

MINUTES OF NORTH BAY NORDIC BOARD MEETING ON FERUARY 13, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: 1902 hrs. Present: Andy Davies, Laure Larocque, Tom Cook, Gary Joduoin, Mike Johnston, Tanya Mccubbin, Kevin Stoppa, Kelly Wallace, Ian Fettes, Kelly O'Grady. Guests: John Halliday , Alyssa Stoppa.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Approved. Motion by Tom, seconded by Kelly W.

TRAILS REPORT: The land use permit has not yet been received despite follow up calls to the parks people. We now have agreements in place with both property owners that our trails cross. The St. Jean family settled for an annual payment of \$300. The reverse trails will run from Feb. 18 to Feb. 26. We will survey the membership in March to get feedback on its popularity. If we continue with the reverse trails we will need new signs for next year.

PROGRAMS: The Jackrabbit and associated programs are going well. Alyssa communicated to Hugh Cochrane the necessity of providing documentation so he can be paid for his coaching time.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: John Halliday gave a detailed presentation on how the club might get a permanent liquor license, including pros and cons. The board members felt the costs and requirements would be too onerous for a permanent license but we would be open to getting special occasion permits for functions we organize for our members as required. He also advocated for a warming hut out on the trails as a destination for our skiers. He mentioned that construction students at Canadore could construct the buildings for the cost of materials. The board felt that a warming hut would be a significant enhancement to our facilities. We will survey our members regarding this in the next newsletter as it will be a significant effort to organize (including negotiating with the park authorities).

SNOWSHOE TRAILS: The outer trail problem has been solved and the maps updated. Ninety snowshoe rentals have been made this year. Because of the demand 3 new pairs have been purchased. The snowshoe hot dog day was a success with many participants

NEWSLETTER: Board reports for March Newsletter should be to Kelly W. by Feb. 28. She will send out a news blast to clarify that the reverse trails days will be from Feb. 18 to 26.

SOCIAL MEDIA: We have been getting lots of traffic on Facebook and Instagram. We need to make sure the information on the club app is the same as on the website. Laure will contact Scott Clarke to do this. Tanya volunteered to monitor the club email to make sure communications are not ignored.

RENTAL EQUIPMENT: We have 110 pairs of boots and 100 pairs of skis. They are all aging. The boots have already been refurbished and most of the skis have little

camber. Tom has been in touch with the local retailers discussing options for buying new equipment but has not received detailed quotes as yet. Costs might be as high as \$25,000. The board felt that the equipment needed replacing but that perhaps a Trillium or other grant could be obtained.

SCHOOL LIASON: Two children were temporarily lost on the trails recently. Legally the teachers are responsible for supervision and the schools have releases signed by all the parents. The club is simply providing the facility. However we need to have a full list of all the children who are skiing. There will be increased requests for club members to help coach as the schools will want more adults to supervise in the future.

BUILDING AND PROPERTY: The water system has been functioning well for the last few weeks. As a precaution we will keep the outdoor toilets until after the last Jackrabbit day. We did not install new toilets because the cheap model's tanks were not much smaller than the ones we have. We do need a few bricks to put in the tanks we have to reduce the volumes. Marshalls well drilling was contacted and their only suggestion was to put a choke on the water supply, but this was unlikely to make a big difference. They did give a quote for a complete new well at \$10,800. A new garbage and recycling contract has been signed with Millers so we hope the quality of service will improve. Tom and his assistant revised the rental space to make the equipment more accessible for the staff and to free up more space for snowshoes. The board agreed that Tom's assistant should be paid for the time he committed. Thanks to Ian for bringing in kindling.

MEMBERSHIP: We have a few more members since last month. There are now lists of members who are interested in working on building and property and racing. The free rentals for members promotion has been almost too successful so next year we will bring it back in a modified form in that only a restricted number of rentals will be given to each member. The cut rate multi day passes that we offered over Christmas will be available over the March break as well

BROCHURES: These have now been printed and are in the clubhouse. Tom and Mike Ward volunteered to deliver supplies to appropriate locations around town.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Gary circulated reports to date. Despite a few significant unbudgeted expenses we are in a good financial position at present. He felt we needed a separate budget meeting to prepare for next year so it was decided to have it on Feb. 27.

SOCIAL: The Full Moon night was very well attended despite being held in a snow storm. Many rentals and trail passes were sold. Mike will hold another one on March 10 but he will need assistance in running it, especially if we have a clear night! Because of the cancellation of the winter triathlon on March 4, it was decided we would hold a low key Blue Sky Loppet on that date.

A.G.M. DATE: Wednesday May 24 at the Portage 6 PM with pizza and wings.

NEW BUSINESS: There is the possibility of holding a Fast and Female event locally. These are fun events begun by the Canadian Women's Cross Country Ski team to encourage women to compete in, and to stay in sports. It was felt to be a good project, possibly in cooperation with Nipissing

Holding the upcoming Midget championships was discussed. We felt that before we could consider this we needed an individual locally who would champion this event and bring a team together to run it. Unfortunately, it was not clear to the board who might be interested.

NEXT MEETING: Budget meeting Feb.27, 7 PM Gary Joduoin's house.

ADJOURNMENT: 2127 HRS