of learn to ski programs with the community center early in the season. The 2 for 1 pass is not a good promotional tool.

- snowshoeing: find a trail & program coordinator, ensuring the trails are kept open & a snowshoeing program is developed.

- establish an equipment replacement account

Discussion ensued regarding Keith's suggestions. It was decided that a newsletter would be distributed by May 10 which would contain an appeal for grant expertise/help within the membership; call for volunteers to fill director/coordinator positions; Keith's message; a social recap by Esther; & a note that a work party schedule would be sent out at a later date via e-mail. Also, NP should consider sending a representative(s) to the ski show in Vancouver to promote bus tours.

LONG-TERM PLANNING

Mike noted that with the current operational structure of the club that a great deal of work is done by volunteers & that this way of operating may not be sustainable. He is suggesting a change from an executive/director run club to an executive/director who oversees club tasks that are coordinated & carried out by employees.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A nominating committee needs to work at filling the following vacant director positions:

- Public Relations
- Facilities
- Coaching
- Trails

BUDGET FOR NEXT SEASON

Mike stated that a working budget will be developed by next executive meeting.

Note: Add to AGM agenda bylaw amendment to allow NP to send electronic notification of AGM date, time & place.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 28, 2008 at 7pm

Moved by Dick & seconded by Tom that the meeting be adjourned.