

Squamish Windsport Society AGM

Thursday, November 1, 2007

West Vancouver Yacht Club

7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

Minutes

Directors Present:

Gary Smith, President
Jean-Michel Trembley, Treasurer
Jeff Kindree, Member at Large

Chris Glazier, Member at Large
Jamie Martin, Member at Large
Jennifer Lewis, Member at Large

Committee Members Present:

Approximately 30

- 1. Meeting called to order at 7:26 PM**
- 2. 2007 AGM Agenda Approval**

It was moved and seconded

THAT the meeting Agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

- 3. Minutes of 2006 Annual General Meeting be Approved**

It was moved and seconded

THAT the meeting minutes of the Squamish Windsport Society Annual General Meeting on Thursday October 25th, 2006 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

4. Presidents Report

This year was a great year. We had a new beach to sail from and it is true, “If you build it, they will come”. The number of members and day sailors increased, even with the worst summer weather in BC history. The sunny days saw record numbers of kites with a good turnout of windsurfers as well. The parties were well attended and everyone seemed to have a good time.

With success comes some growing pains, and it has become obvious that we need new safety protocols by next season. We will also have to make sure we have full-time staff for next year as well.

The new sailboard park did not come easily. No sooner had we received approval from one government agency, when another would pop up with a new set of priorities. John Turner (of Cascade Environmental) did a proper study of the spit. This group has done tons of free work and rescued the project several times. Jamie Martin kept updating the plans throughout the whole process and Ole Mau made sure we got very good value for the funds received from the District of Squamish. Ole hopes to complete the work on the Spit during the month of November so there will be some more improvements before next year.

The weather prevented us from hosting the Canadian Windsurfing Championships as it rained during both scheduled weeks. It is hoped an even bigger event featuring both windsurfing and kite boarding will take place next season, funding and volunteers being the two main challenges.

The directors worked hard on behalf of the Society and I would like to thank Jamie Martin, Jean-Michel Tremblay, Keith Borg, Chris Glazier, Christie O’Krainetz, Jennifer Lewis, Jeff Kindree and Dave Fenn for all their assistance.

It was moved and seconded to accept the President’s report.

CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report – Jean-Michel Trembley

The 2007 season set the Society up for a very positive financial position. Currently in the bank is \$17600. \$5500 of this came from the settlement from the oil spill.

In the past the directors have had to carry the Society's insurance costs through the year. This is the first year that this has not had to happen.

The primary expense for the Society is staff. Five staff cost \$8000-10000 for 2007. This is down from \$10000-15000 from 2006.

This year we need to complete the construction and do a bit of maintenance on the Sea-doo. The ski is still generally in good shape though.

Additionally the Society is due to receive a donation of \$10000 from property developer Redline.

We are open to suggestions on expenses for improvements.

It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report.

CARRIED

Ed Dubois & Gwen L'Hirondelle Photography Show

Once again Ed and Gwen provided an excellent 25 minute display of photographs of sport, culture and camaraderie of the 2007 season at the Squamish Spit. Jenn Lewis provided assistance of the sonic kind.

6. Discussion on Capital investments – Chris Glazier

Last year at this time we had \$5000 in the bank. This year we have \$17600. Ideas for Major Spends from Society funds are:

- Potentially a new-additional Sea Doo (\$11000)
- Replacing the leaking, not secure Container (\$3000-5000)
- A floating dock (\$5000)
- Uniforms for Staff – as ID
- Water Safety Items (wet suits)

Again, your ideas are most welcome.

7. **New Business**

We have new SWS Hoodies thanks to Kalena Nielsen, available for sale right after the meeting. Proceeds for these clothes go to the Squamish Windsports Society.

They have been delivered to the Society at a cost of \$30. Chris Glazier motioned for a price of \$50 per item.

It was moved and seconded:

CARRIED

Kalena presented the design for the staff uniforms. They are white on a red hoodie and are clearly marked as STAFF.

8. **Membership fees for 2008**

Existing:

- \$150.00 annual
- \$140.00 early bird by May 1
- \$250.00 family of two
- \$75.00 student with card
- \$95.00 half season from Aug. 1
- \$15.00 day pass

Proposed: \$25.00 per couple day pass. All other fees remain the same.

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Squamish Windsport Society's annual membership fee remain the same as 2007, with the Addition of a Day Use Couples rate of \$25/day.

CARRIED

9. Other New Business

Johnathan Turner, an environmental consultant with Cascade Environmental, gave the Society a presentation on development process and progress for the future of the Windsports park.

Johnathan is an environmentalist who works with the government, primarily in trail planning. He was a windsurfer as a kid and is mostly surfing these days. Cascade were initially hired by district to do a study on the estuary and those that use it (The Ministry owns the top of the spit while the District owns the sides).

Cascade found the Windsports project interesting though their engagement in the project, quite last minute. Johnathan asked Jamie if we had a plan. We didn't. Johnathan as helped create a plan.

Cascade did an environmental assessment and will monitor the effects of the additional construction this year. District has generously held the remaining funds as open from 2006, so that we can complete the project.

Overview of the management plan:

The whole area is similar to a Provincial Park but it has no existing guidelines/rules for recreational use. We need to limit our footprint through understanding our impact as well as highlight the positives.

- Jet skis are frowned upon by some estuary users but can keep kites from walking through sensitive areas.
- Camping has impact. Not so much on the Spit but in the estuary.

Johnathan needs history of use – documentation – numbers of users – description of relationship between municipality and SWS – new relationship with MOE.

This doc will serve well when making proposals for future projects. The plan is being developed for the SWS but will be owned by Cascade. It will contain vision and goals for the next 3-5 years.

Questions:

More clarity on why we're doing this plan (Jamie).

MOE wants the plan to proceed beyond the toe of the bank. It also spells out to local taxpayers what's going on and helps with the future (funding and projects).

Questions – how do we show that 'use' (humans) of the area is beneficial to all?

It's a win for the whole area – economically. We also need to show that we are minimizing our impact. The herring row numbers have increased because of having more riprap as well.

What about the ships and tugs and booms?(Chris)

Grandfathered use. They are actively trying to move it.

Jamie- it's a transportation corridor. It's the ski's hitting the grasses that they're concerned with.

Who will coordinate the plan? (Jamie)

Next year's Exec will nominate a few people to help.

10. Election of Officers

Dave Finn, Keith Borg and Christie O'Krainetz have stepped down as Directors. The Squamish Windsport Society would like to thank these Directors for their invaluable input and support over the years.

All remaining Directors volunteered for another season.

Welcome to Ed Dubois, Sandra Bicego, Shannon Goetsch, Martin Goetsch, Dan O'Sullivan, the newest Directors of the Squamish Windsport Society.

Election of Directors for the 2008 season was moved and seconded:

CARRIED

11. Next Meeting:

The next annual general meeting will be in the Fall of 2008.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 pm.

Committee Chair

Committee Staff Secretary