

Wells Gray Outdoors Club

General Meeting minutes for

Tuesday March 1st, 2016

7:00 pm at the Clearwater Search and Rescue Building

Present: President: Dave Poole
Secretary: Jen Belle
Directors: Daniel Boudreau
Jean Nelson
Hazel Wadlegger

1. Welcome:

Club president, Dave Poole, gave a warm welcome to those present and called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Agenda review:

The agenda was quickly reviewed by Dave with two additions made. These items were **e) Grants**, and **f) Spring work bee**.

3. Finances:

Hazel updated those present on the Club's recent financial transactions.

4. Old business:

a) Action items:

Action items were reviewed. A new floor mat was tested for safety, but was mediocre, so the **search is on for a safer rubber mat**. Perhaps belting would work.

A snow roof rake has been purchased.

Volunteer hours are being submitted monthly and are being tracked for grant purposes.

5. New business:

a) Safety review/concerns:

A slippery floor sign will be purchased rather than laminating paper signs that need to be tacked to the door.

A "Ski at own risk" sign should be set up. Conditions are unpredictable at this time of year.

b) Trail committee:

Dave will only groom if the conditions decide to comply for once, however, our season may be near its end. The base has become quite thin.

The windup party for Rabbits is this upcoming Saturday, and it's a fun day. Whether the trails are groomed or not won't matter.

c) Rabbits program:

As mentioned previously, the final day for the Rabbits program will be on Saturday. Attendance has been good, and things have gone quite smoothly. Many of the Rabbits attended the Blue River cross-country ski race and performed quite well! We would like to thank Mike Wiegler, both for sponsoring this event, and for providing a superb feast (as always!).

There were 22 Rabbits students this year.

Raft River Elementary also supports learning to cross-country ski and has incorporated it into the school's curriculum.

Hazel is hoping to bring the coaching course to Clearwater, rather than having interested parties needing to travel elsewhere to take it.

d) Solar system setup:

After further research, we have made some changes in what we would like for our solar system setup. The one major alteration is in our battery choice. The sealed AGM batteries are highly recommended, but almost double the cost, however, this investment will pay for itself in the long run. **Community Forest grant applications need to be in by mid-April**, so we need to continue to be organized in this endeavour. Dave has a new quote which is inclusive of the new sealed AGM batteries.

An informational video has been sent so that we may see what the setup is like, and come up with any questions.

The WGOOC intends to use any harvested energy for simple applications, not to solve all of our energy problems. We have the portable generator to provide backup power as well.

A manager's cheque will be needed, but we will verify everything with our treasurer first, then proceed with ordering the solar system setup.

e) Grants:

Once we have ordered our solar system setup, we should be able to get a grant from the Community Forest to cover half of the expense.

Also, we did receive another grant from Elaine Gillette prior to her retirement, in the sum of \$4,100! Hazel had provided Elaine with a handful of Club invoices, including PB insurance, and fuel costs.

A luncheon in honour of Elaine took place, and was quite well attended. Elaine has proven to be a wonderful supporter to the Club, and we are truly grateful for her friendship and aid. Thank you Elaine!

Daniel Boudreau made the motion that Dave Poole be granted signing authority for the Wells Gray Outdoors Club. Jean Nelson seconded the motion, and all present concurred. The motion was carried.

Hazel would like to have the Club **apply for a grant in order to pay to have the Rabbits coaching course held here in Clearwater.** This would empower more people to be able to help with teaching.

It is believed that Sabine Cooperman is applying to MEC for financial assistance with the construction of mountain bike trails.

A major job of brushing needs to be done this year, so we need to keep in mind that we will need to apply for a grant for a proper brushing machine.

f) Spring work bee:

We will need to have a **spring work bee** to re-tighten the bolts on our new storage building, repaint the outhouses and perform any necessary repairs, plus fix the trail signs. April or May would probably be the best time for a work bee.

Another project that needs to be done is the archiving of the Wells Gray Outdoors Club's history; its involvement with the Loppets, the King Warming Hut, the Candle Creek trails and its warming cabin, and so on.

The general meeting for March 1st, 2016 was concluded at 7:52 p.m.

The next general meeting for the Wells Gray Outdoors Club will be held on April 5th, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wells Gray Search and Rescue building.