



Minutes – Executive Meeting of the Kootenay Mountaineering Club

Tuesday January 27, 2016 at Castlegar Rec Centre

Present: Doug Clark, Sandra Fuller, Ross Bates, Jocelyn LaFace, Laurie Helyer, Leon Arishenkoff, Phil Best, Peter Oostlander, Tim Clinton, Chris Cowan, Peter Jordan and Dan Derby. Graham Jamin joined the meeting at 6:49pm.

Regrets: none

Meeting commenced at 6:34 pm

1) Approval of Agenda – Approval of agenda moved by; Peter Oostlander and seconded by Chris Cowan, motion carried.

2) Approval of September 15, 2015 Minutes – moved by Peter Oostlander and seconded by Laurie Helyer, motion carried.

3) Review of Old business

- a) Doug has been unsuccessful contacting the New Denver Valhalla location to secure 10% discount for KMC members due to winter store closure. Gerick Sports in Trail now offers 10% discount to our members.
- b) **New Web Server** – no update.
- c) **Email etiquette** – Doug Clark, The newsletter had an explanation of the email etiquette rules.

4) New Business

- a) Canadian Avalanche Association membership – budget includes \$200 annually to renew membership.
- b) Exec schedule – revised schedule was circulated for executive.
- c) Kinnaird Bluffs - \$57K, Climbing Access Society of BC – Peter Jordan provided an update. The TAWKROC group is forming a society to be able to purchase the land. **Motion:** that the KMC will match donations that KMC members donate to TAWKROC towards the purchase of the Kinnaird Bluffs up to a total of \$1,000 – moved by Peter Oostlander and seconded by Tim Clinton, motion carried.
- d) Friends of Rossland Range, Lepsoe Basin Cabin, commemorative Plaque – Doug Clark will draft proposed wording and circulate to executive.
- e) Winter Trips Director Replacement – **Motion:** That Phil Best be appointed as the Winter Trips Director to replace Chris Cowan for the remainder this year – moved by Doug Clark and seconded by Chris Cowan, motion carried.

- f) Kokanee Ski Week Procedures – Chris Cowan circulated draft Kokanee Ski Week participant and Winter Trip Director protocols (see attached). After discussion it was decided that a requirement of KMC membership should be added to be consistent with Hiking Camp. Chris Cowan and Phil Best to review input from executive and bring back to a future meeting.
- g) Advanced Booking of Trips – after some discussion it was decided that Chris Cowan would draft a guideline for trip notices encouraging trip leaders to not take advance booking of trips i.e. no sign up till leader sends out notice of trip.
- h) Backcountry Ski Hut Tenure Application – Peter Jordan submitted tenure proposal comments on behalf of the KMC. No further action required at this time.
- i) KMC Embroidered Badges Order – **Motion:** to order 300 KMC embroidered badges – moved by Peter Oostlander and seconded by Sandra Fuller, motion carried.

5) Executive Reports

- a) **President** – Doug Clark reported club is receiving requests for new hut funding from other people/organizations. The club will have to consider if and how it will support these requests, as well as the future needs of the Bonnington Huts.
- b) **Vice President** – Sandra Fuller participated in FMCBC conference call. FMCBC is promoting all clubs use the best practice for online waivers developed by them.
 - FMCBC is willing to help prepare clubs' grant funding applications.
- c) **Treasurer** – Ross Bates is consolidating some of the reserve accounts to tidy up reporting in next year's budget.
- d) **Membership** – Jocelyn LaFace, we are at 229 members as of January 27, 2016. Reminder email went out earlier this month, will send updated membership list to Eric Ackerman for Hiking Camp registration to show who was a member January 31, 2016. Discussed membership dues and deferred topic till September meeting.
- e) **Secretary** – Dan Derby, no report
- f) **Social** – Laurie Helyer has started planning for May 27th social. Any ideas for a speaker can be sent to Laurie.
- g) **Huts** – Graham Jamin discussed some ideas for new huts or rebuilding Bonnington huts. He recommends the KMC get a seat at the table with Justin Dexter's proposal to develop a management plan. Doug to set up meeting between executive and Justin Dexter. (*Note: this has been set for March 1st @ Castlegar Forestry office.*)
- h) **Newsletter** – Tim Clinton, short discussion on frequency of newsletter. Tim feels strongly that 4 newsletters per year is an appropriate number and encourages members to contribute informative trip reports.
- i) **Mountaineering School** – Peter Oostlander, provided the following report;
 - 1) Canadian Red Cross Wilderness and Remote First Aid - November 6, 7 & 8, 2015 – 3 members attended
 - 2) Introduction to Digital Navigation - November 21, 2015 2 sessions: 26 members attended. Excellent course with tons of useful tips for those that were savvy with GPS and computer.
 - 3) Companion Rescue & Refresher course – Dec 12, 2015: 8 participants. Received very positive feedback.

- 4) Introduction to back country skiing trip - Sunday December 13, 2015: very successful with 13 participants. Everyone on this trip had a blast due to 29cm of fresh untracked snow on Mt Crowe!
- 5) Intermediate Backcountry Ski Trip - Saturday, January 16, 2016: this trip was fully booked with 10 participants plus 3 leaders
- 6) Introduction to Digital Navigation REPEAT - Sunday, January 17, 2016 2 sessions; one AM with 10 members; one PM group with 7 members booked
- 7) AST 1 on snowshoes – January 30-31, 2016 – 9 signed up
- 8) AST 2: January 29-31 – one signed up

j) **Conservation** – Peter Jordan, no report.

k) **Hiking Camp** – Leon Arishenkoff, applications rolling in. Water supply may be a concern at the current location.

l) **Trail Access** – Chris Cowan, see attached report.

m) **Winter Trips** – Chris Cowan, see attached report.

n) **Summer Trips** – Peter Oostlander – no report.

6) Motion to adjourn meeting by Phil Best at 9:10 pm, next Exec meeting is April 13, 2016 in Castlegar.

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

Kokanee Ski Week Protocols. (for distribution to Participants)

The ski week currently has places for 15 skiers.

Everyone should be an experienced back country skier and have at least AST1 or equivalent, and be properly equipped as outlined in the ACC guidelines.

Late January: Invitations to the lottery are sent out. A cheque for 20 percent of full fee, received by the announced closing date, (in early march) shall be considered an application. If insufficient numbers are received, another announcement shall be sent out, and approximately a week allowed to elapse (announce date) before another lottery is held.

Normally we apply for the second week in February, but this is subject to a lottery held by the ACC if more than one group wants the desired week. In the past, we have been generally successful in getting the week we want.

Early March. Lottery shall be held. Anyone that was unsuccessful in the previous year's lottery shall be selected first.

All applicants will be notified of their place in the lottery. First 15 will be chosen. (respecting previous line, if applicable)

The **balance of the payment** shall come due in **early October**.

In event of cancellation after deposit is paid, but **before full fee comes due**, cancellation fee of \$50 shall apply. When a replacement is found (order is in the lottery), Replacement person shall pay a deposit cheque to the KMC. Deposit refunds (less \$50 cancellation fee) shall be given to the person who cancels, as soon as practicable after the full payment has been made to the ACC near the end of the year.

In the event of cancellation due to emergency, after full amount is paid. – Participant will be responsible for finding a replacement. Money can be given to the participant by the replacement person. The winter trips director **may** help with this, but no guarantees are given.

On Site co-ordinator: needs to be chosen from within the group 6 weeks before event. See ACC procedures.

Kokanee Ski Week Protocols. (for the Winter Trips Director)

The ski week currently has places for 15 skiers.

Everyone should be an experienced back country skier and have at least AST1 or equivalent, and be properly equipped as outlined in the ACC guidelines.

Late January: Send out Invitations to the lottery for the following year. A cheque for 20 percent of full fee, received by the announced closing date, (in March) shall be considered an application. If insufficient numbers are received, another announcement shall be sent out, and approximately a week allowed to elapse (announce date) before holding another lottery if necessary.

Feb 15. Let the ACC know which week we want, normally the second week in February.

Early March. Lottery shall be held. Anyone that was unsuccessful in the previous year's lottery shall be selected first, if they still want to go.

All applicants will be notified of their place in the lottery. First 15 will be chosen. (respecting previous line, if applicable)

Deposit of 20 percent due to ACC March 15.

Early October. Notice shall be to participants that balance is due.

Balance due by November 1. Cheque from KMC treasurer to the ACC for the balance in mid November. Destroy deposit cheques of unsuccessful applicants.

In event of cancellation, before final payment has been made, cancellation fee of \$50 shall apply. Deposit cheque shall be collected from the replacement, or in the case of a late replacement, the full amount after early October.

Cancellation due to emergency, after full amount is paid. – Participant will be responsible for finding a replacement. Money can be given to the participant by the replacement person. "May" get help from the winter trips director.

Balance of deposits for cancellations (deposit less the cancellation fee) for those who cancelled, will be refunded as soon as is practicable after the ACC has been paid. (normally the next Executive meeting.)

On Site co-ordinator: chosen from within the group. Normally an experienced person, who has been there before. This should take place about 6 weeks before the event, for sufficient planning time. At this point the winter trips person's duty is done.

Winter Trip Directors Report. Jan 13 2016 – Revised Jan 26

Total trips 27

Cancelled 3, (one, poor conditions, the other, co-ordinator couldn't go, no replacement found) 1 postponed
Went Ahead 23

Average number on trip 9

Max 29 (Al Sinke memorial hike to Evening Ridge, Leon, Replaced by Brandon Hughes)

Real Max... "Simply Decadent" snowshoe hike to Igloo Cabin (Peter O), had to be split due to limited space in the cabin. (35 over 2 days)

In contrast to last season, it's been a great snow year so far, with a good number of heavy snow events in late November/December. In addition to the regularly scheduled trips, there have been a lot of spontaneous short notice gatherings of various members for xc skiing, Back country trips and snowshoeing, and everyone seems to be making the most of a good winter season.

It's noted that many trips have way more applicants than the trip coordinator can comfortably handle, and THERE IS A NEED TO SCHEDULE MORE TRIPS to accommodate the larger numbers. This means we more people volunteering as coordinators. Hopefully the various training courses will be of some help with this. In view of crowding issues that have developed, I think it's necessary to streamline the process of applying to participate in an outing..... Some people have booked to go on trips far in advance of the date. It's recommended that this practice not be allowed. People should not apply to go on any trip until the coordinator puts out the notice in the days before the trip goes ahead.

Kokanee Ski Week.... The quorum of 15 was finally filled in mid December. The good snow conditions probably helped generate interest. Procedures for the Winter Trips Director and applicants were firmed up, with a cancellation fee recommended, as is the case with Hiking Camp. (Agenda Item, separate)

Cheques need to be given to the 5 people who gave deposits and later dropped out.

Sandra Fuller, Liz Huxter, Zuzanna Zach, Ron stockerl, and Mary ellen Mc Knight.

Phil Best takes over as WTD after this, and I can help out as needed initially. Welcome aboard Phil!

Chris Cowan.

Trails and Access Director's report. January 2016

I've recently taken over from Leon, and the equipment is now stored at my place. Bert Port recently borrowed the brush cutter, and some clearing was done by a few members on the access road to the skiing on cutblock peak.

Back in October, 4 of us cleared about a km of alders from the Mt Siwash access. New access route flagged for descent from siwash horseshoe.

In the spring, I propose to solicit status reports from club members on various access roads. I'll make a spreadsheet similar to the trip planners, for these to keep people up to date as far as possible on access road condition.

We should organize a number of "hike and snip" hikes next spring and summer. A dozen people can get a lot of minor brush clearing done in an hour. WE have lots of loppers and snippers.

Following a notice to the membership, a number of trails have been suggested for upgrades. We'll investigate these as soon as practicable in the spring. Will be asking the club for mileage involved in this.

Will solicit the Fed for available grant money for upgrades. Have been in contact with Jodi about this. The Lost Mountain trail is suggested as a first effort due to the ease of access and likely frequent use if we get it upgraded.

There are more possible sources of funding we could look at... and also people who could help with trail construction... I've not pursued any of this yet

I know there are a lot more ideas kicking around. I'm all ears.... Or at least, will try to be.

Chris.

- Appendix... Trails suggested for upgrades by the members....
- Panther Lake – Brush clearing, Hike n Snip.
- Ben Hur – Kaslo area, needs work - Dan Richardson
- Lost Mtn –
- To New Denver glacier – don't know if there's a trail there or not. Daniella. I asked but haven't got a reply.
- Access from porto Rico road to cabin peak... section above the cabin has a couple of km of alders that could easily be cleared out. Brandon.
- Mt Sentinel.... Clear out a trail up to the first summit. Also from Curt Nixon.... Suggestion to lobby for some trails money from Columbia basin Trust.
- Ymir Peak and White Queen from WH2O.. from Kirk Jensen.

From Linda Johansson

Woodbury trail has seen some work this year on the lower part, but that peters out 1/2 way up, and the upper trail to the cabin is still in rough shape. It would be a great local target, that sees a lot of use. Big bang for the buck. Especially now that the Copelands' new book details how to do the traverse.

thanks! Linda

From Dan Richardson Duncan FSR Deactivation.

There's a unique and time-sensitive opportunity for access to a large area of relative wilderness that I'd like to put on everyone's radar: The upper Duncan River, north of Duncan Lake.

Long story short, the upper half of the 110km+ Duncan FSR has been brushed and graded in order to facilitate deactivating the road next summer. This means we've got a window of vehicle access to an area whose access has deteriorated over time and will be virtually inaccessible within a year. Areas potentially accessible include parts of the Battle Range (the Westfall River has already been deactivated though, and is now impassable) and a bunch of areas in the Purcells. The caveat is that there are likely no trails, few roads that go high up, and essentially no roads up side valleys.