

Minutes – Executive Meeting of the Kootenay Mountaineering Club



Tuesday September 15, 2015 at Castlegar Rec Centre

Present: Doug Clark, Ross Bates, Leon Arishenkoff, Peter Oostlander, Tim Clinton, Chris Cowan, Peter Jordan and Dan Derby.

Regrets: Jocelyn LaFace, P'nina Shames, Laurie Helyer and Graham Jamin.

Meeting commenced at 6:41 pm

1) Approval of Agenda – succession planning was added to the agenda under New Business. Approval of agenda moved by; Peter Oostlander and seconded by Ross Bates, motion carried.

2) Approval of April 15, 2015 Minutes – moved by Tim Clinton and seconded by Leon Arishenkoff, motion carried.

3) Review of Old business

- a) **Trail Access** – Leon Arishenkoff, deferred major purchases of equipment until new Trail Access Director is elected.
- b) **Membership committee/data base** – written report submitted by Jocelyn Laface, I have set an out of office message on membership Gmail so that people know that if they need an immediate response to contact another Director. While away I will try and log in each week to respond to emails and send out the welcome message to new members. Tim is working on automating the welcome message so hopefully going forward we will be able to do this so that the welcome message goes out instantly. We were up to 383 as of August 21st.
 - Valhalla Pure New Denver location inquired about 10% discount for KMC members, Doug Clark to follow up.
- c) **Friends of Rossland Range, Lepsoe Cabin** – written report submitted by Dave Watson “...thanks to the full sponsorship and support of the Kootenay Mountaineering Club, volunteer KMC members and friends are building a timber frame cabin on the north face of Mt. Lepsoe (very difficult work site but what a view). We were also fortunate to receive donations and discounts from K2 Contracting Rossland, Hamill Creek Timber Homes, Maglio Building Center Trail, Chinook Scaffold and K & M Contracting Rossland. Among our volunteers are timber framers, carpenters, engineers, designers and all around good hard working team members. So far we’ve had 20 individual volunteers with hours from conception to date totaling 1245. We have built the foundations, subfloor, finished floor, completed timber joinery, erected the timber frame and are currently doing the roofing. Over the next 2 - 3 weeks we will close in the cabin in, install the woodstove and chimney, apply cedar siding, build and stock a woodshed have a party and finally go skiing (it was snowing on site this past Friday, Sept 4th).

We have also received the outhouse, donated by the Ministry of Forests, Recreation Sites and Trails Branch, and completed the installation...”

4) New Business

- a) **New Web Server** – Tim Clinton, we are moving away from KICS as our web host as they have provided notice that they will no longer be providing this service in the future. Our new web host is Webnames.ca. With this move Tim have secured a new web name/address "kootenaymountaineeringclub.ca" for the club. He is also working on a new Secure Socket Layer (SSL) for our PayPal account that would allow us to develop a new account. There are challenges with these changes and our email distribution list that he is working thru.
- b) **Email List Rules** – Doug Clark, circulated the following proposed list of email etiquette rules to the executive prior to the meeting. It was agreed that Doug would write an email etiquette article for the newsletter and Summer/Winter Trips Directors would include the rules in their schedules and instructions for trip leaders in the future.
- i) KMC Membership mail out may be used in the following circumstances:
- By Trip Leader for initial invitation for KMC trip, usually circulated 7-10 days in advance.
 - By members if significant access issues are discovered on trails or access to trails.
 - By Executive to advise of KMC functions
 - By Executive to advise on issues/concerns it deems sufficiently important that all members be informed.
- Member response to above should be restricted to 'reply' and not 'reply all', unless there is an urgent reason to inform all members.
- ii) If a member believes an issue/concern warrants email distribution to the membership, it should first be referred to Executive for vetting.
- c) **Alpine Club of Canada** – Doug Clark, ACC President contacted Doug to discuss benefits of KMC becoming a local section of the ACC and the history of the two clubs. Benefits highlighted;
- Professional staff support
 - Staff hired to provide cabin maintenance
 - Courses (?)
 - Climbing (?)
 - \$20 membership including insurance
- There was no interest from the executive in pursuing becoming a local section of the ACC at this time.
- d) **FMCBC Trails Upgrade** – Doug Clark, FMCBC is asking for southern interior clubs to recommend needed trail upgrades in their club's region, for which the FMCBC would help to obtain funding for upgrades. See following excerpt from Jodi Appleton's email: "...Over the next few months we'll be asking our southern interior clubs to let us know what are some important trails in their region that are in urgent need of upgrading. With this information FMCBC will begin seeking ways to start improving these trails in partnership with our clubs. The FMCBC's role will be mainly to assist with fundraising and grant seeking for trail projects. If there's a trail in your area which your club would like to see improved please bring these ideas to the (October 17th) meeting..."

The following trails were identified;

- Lemon creek to Sapphire lakes

- Wolf's peak
- Robertson basin
- Lost mountain

- e) **Succession Planning** – the executive had a group discussion about potential candidates for President Clark to contact to fill positions at our upcoming AGM on November 20 , 2015. Executive committee members are encouraged to recruit candidates for the executive.

The following positions are up for election this year;

- President
- Vice President
- Hiking Camp – Director
- Equipment and Trails – Director
- Mountaineering School – Director
- Newsletter – Director
- Membership – Director

5) Executive Reports

- a) **President** – Doug Clark, requested Directors to submit their 2015 annual reports to him by October 31, 2015 for the President's address at the November 20, 2105 AGM.
- b) **Treasurer** – Ross Bates, accounting for the hut reserve has been updated to account for the new agreement allowing KMC to spend up to 30% of the income on related expenses (trails, training) with the remaining 70% restricted to direct hut expenses.
- c) **Membership** – Jocelyn LaFace, We were up to 383 as of August 21st.
- d) **Secretary** – Dan Derby, no report
- e) **Social** – Laurie Helyer and P'nina Shames, Fall Social/Gear Swap will be October 16, 2015 at the Resker Hall and AGM will be November 14, 2015 at the Black Rooster Super 8 Hotel and Conference Room 651 18th St. Castlegar, BC.
- f) **Huts** – Graham Jamin provided the following written report;
Cabins, it has been a very full, very busy summer, but managed to get all the cabins cleaned, the cabin amenities all checked and replaced as needed, wood stocked for the winter and some trail work done. This year volunteer help was provided through family and friends as I was not able to plan far enough in advance to get it posted and organized as a club trip.

The old skidder roads heading up to the ridge above Grassy and into Huckleberry have become increasingly overgrown with slash alder making both summer and winter access more and more difficult. We were able to clear close to half of the worst of it at Grassy and a good start up at Huckleberry this year and will finish up the rest next year. Also continued to flag and clear the access path from North Munson Rd to Steed. A light brushing next year should finish it up.

Short Term Goals

One of the goals I had for this summer was to work with the different ministries involved and local snowgoer groups to provide some form of security for the Bombi and Puerto Rico parking lots. With winter quickly approaching I think the best we can accomplish this year is at least develop a plan of action for next spring.

The other short term goal for the next couple of years will be to continue clearing the access into the cabins. Over the years firewood use is increasing because of numbers using the cabins, as well, it is becoming more and more distant from the cabins so building ATV access to firewood is also on the list.

Long Term Plan

Regarding the long term vision for the Bonnington Huts. Yes, I strongly support the club putting some thought and direction into what is the clubs interest and long term vision.

The cabins had been initially built and used by a strong interest in the club for overnight access into the Bonnington. With the booking system they opened up to more of a regional interest which over the years has now grown into an international interest. Overall the cabin usage has significantly increased on all levels, except by club members. KMC club trips utilizing the cabins have been steadily declining over the years.

I personally enjoy going up and maintaining the cabins and use them for club trips as well as personal bookings, but feel that for the majority of club members, the cabins have little value. Therefore it would be great to look beyond my commitment to this and get an understanding of what the club wants to do.

g) **Newsletter** – Tim Clinton, no report

h) **Mountaineering School** – Peter Oostlander,

- 26 members attended Map and Compass course put on by President Clark
- 9 members attended Ice Axe and Crampon course with Summit Mountain guides
- 10 members attended Crevasse Rescue/Snow Anchor course with Summit Mountain guides

It was suggested that Weather School and Trip Leader Orientation courses be put on in the future.

i) **Conservation** – Peter Jordan,

- Proposed heli-ski for the west and south borders of Kokanee Glacier Park is in the media. Media is quoting some of KMC's submissions.
- Eco society contacted Peter to discuss areas of common interest and cohosting socials in the future.
- FMCBC meeting October 17th in Kelowna is anyone interested in attending this Southern Interior regional meeting on behalf of the club, Doug or Chris to attend.

j) **Hiking Camp** – Leon Arishenkoff, all 3 camps were full and went well. Helicopter costs were under budget. Next year will be in the East Kootenays. Hiking camp committee meets in late October to wrap up 2015 hiking camp.

k) **Trail Access** – Leon Arishenkoff, Chris Cowan has agreed to store tools and equipment until a new Equipment and Trials Director is confirmed at the AGM.

l) Trips

i) **Winter Trip Report** – Chris Cowan, will be starting the winter trip solicitation process soon.

ii) **Summer Trip Schedule** – Peter Oostlander, summer trip schedule is out now.

- 699 participants on trips including 29 non members
- 670 total members on trips
- 69 trips scheduled
- 6 cancelled trips

6) Motion to adjourn meeting by Peter Oostlander at 8:25 pm, next meeting is the AGM Friday, November 20, 2015 in Castlegar.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Derby, Secretary, Kootenay Mountaineering Club.