

Draft Minutes ACCVI Executive Meeting 11 Mar 2024 by Zoom

Present: (12) Dave Suttill, David Lemon, Christine Fordham, Gordon Kyle, Mike Hubbard, Becky Noble, Catrin Brown, Garth Stewart, Barb Baker, Janelle Curtis, Josh Slatkoff, Chad Kutunar*

(*only briefly ~ 20 min. in car driving).

Meeting called to order by David at 7:08pm (after brief introductions for new exec members)

1. Adoption of Agenda

Changes to agenda: Add trailrider to equipment (Barb)

Memorial Youth Grant – adjusting amount? (Garth)

Motion: That the agenda be adopted with above noted change. Moved: Mike Secoded; Garth – motion carried.

2. Adoption of minutes of Exec Meeting of 15 Jan 2024

Motion: Adoption of minutes of Exec Meeting of 15 Jan 2024.

Moved: Catrin Secoded: Mike - Motion carried.

3. Matters Arising (Various exec members)

Vacancies on education committee – would be useful for everyone ot know who's on what committee (Christine). Summer Camp committee is Rachel & Chad. Rachel expresses concern about summer camp getting off the ground at present. Need all hands on deck. Not functional now. A lot of work.

Leadership/Education committee (Christine): vacant now, need some new ideas, new people. Dave Suttill's name put forward, he's not in a position to help right now. Sheila – member at large. Mike said he hasn't heard from her.

Chad joined late (~7:17pm). Driving in car now going to hockey (?). Doesn't have update on summer camp committee now. Working long hours. Hoping to connect with Rachel soon. Chad says he is only present for half hour.

Catrin: willing to be on leadership committee? Agrees we need someone to step forward. Important component. Send out an email to gauge willingness to step up.

Rachel: doesn't know a lot of membership, but if others could reach out to people, might help.

Hut Committee? Reasonably populated? No report tonight due to Martin being away.

Other big gap is the youth problem. Rachel said, talking to Andrew Salmon – he said he'd be interested in 2025, to align with his children's age. He is thinking not quite yet. Catrin: not as worried about this one since children's programs doing okay, generally.

David: if anyone knows anyone who could fill vacancies, please ask. Any further ideas to address these gaps? None at this time.

Meeting progress? Votes by email. Idea is to circulate by email and ratify those at next meeting.

What about members of exec who do not show up to meetings? Vote? Maybe no. (David) Some people don't want to come to meetings, only want to do the work (Catrin). That's fine but de facto can't vote if no show at meetings.

4. Finance Update (Garth)

a. 2024 budget

Documents on discourse, shows fiscal year (calendar year), profit and loss, budget vs. actual.

No surprises, BMFF did very well. Everything else, no surprises. The biggest disappointment is lack of membership dues coming in from National. Has been an ongoing issue for all of 2023 and continues this year. Nothing much new aside from income from BMFF.

Overall, healthy looking bottom line. 😊

b. memorial fund 2024 young grant

Did everyone get Geoff's email re: exec voting on youth grant by next Sunday March 17? Asking for addition to youth grant up to an additional \$800 bump (from \$1,000) – total \$1,800. Money not in the budget, but we do have the money to cover it.

Everyone should approve/vote on increase to youth grant and if so, by how much.

David: we have two issues – (1) Approve applicant, and (2) approve increase.

Side discussion about who made the request to increase grant to \$1,800. Janelle made the suggestion and Geoff forwarded the idea to rest of exec. If we have the money and have a strong application, why not give the full amount? Maybe the grant has been \$1,000 for a number of years, might be time for an increase (Josh). COL index and inflation. \$1k doesn't go as far in 2024 as it did in previous years.

Christine: maybe the applicant(s) should have some skin in the game. If applicant didn't ask, why offer? Rachel: What about splitting the difference?

Christine: in order to encourage more leadership, perhaps this is a useful use of extra funds?

Garth likes Josh's idea of increasing annually to setup with inflation. If we increase the budget to \$1,400, the bulk would come out of memorial fund grant with top up from the general budget.

Garth: motion to approve section to fund the youth grant up to \$1,500 going forward
Moved: Garth seconded: Mike. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the application for this year's Youth Memorial Grant. Moved:
Garth – for exec to approve Seconded: Mike. Motion carried.

(Wrap up discussion)

David: should display on website and more widely distribute, and move deadline to end of March to give people more chance to apply. There was an extended deadline on Facebook announcement, and there was an email notice sent out.

Catrin: disappointed by lackluster publicity – needs to be a lot more for next year.

Barb: asking if funds could be used for education course? No. There is a separate budget for that. Leadership subsidies. Underutilized but generous (Garth).

5. National Club Update (Christine)

a. This year the North Face Summer Leadership course is running – part of GMC. Applications are open now until May. Last year they had problems filling it, didn't run at all – so if everyone could help spread the word. They are talking about not running it again this year. Will advertise in newsletter. There is also a webinar tomorrow night.

b. There have been a couple section lotteries going from National – next summer (2024) is for Elizabeth Parker Hut. Winter lotteries wasn't so great. (Josh: no one is willing to pay a year in advance with no refund. It's unreasonable. Grant: As opposed to private sector, where policies are flexible, e.g. full payment due 30 days before).

6. Communications (Josh)

a. Replacement for tiny letter = "Brevo" = sending out emails through this service. Backup point of contact if Josh is away is Janelle. David, Catrin, Janelle, Josh have access too. Two emails went out today. Some have received them, some not. Maybe some glitches. Unknown. Membership credentials up-to-date? Josh getting email contacts from current membership list.

b. Janelle: newsletter and Island Bushwhacker. Nothing much to say about newsletter. First thing noteworthy: working on drafting a land acknowledgement. We discussed during diversity, equity, inclusion session. Also inspired by UNDRIP (*United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*) to address this in acknowledgement section of Bushwhacker. Have drafted a few paragraphs, actively working on. In touch with Geoff Bennett, Catrin, and David Lemon. This falls outside Janelle's area of knowledge. Welcoming others to share thoughts with her over next week. Would be happy to circulate a working draft before it goes to press.

Catrin: reluctant to have separate acknowledgement for each article. Could get tricky, who are we acknowledging etc?

Discussion about unceded vs ceded territory. How accurate should we be, some are saying it is better to have a more general statement so as not to cause problems.

Feel free to email Janelle with any questions or comments.

We should start asking trip report writers to add an acknowledgement to their report, but not insist that it's mandatory. Make it part of the guidelines?

What about doing the same for the IBA? For example, incorporate into autumn newsletter.

Only has 11 articles left... total page number 100-110 pages. A little less than last year (~152 pages) so maybe reduce costs. Any volunteers to proof read? Catrin volunteered.

Printing mailing address? Josh will do again this year and will send out request for people to make orders.

David: should we change price for printed edition this year? Catrin: leaning towards keeping at same price to encourage wider circulation. Agreed by others. It's a nominal price right now.

Garth: maybe shop around this time. Cheaper printing than Island Blue Print?

Can Garth receive e-transfer for orders? No problem. Auto-deposit.

Anyone willing to pick up and mail out, roughly around May? Garth is happy to jump in on that? David might be able to help, put together team.

People (hard core collectors) appreciated the "do not bend" stickers on mailouts.

7. Equipment (Mike)

Preamble, Tom was storing everything. Table, equipment, gear for summer camp. Tom is no longer able to do. Not happy with people coming by willy nilly to pick up for other activities, Wheeler Hut, etc.

Lyle Young offered to look after and store at his place in Cobble Hill. For \$150/month, he could provide a storage container and keep at his place. He is asking for 4 year contract, and wants half to be paid in advance. \$3,600 lump sum, then \$150/month going forward.

Some were uncomfortable with members doing it... but Lyle is not a member now. Hasn't been for some time.

Mike is proposing we accept his offer. Resolution from discourse (Mike).

Garth has a few questions. The \$3,600 requested is in the current (approved) budget. So we have the money. It's also below market value. From financial perspective it's a good idea. It's also slightly north of GVR and thus more accessible for folks north of Victoria.

Concerns are that four years is a lot of time. Catrin: we should stop referring to the gear as summer camp gear, should be broader – “base camp” gear.

Barb: could also store hut equipment and trailrider.

Catrin: what about insurance for gear? Mike: gear is currently uninsured, the draft agreement said Lyle would be responsible for container, we would be responsible to insure gear. Perhaps a question for the future on purchasing insurance for gear.

Lyle indicated storage container would be watertight and vented.

Mike's proposal to enter into four year contract with Lyle per draft agreement posted on Discourse. Motion: Mike Seconded; Christine – motion carried.

8. Access (Barb)

Doesn't have much to say that hasn't been previously said in reports at AMG. Cottonwood Access is ready to go. Instructions online. Access to Mt. Adder is still hampered by rockfall. Work on Marion FSR will start in spring 2024 and go on for several years.

Christine: National working on statement, will be going to everyone in club, essentially we're going to ask for meeting with Provincial Minister Nathan McCullum (sp?). The right to walk respectfully in Crown land, “right to roam” back but worded differently.

Barb: trailrider – someone asked if trailrider can be rented? Trailrider address on website doesn't go to anyone. Being stored by Caroline (last name?). Question is – would we rent to someone? We haven't discussed this in recent years.

Maybe we should come up with some guidelines for using it. At the moment it's a waste, not being used. So if Alberni Outdoor Club wants to use it, no reason not to.

Should be a waiver release to rent? Yes. Need someone to coordinate use.

Barb will lend the trailrider to Outdoor Club in Port Alberni. No fee but release. User and outdoor club should sign a waiver. If disabled users taking it out, risk. Mike has a waiver – possibly tweak/customize for this purpose. Becky will take a look at Mike's precedent.

9. Summer Camp (Rachel/Chad)

(Chad K. had left the call at this point).

Update from Rachel: We haven't made progress. Haven't met or spoken since January, other than agreeing to work together. Have spoken with Laura re: info, maps, everything camp-related.

Logistics, inventory gear, etc. Concerned about work load and getting it off the ground.

Garth: use of Crown land and permits we've applied for. At best, it's in a state of flux. A lot of media coverage re: land use agreements. Government consulting with public. Garth doesn't see Gov/front counter processing applications at all.

Rachel: they've indicated they're proceeding on triage basis re processing application, prioritizing the south coastal region.

Suspects we're a good month away from confirming it's happening/not happening. So many tasks involved, logistics, camp leaders, transporting gear.

Maybe Chad doesn't understand the work involved. Seems to have bitten off more than he can chew. Unresponsive to emails and phone calls for the most part.

This ties in with need for section help on many levels.

Christine will volunteer to host meeting to recruit others – Rachel will join.

Barb: maybe this year the trip should be more modest, local, less logistically complex and not on Crown land. Engage with First Nations locally where perhaps we have established relationship.

Catrin: what about a private camp? More expensive but could help get section camp happening this year. Heli access and rustic in beautiful locations.

Any particular locations? Rockies – Campbell?

Strathcona Park – lots of accessible locations. Buttle Lake group campsite or Ralph River (maybe individual only)? Or Chicoltins? Across from Squamish, Lake Lovely water? Tantilus Hut. Also the one the Whistler section has, Wendy Thompson hut.

A hut-based trip would eliminate a lot of the complications.

Umbrella website: backcountry lodges of BC.

Wrapping up discussion on this issue: Rachel will look at any/all suggestions from others (by email) over the next week and research those suggestions.

11. BCMFF

Joanna wasn't able to be here tonight, not a lot to report at this point in the year (i.e. for 2025). Aside from this comment, no report.

12. Hišimýawił

No report.

13. Other Business (David)

- a. Don Forest award to Laura. Does someone have a suitable photo for her so it can be a surprise?
- b. CragX is willing to give access to section, third Wednesday each month. Next is March 20. Reduced fee. Official representative?
- c. Christine: Also if anyone is interested in doing a night at MEC, discount? Someone will need to organize it (? Secretary is unclear what MEC night is).

14. Next Meeting (David)

Set for April 16 at 7:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 pm