

Sovereign Lake Nordic Club
Board of Directors Meeting
May 25, 2022 (by videoconference)



MINUTES

Meeting chaired by Cyndy Flores

Call to order: 7.01 PM

Present: Cyndy Flores, Rob Oxenham, Hugh Seaton, Tara Fulop, Marshall Moleschi, Ted Angen, Dren Maloku, Sue Cairns, Malcolm Devine

Regrets: Bill Miller

1. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved, with the addition of a website update under item 7.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings (April 27, 2022)

Approved.

3. New Business

Electronic Motions: Three motions from the Finance Committee were voted on by email prior to the May Board meeting:

Motion: That the Board approve the 2022-23 Capital Budget as presented in the May 2, 2022 FINAL budget document. **Motion carried with one abstention.**

Motion: That the Board approve the transfer of \$300,000 prior to May 31, 2022 from the Club Cash Account to the Club Capital Account in support of 2022-23 capital expenditures. **Motion carried.**

Motion: That the SLNC Board approve the 2022-23 Operations budget (version May 16, 2022) as recommended by Finance Committee and the General Manager. **Motion carried.**

4. Old Business

(a) Strategic Plan: There was a general discussion about the revised proposal from Lowsky Consulting. Two suggestions were made specific to this proposal; 1, that stakeholder engagement be incorporated into the proposal; and 2, that some information included in the first proposal but not in the revised proposal be included as part of the work to be completed.

On timing, it was agreed that the process should be completed before the SLNC AGM in October. This way it can be presented as a completed document at the AGM. It was also noted that it should be finished before ski season starts, when Board members are too busy with other tasks.

There was some discussion of the potential participation of a second consultant who had submitted an earlier proposal. This consultant may be able to work with Lowsky, possibly playing a role as local facilitator. Potential problems with this approach were discussed. It was agreed Cyndy would speak with both consultant parties to determine if this may be feasible.

Motion: That the Board approve the Lowsky proposal. **Motion carried.**

(b) Volunteer year-end appreciation: Cyndy spoke briefly to the volunteer survey that was conducted recently. Results are still being compiled but overall the response has been very positive, with good feedback on how best to recognize the contribution that volunteers make to the club. A full report will be completed in due course.

5. Finance Report

Hugh Seaton spoke to the 2021-22 and 2022-23 budgets. Programs are forecast to make a profit of \$31 K in 2021-22. Operations are tracking on budget, with a forecast profit of \$170 K before amortization and several other year-end costs. The proposed 2022-23 budget is \$1.38 M, with staff costs accounting for slightly over 50% of this.

Motion: That SLNC ask Romei Plummer LLP to prepare external financial 'notice to reader' statements for SLNC fiscal year 2021-22. **Motion carried.**

Kudos was expressed to the Finance Committee for excellent work in 2021-22 and in preparing the Operations and Capital budgets for the coming year.

6. Committee Reports

(a) GM. Now that budgeting for 2022-23 is completed, repair work on various parts of the lodge and Tech building can begin.

A grant for \$2,700 has been approved from Biathlon BC for female athletes (or those identifying as female). A \$24,000 Marie-Cat Bursary has also been approved; this will act as an endowment to support the long-term advancement of girls in XC and biathlon.

Academy registration and season's pass sales will go live on June 1. Troy is looking into self-scanning of passes for next season, so skiers won't have to go past the ticket office every time they ski.

Three candidates will be interviewed shortly for the second coaching position, and the Masters HP coach position has been posted.

The 2008 Snow-cat has left the building... part of a trade-in for a 2-year-old groomer as a replacement, which is on its way.

Road upgrade: Troy and Rob Oxenham met with various officials (Ministry of Highways, RDNO) to push for improvements to the road up to Sovereign. The result will be a major upgrade this summer, with road ditching and repairs, widening of parts of the upper section, culvert installation and paving for the first 150 m off Silver Star Road.

(b) Volunteer Committee. See note above concerning the volunteer survey. We had 500 volunteers in the past season. There will not be a year-end volunteer function this year. There was some discussion of whether we should revive the "Volunteer of the Year Award", and other awards that have been given in previous years (stopped in part due to Covid, with no in-person meetings recently).

Action item: Cyndy to review previous activities of the Awards Committee (not active for several years) and to report at next Board meeting.

(c) Competitions. No report.

(d) Programs. Only item of business was to review the proposed Terms of Reference for the Programs Committee. The TOR were approved, with one minor change to make it clear that the Programs Committee would oversee Club races, not open races that fall under the Competitions Committee.

(e) Health and Safety. No report.

(f) Lodge Committee. Malcolm reported briefly that a meeting had been held with Mayor Cumming (Vernon) and meetings are planned with RDNO and our MLA, Harwinder Sandhu. These meetings are all for information purposes, to let local officials know of our intention to replace the lodge. Draft documents describing the need/demand for a new lodge and a fundraising strategy have been prepared and will be worked on over the next few weeks. We have also commissioned a report on the economic impact of SLNC on the local and regional community.

7. New Business

(a) Road update – covered above.

(b) CCBC AGM. Cyndy attended this event and summarized some of the presentations on obtaining grants from various organizations and grant-writing strategies. There is a Zoom session on June 7 on Capital improvements and fundraising that Board members can join.

(c) Website update. Dren indicated the intent is to update and modernize the website (appearance and content). He is looking at other clubs' sites for comparisons but aims to keep the website simple, informative and with less clutter. Any suggestions or input – please send to Dren.

8. Next Board meeting: June 22, 2022.

It was agreed the Board would not meet in July, unless it was deemed necessary for some reason. However, the Board is expected to be fully engaged in the strategic plan development process throughout the summer.

9. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8.51 PM.