

Wells Gray Outdoors Club

General meeting minutes for

Tuesday June 2nd, 2015

7:00 pm at the Clearwater Search and Rescue Building

Present: President: Wes Bieber
Vice president: Dave Poole
Treasurer: Christine Graham
Secretary: Jen Belle
Directors: Charlotte Smith
Regrets: Hazel Wadlegger
Aaron Cooperman

1. Welcome:

Club president Wes Bieber gave a warm welcome, and then he called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. Agenda review:

The agenda was quickly reviewed by Wes with no additions made.

3. Finances:

Christine was available to bring those present up to date on our finances (up to April 30, 2015). Included in her financial report was a breakdown of what has been spent so far on the mountain bike trails and what has been granted to WGOC for this initiative thus far. To summarize things, the Club still has approximately \$7,129 remaining to be further invested in the trails.

Expenditures included mapping, tools, experts in the field, labour, and machine rental, and documentation among other minor expenses.

In order to apply for more grants we will require matching funds. This is something to keep in mind.

The Club spent slightly more than it has earned recently, but it does have some major projects on the go.

It was noted that the money promised by Elaine Gillette (to assist in diesel costs and operating expenses) has not yet been deposited to the best of Christine's knowledge. The only major deposits from the winter have been from memberships, trail fees, and Birchleg earnings. (After a quick review of minutes from the past months, it was found to have been recorded in the March 2015 meeting). Elaine has been incredibly supportive to the WGOC! If this cheque has not yet been deposited it will really turn the year overview around for the better.

The PB is going to need a major overhaul this fall, which will be quite costly but needed.

Insurance was a big expense this year as CCBC increased their rates drastically this past season.

4. New business:

a) Safety review/concerns:

There has been a safety incident or two along the public road en route to and from the Candle Creek trail system, in which a dog has been behaving inappropriately towards people on the street. Please note that this is a rural area and pets can be guardians, but perhaps not always understand the boundaries of their duty to protect. The owners were kindly responsive and have hopefully dealt with their pet accordingly and as they deem fit. Still, please be careful of all pets and wildlife you may encounter on your way to and back from the Mountain Bike Trails!

b) Facebook site:

Jen briefly updated those present with how administrators work on the WGOC Facebook site, to the best of her knowledge. It would make sense that administrators for the FB site be actual WGOC members if they are to be adding posts and whatnot to the site on behalf of the Club, so we will alter the administrators accordingly.

c) Trail systems:

The PB is currently at George and Kari's.

There was a mountain bike trail update from Aaron sent via e-mail, which I have simply pasted here as it was read aloud at the meeting.

UPDATE ON MTB TRAILS

1. May 24 Course

8 participants plus myself. Good mix of teens (3) and parents.
Worthwhile course. And grubbed 150 m of trail.
Good to see new people join up.

2. MTB Membership

7 new MTB memberships and \$110 collected in MTB fees.

3. Teens

Have 'worked' approx 25 hrs finishing first trail section.
Slowly gaining skills and working on time management skills!
Contract will end July 1.

4. Volunteer Building with Dan Muddimans Exc

Over the weekend and Monday 300 m of roughed in trail for approx 20 hrs on Dans exc.
Operators are Cam Mcintosh, Mike Arduini, and Aaron.
100 m finished by volunteers.
Approx 62 volunteer hours since May 24, including course.
Very convenient having access to Dan's mini exc when volunteers are available to operate it.
Definitely cost effective. Hope to finish the connecting loop to previous section built by contractor.

5. Outdoor Recreation Council (ORC) Grant, Deadline June 17.

Forwarded from Elaine.

This is a government grant intended for recreational trails under Section 56. Requires matching funds.

Candle Creek would be a perfect fit.

Does the WGOC have funds in addition to remaining MTB fund that be used as matching funds for application?

Wes - could you ask Elaine if she has any further funds that could be used for ORC grant?

ORC funds could be used to apply for WGCF in the fall grant cycle.

Thank you to Aaron for the update despite being out of town!

Wes has just learned of a possible grant that the Wells Gray Outdoors Club should apply for called the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program. The applications need to be in by the

17th of June. Thank you Elaine for making us aware of this grant! It is geared towards recreation trails and requires matching funds. If we are able to receive this grant (we'll try for \$10,000) we can then approach the Community Forest with \$20,000 to ask for a grant of the same amount. Volunteer hours can even be taken into consideration when applying.

Sabine will do her best with the application for the Club, so many thanks Sabine!

The remaining WGOC funds were reviewed once again to see if there were additional funds we could allot to the MBT initiative to round the numbers up a bit before applying for the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program grant.

Wes made a motion that in addition to the \$7,129 balance that we have determined to still be available to the mountain bike trails, that we top that up to \$10,000 using the \$2900 from our savings account, general funds, so that a \$10,000 amount can be used in the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program application. Jen Belle seconded the motion (milliseconds before Dave), and all those present were in favour of the motion.

We are planning a grand opening for the mountain bike trails on the 14th of June!! Aaron will be organizing this event, and will invite our financial sponsors, such as the District of Clearwater, the Community Forest Society, the TNRD (Carol Schaffer), and Elaine Gillette to name a few.

To clarify trail use, Club members do not need to pay a fee for using the mountain bike trails.

Membership is \$10. Otherwise a donation is requested in the donation box located next to the parking area.

d) Storage building:

Wes spoke with John White and although he is about 8 days behind with his schedule he is still lined up to do our foundation and help with the building erection. He has encountered this type of building before, and so will be quite knowledgeable. Late next week he will be putting forms up at Candle Creek to pour the foundation. The building pieces will be up at the site between the cabin and the C-can so that it's out of the way yet still available for measuring if need be. The 14th of June will be a grand organizing day, and the grand opening day for the mountain bike trails. Anyone available on the 14th of June to help unload and organize storage building pieces, are asked to meet up at the Candle Creek warming hut in the morning. A further e-mail will be sent with the time.

d) Other topics:

There were no additional topics.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday July 7th, 2015, at 7pm in the Search and Rescue Building.