

Minutes
ACC-VI Executive Meeting
Thursday Jan 17 2013 at 7:30 p.m.
4675 Blenkinsop Rd, Victoria, BC

Brenda O'Sullivan, Catrin Brown, Chris Jensen, Geoff Bennett, Harry Steiner, Krista Zala, Martin Hofmann, Mike Hubbard, Phee Hudson, Rick Hudson, Russ Moir, Sandy Stewart

Call to Order

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved: *Mike*

Seconded: *Russ*

2. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2012

Proposed: *Phee*

Seconded: *Brenda*

Reports

1. **Treasurer: Phee**

Not much activity yet this year. The cost of the website hosting for two years is coming up (and is half the price of what it was). There were also some AGM expenses. Total \$600 spent so far this year.

2. **Schedule: Russ**

Some trip changes are coming in, but Russ is still looking for more, hoping to build on the momentum of the AGM discussion. *Russ* will talk to Christine about sending a reminder / plea to the membership.

3. **AGM: Catrin (event), Phee (expenses), Mike (election)**

An extremely successful weekend by any parameter : attendance (both number and diversity), facilities, activities, weather, camaraderie etc. 40 members stayed at the VIMC for the full weekend, and it is estimated that as many as 70 people attended the Saturday dinner and AGM.

There has been some brief discussion amongst a few members about whether there might be media interest in our centennial AGM and the *Climb the Island* project. *Rick* will contact Jack Knox and see whether this might have enough traction.

4. **Education: Harry**

- Members are signing up for AST 2 with Jan Neuspiel for later reimbursement; 5-6 are interested in further AST 1 and 2

- Mt Cain 2- 3 Feb AST workshop with Jan Neuspiel for kids is full; youth participants will be reimbursed half of course fees if they contribute with trail maintenance projects
- Introduction to backcountry skiing course was full
- 2 avalanche beacon weekends were held in November, and were very successful
- Stefan Gessinger is currently attending the TNF leadership course
- Avalanche beacon practice during AGM weekend was not well attended
- Harry is encouraging people from this weekend's course to think about leading trips, especially as there are not enough trips for beginners on the schedule
- Summer camp with kids is planned

5. **Access: Barb**

Barb submitted the following report by email:

"Island Timberlands blog has in fact, not been accurate this past few weeks. Seems to be some communication problem within the company. This weekend the subcontractor promises to have Cameron Main open. They are realizing how much use this road gets as an access to Cameron River, Arrowsmith, Moriarty etc. IT states that snow-covered roads are closed, although they know these are used all winter.

Timberwest in fact has no blog but does say *No Access* anywhere except for firewood cutting & maybe hunting. TW offers to consider "Land use applications " from organized groups, which is how CDMC manages to access Comox Lake area. Their outlay added to the annual application is \$ 500 annual fee and \$500 key deposit, schedule of the years' trips & destinations, waivers & proof of insurance. Drivers must have a "spill kit"and fire extinguisher; no substitute trips for weather etc. This amounts to an expenditure of over \$1000 for about 10 trips a year."

6. **Website: Martin**

The new website committee is forming with Dave McDowell, Greg Lawrance and possibly Martin Davis. They have several projects planned and will be meeting soon.

Old Business

1. **'Climb the Island': Catrin**

The project is complete and the year's accomplishments were celebrated after the AGM last Saturday evening. The *web committee* will consider the future of the software and possible developments such as incorporating the interactive map with the schedule, facility to upload GPS tracks etc.

2. **Ranger's cabin update: Rick**

After the full discussion at the AGM, the final draft of the proposal will go to Tawney Lem, Chair of SPPAC by 30 January. *Christine Fordham* will attend the meeting and answer questions.

3. **Centennial clothing order: Brenda**

Brenda notes her willingness to place a new order, if sufficient demand warrants this.

4. **Avalanche transceiver order: Brenda**

An order has been placed for 5 new transceivers for members.

5. **The Island Bushwhacker index/scan: Martin H, Krista**

Martin has scanned old Bushwhackers and updates back to 1989. These are now linked to the index that Judith Holm prepared and the database is live on the site. Martin is sincerely thanked for taking on this large task. *Rick* will write to Judith to inform her that the project is live and send her our warm gratitude for this significant offering to the section.

6. **Selling the section's EPIRB: Rick**

Rick tried to sell this item on Craig's list, with no luck. Mike will handle this now, as Rick will be away.

7. **Banquet: Catrin**

The cost of the buffet dinner has been increased by 10%, but we will keep the cost to members the same at \$35. Mary Sanseverino is confirmed as the after-dinner speaker.

Chris will research the cost of a wireless mic, which might be a useful addition to our lecture / slide show equipment.

8. **Rogers Pass summer camp: [Cedric]**

Rick reported for Cedric that there is a viable number of registrants, so this camp will go ahead.

9. **Griswold Pass summer camp and sub-committee: Rick**

Two weeks of the camp are now full and the 3rd week will take place.

Geoff reported that, following up on the motion passed at the AGM, he has lined up four volunteers for the camp committee: Colleen Kasting, Russ Moir, Liz Williams and Peggy Taylor. Brenda O'Sullivan agreed after the meeting to join this committee. Their brief is to take over the planning and organising of the camp for this year, and to plan future years. These individuals will not necessarily be the camp managers, but they could be. They will meet when Liz gets back to town. An early task is to use a weigh scale to determine the weight of the group gear. *Rick* and *Cedric* will pass on the information on the

camp organisation they have to date. *Geoff* will communicate the intent of the committee to Cedric as the mandate will include the hut-based camps.

10. **Addition to Woss Lake Park: Rick**

Rick has spoken to the Mayor of Tahsis, who has spoken to one of the six chiefs in the local band. Baby steps.

11. **Naming of McKelvie peaks: Lindsay/Rick**

There does not seem to be much interest from the section in naming the peaks around the McKelvie basin. The importance of working with the local native bands was recognised; Rick hopes to talk to the chiefs via the Tahsis mayor and find out what names may already exist in the area.

12. **FMCBC: Phee**

Jodi Appleton has informed Phee that the rebate of two years ago was for the future, not for the past, and that we need to pay back the rebate difference of \$1145. *Geoff* will double-check our payments over the last few years, and suggest whether this seems correct.

Post-script: Geoff and Phee determined that we did in fact owe the arrears, and by email vote by 23 January, the executive agreed to make good this debt to the FMCBC.

13. BMFF ticket price: Geoff

Motion: *"Move that we raise the ticket price by \$1 from November 2013"*

Proposed: Geoff Bennett

Seconded: Mike Hubbard

The reasons given were as follows:

- it is our prime money raiser
- the festival has been sold out for many years - approx. 950 seats
- the ticket price has been \$20 since 2005
- the actual cost is \$22.50 with UVic handling fee (since 2010) + mailing fee \$1.75
- advice has been to raise ticket prices steadily rather than steeply

This would increase our revenue by \$900 - \$1000.

Discussion included:

- the fact that we don't need to raise more money
- the advertising budget will be reduced next year so our profit will increase anyway
- we could possibly increase the number of tables and the social aspect before the show
- Vancouver section BMFF tickets are \$12 and Reel Rock is \$15

Not carried.

New Business

1. Spending limits: Rick

Rick cautioned that we should be careful how we spend money and be courteous to advise the executive of more than \$50 spent if no budget. Previous guidance on the business plan was for amounts up to \$250. Discussion included comments that \$50 is a very low amount, and that we do not want to stifle initiative.

2. Posting minutes to website: Catrin/Martin

This has been done since the last meeting and is now our policy. *Cedric* has been asked to change the template on the Newsletter from minutes “available from the librarian” to “minutes available on our website”.

3. Using the VI Mountain Centre more often: All

The VIMC offers us potential for gatherings during the year. Harry is interested in using it as a base for courses, and the possibility of a summer barbecue was discussed.

4. Making newcomers more welcome: Brenda

Brenda expressed concern, mainly from the AGM weekend, that we could do more to welcome new members. Suggestions included:

- Name tags at events such as the Swan Lake slide show
- More structured social time such as wine and cheese gathering at the AGM
- Sign-ups for activities during the AGM weekend
- Check whether *Christine* does or could send a welcome message to new members when they join
- Harry has done a slide show with names of participants on his courses and will add to this

5. Buying new gear [SPOT, VHF radio]: Mike

Mike has received two emails since the AGM in response to ideas for new gear purchases:

- 1) 2 satellite phones
- 2) Go-pro camera.

Mike does not support either request. Discussion followed about the relative costs of buying vs hiring satellite phones, and it was agreed for our purposes renting is preferable. VHF radios are not considered worthwhile for our activities.

Harry suggested the purchase of 3 Petzl harnesses, which are universally sized, to add to the section gear, and he will advise Mike of details. This purchase is approved by the executive.

6. Protocols/ procedures for executive absence: Catrin

This is another strand of the discussion about communication amongst and from the executive, which took place in the last meeting. It was suggested that executive members be (more) explicit in establishing who will carry their responsibilities during their absence, and communicate this clearly. *Russ* agreed to take Minutes during *Catrin's* absence, and *Rick* will speak to *Cedric* about standing in as Chair during his absence and communicate this.

7. Christmas party (?): Catrin

We could consider reinstating a Christmas celebration, possibly a December replacement for the January social we used to hold at Tom Hall's home. This might be in place of the December slide show at Swan Lake.

8. Having a rental dehydrator: Brenda

Brenda proposed that the section buy a dehydrator for shared use. She distributed an information sheet on a possible model from Lee Valley, which, with trays will cost about \$100. The executive voted its agreement with this addition to our rental gear. *Brenda* to pursue.

9. New IBW editor: Sandy

Happily for us, *Cedric* has agreed to take over the editor's role, when *Sandy* steps down after this year. He will be working with *Sandy* over the next few months, and they will determine what software he may choose to use. *Sandy* is hoping for a major edition of the Bushwhacker 2012 as his swansong, and to celebrate the high activity over our centennial year. To date he is overwhelmed by the volume of submissions, and everyone is encouraged to try and expedite the articles from members.

10. Any other new business:

a) *Geoff* confirmed the deadline for applications for the memorial fund is 31 January and that to date he has received no applications.

b) *Krista* asked whether our investments are in line with our mission to protect mountain environments and cultures. *Geoff* will investigate and report back.

c) *Krista* asked about the MEC discount nights; the Christmas event did not occur but it is hoped there will be an evening in May.

Next Meeting

Wednesday 27 February 2013 7.30 pm (note change of date from web schedule)

Venue: Russ Moir's home, Nancy Hanks Street.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9.30 pm

Proposed Mike Hubbard.