

SWS AGM
Jan 20th 7:00-9:00 pm
Online
[Link to slide deck](#)

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER
 - a. Meeting called to Order by Nikki at 7:06
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
 - a. No corrections
 - b. Approved
3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
 - a. No corrections
 - b. Approved
4. PRESIDENTS REPORT - Nikki
 - a. Overview of SWS, and purpose – further and protect windsports in Howe Sound
 - b. The ability to operate in the area is complicated and multijurisdictional, and we'll continue to work with relevant parties to ensure we can continue to operate
 - c. Continue to operate under COVID. Did not have to shut down, like to think we did our part
 - d. Thanks to the staff and to members who came out.
 - e. Looking into other grants and access to funding in order to preserve access, particularly with changes in circumstances. Taking the time to check-in helps us show accurate attendance numbers when asking for funding and grants
 - f. Chris Rollet led a team of great staff
 - g. A big topic was CERP plan to remove Spit road; launched a petition in February 2021 when we heard about the plan to move forward. Started coordinating meetings; met with MLA, MP, the District, the Squamish Nation, and various tourism directors. Multiple interviews with media. Raised a lot of awareness to help preserve our ability to operate, but unfortunately, removal is moving forward. Discussing with CERP project to ensure continued access.
 - h. Thanks to Board members, special thanks to Chuck who stepped down to care for the baby but still ended up putting in an unprecedented amount of time; also thank Alan, Allysa, Todd, and Dominik, who are stepping down this year

- i. Special thanks to Chris Rollet, who will no longer be Operations Manager next year; we are in the process of hiring a replacement

5. FINANCE REPORT - Josh
 - a. Begins reciprocating thank you to Nikki on behalf of the Board and Members
 - b. Pretty good financial year; normally don't generate a surplus. Generally, 8 - 10K of surplus is good, but in 2021 we brought in \$40K in surplus
 - c. Costs are mostly payroll and costs of running jetski; ended with a net income of over \$20K
 - d. Revenue
 - i. Donation: Realign Not Remove funds, received almost \$10K. Kept in a separate bank account, so not comingled, and used just for project
 - ii. Lots of single membership fees; part of that was a restriction on our ability to sell day fees, only started near the end of Summer
 - iii. Over \$4K in merchandise sales, compared to \$1800 last year
 - e. Expenses
 - i. Costs will likely change if we have to change the way we operate
 - ii. Wages and Salaries biggest cost, next biggest is Insurance
 - f. Balance Sheet
 - i. Health cash position, about \$100K in cash in a bank account
 - ii. Loan from Canada will pay back \$40K and then \$20K is forgiven
 - iii. Have a small buffer to hopefully continue to provide access to Spit

6. MEMBERSHIP AND USAGE ANALYSIS - Nikki
 - a. Membership demos: Squamish, North Van, and Vancouver main user groups
 - b. 2021 was the highest attendance ever, exceeded the previous record of 2018
 - c. The busiest day had 147 visits, 0 days with 0 visits
 - d. June was exceptional this year, and July was great (as usual)
 - e. Retrievals up overall, but down as a % of visitors: 585 retrievals. Great news, means people may be coming back when necessary. Still had very busy retrieval days (2 days with 42 retrievals, with small attendance numbers on one day (47% retrieval rate)). Hopefully, it was a good experience for you if it were necessary

7. OPERATIONS REPORT - Nikki
 - a. Busy Year

- b. One issue: people need to be more proactive about putting kites away. Don't pump up until ready to kite
- c. Added new webcams, but not yet integrated into the website, will be a project for 2022
- d. Updated wind sensor because the old one failed. Took a few weeks to get it calibrated. Went with an off-the-shelf sensor instead of self-built; not relying on something that is not getting updated on a regular basis
- e. Batteries in sea-can will need replacing this year
- f. 2 new sea-cans, have not been placed in the final position. Stuff is there, though, so when road removal happens we won't need to move stuff over. Don't worry, won't block the wind with them

8. COMMUNITY UPDATES AND PRIORITIES FOR 2022 - Chuck/Nikki

- a. What we don't know
 - i. When everything is happening, we don't know, for instance
 - ii. Don't know what the tip of the island will look like, hat tip to Ned Atkins who has been involved in the discussions. Engineering drawings aren't completed.
 - iii. Not sure what end of the road will look like
 - iv. Don't know how the river current will behave. Will learn a lot once the road is removed.
- b. Having a lot of discussions with stakeholders. Was out today and there is no machinery is out there
- c. Looking at all options, but it looks like this year we'll have to go with boat access. Won't have walkable docks
- d. What we do know
 - i. We are operating for 2022
 - ii. Have had applications for new OM.
 - iii. Won't be a dock area for boats. The reality is that there are 900 members, and there is not space for this many Boats
 - iv. Will have road access to the end of Spit Road (what remains). Won't be space for a turnaround, so will need to restrict parking near the end.
- e. Working on other things like composting toilets, membership pricing, leveling out the Sound end of the Island
- f. Beyond 2022: Vision Committee (consists of various stakeholders), formed relationships with various groups, and plan to engage in discussions regarding long-term access

9. BYLAWS UPDATE AND VOTE - David

- a. David discusses aspects of the Draft Bylaws

- b. No proposed amendments to the bylaws
 - c. Bylaws pass (70%+ of attendees voting, all Yes)
10. ELECTION OF THE NEW BOARD
- a. Nikki experiences technical difficulties, hands off to Chuck.
 - b. Board members are stepping down, Nikki is running for VP
 - c. Sean Millington running for President, Bio is included in Slide
 - d. Will Schwenger running for Secretary, Bio is included in Slide
 - e. Olivier Corbeil running for Community Relations, Bio is included in Slide
 - f. Mike Palenthorpe running for Director at Large, Bio is included in Slides
 - g. Jeremy Lockwood-Menard running for Director at Large, Bio is included in Slide
 - h. Nominations:
 - i. President: Sean Millington
 - ii. Vice President: Nikki Layton
 - iii. Josh Viner as Treasurer
 - iv. David Bowden as Legal Director
 - v. Loren Parfit for Operations
 - vi. Troy McNamara for Communications
 - vii. Olivier Corbeil Community Relations
 - viii. Steve Tulk and Sam Medysky for Events
 - ix. Isabella Shalingya DAL
 - x. James Hoffele DAL
 - xi. Ned Atkins DAL
 - xii. Geoffrey Watterson DAL
 - xiii. Mike Palenthorpe DAL
 - xiv. Jeremy Lockwood-Menard DAL
 - i. All Acclaimed
11. NEW BUSINESS - Members ideas, concerns, and questions
- a. Member question about Environmental Act compliance (or lack thereof) of SWRS; Nikki and David discussed frustrating process and alignment of Provincial Gov't with the project. Member invited to propose actions we should be taking
 - b. Discussion of Nexen/Beachfront development process – Nikki: discussions have happened, although not as much SWS involvement as preferable. A lot of unknowns and a lot of these unknowns will continue to be unknown for 5-8 years. Josh: not going to be open in 2022. SWS has always taken the position that Nexen development will never be a replacement for the Spit. Important for us to look at it, but hasn't been the Board's primary focus
 - c. Chances are that they prevent windsports from new beach as safety

concern? Nikki: we have no idea; at this point, planning a windsport/watersport beach. Regulations are changing around the world, hard to predict what will happen so far in the future. At this point, understanding is that there will be access, and we're doing everything in our power to maintain access. Josh: windsports is in a tumultuous time, if you're launching anywhere else, important to be friendly and be kind.

- d. Harbour Air: did an investigation into this last year; at this point, it's our understanding that the Harbour Air facility should have virtually no impact on windsports in Howe Sound. Have had discussions with people in busy seaplane ports (such as Victoria), and this did not identify any concerns
- e. Nikita Question about certification of water aerodromes and the possibility of setting up an exclusion zone.
- f. Shuttle Options: types and frequency. Nikki: for immediate options, looking at boats. Lots of different types, landing a challenge. Don't have answers yet, because the situation is unfolding. Need to see what space will look like, and to determine what type of vessel we can maneuver in the area
- g. Have we looked into moving locations to Britannia Beach? Answer: No.
- h. Increasing Recreational Access to non-windsports to increase community involvement? Nikki: not a lot of commitment from other organizations, and not enough bandwidth.

12. MEETING ADJOURNED

- a. Meeting Adjourned by Nikki at 8:42 PM