

**Sovereign Lake Nordic Club
Board of Directors Meeting
October 17, 2023 (Virtual)**



MINUTES

Meeting chaired by Cyndy Flores

Call to order: 7:03 PM

Present: Cyndy Flores, Hugh Seaton, Tara Fulop, Marshall Moleschi, Dave Dennier, Bill Miller, Sue Cairns, Malcolm Devine, Sabre Cherkowski, Wendy Shannon

Regrets: Dren Maloku

Guests: -

1. Approval of Agenda

The following items were added to the agenda: (1) review of Action 3 from previous meeting, (2) Add change of date for board governance orientation from November 23 to November 22, and (3) addition of a motion from the Lodge Committee. The agenda was subsequently approved.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting (September 19, 2023)

The minutes were approved without modification.

3. Old Business

#	Action	Current Status
2023-09.1	Finance committee to table a motion with recommendation on future of issuing passes for dogs – Due Dec 19 2023.	Pending more information. Due date for December BOD meeting added.
2023-09.2	Each committee chair to submit to Cyndy a short list of achievements of their committee for inclusion in the AGM minutes.	Complete.
2023-09.3	Cyndy to discuss with Candace the preparation of a written annual report.	Complete. Preparation has started.
2023-09.4	Cyndy to place all strategic plan and feedback information into a single folder for access by the board and GM.	Complete.
2023-09.5	All board members, GM, and GM key staff to provide top 3 strategic priorities (and brief rationale) for the strategic plan to Cyndy by October 3 rd .	Complete. Input discussed in Oct 3 meeting.

A Terms of Reference and mini strategy plan was developed by the Health & Safety committee. A motion to approve these documents was withdrawn as it is expected that the documents will be

updated following a committee meeting tomorrow, and will also be formatted into the standard SLNC templates. Updated versions will be shared by email by October 31st.

Action 2023-10.1: Dave to share Terms of Reference and mini strategy plan templates with Wendy by October 17th.

Action 2023-10.2: Wendy to send updated H&S Committee Terms of Reference and mini strategy plan to Cyndy by October 31st.

Sue shared the new Programs Terms of Reference document, and asked for feedback. This too will be updated into the standard template.

Action 2023-10.3: All board members asked to submit any comments Programs documents by Oct 20th.

Action 2023-10.4: Sue to share updated Programs Committee Terms of Reference and mini strategy plan with Cyndy by October 31st.

Action 2023-10.5: Cyndy to share H&S and Programs Committee documents by email for approval.

4. Committee Report Highlights

4.1 Lodge Committee

The Lodge Committee has been looking to make arrangements with a charitable partner that will support future fundraising for Lodge renewal. The Committee recommends Nordiq Canada be the charitable partner, based on their strong performance in a similar capacity for several large capital projects completed at other BC-based Nordic ski clubs.

In discussion, the Committee advised that we will continue to use Community Foundation of the North Okanagan (CFNO) for other smaller activities (e.g., Jess4Kids, etc). The question was raised whether BC Parks would accept a national charity versus one based in BC. The committee will follow up with the BC Parks representative. In order to not substantively delay the committee's work, the board voted on the following motion:

Motion: "That Sovereign Lake Nordic Club submit an application to Nordiq Canada requesting that Nordiq Canada serve as our 'Charitable Partner' for the duration of the Sovereign Lake Lodge Renewal fundraising campaign, subject to BC Parks approval". Motion carried.

4.2 Governance Committee

Marshall advised that the date for governance orientation to the board post-Annual General Meeting will be moved to November 22 from November 23 to avoid a schedule conflict. General orientation will be conducted during the November 28th monthly board meeting.

4.3 Finance Committee

Hugh highlighted that the S2S provided a very generous donation to Programs following their successful event in the spring and suggested that the board send a letter of thanks.

Action 2023-10.6: Cyndy to send S2S organizing committee a letter of thanks from the Sovereign Lake Nordic Club for their support and generous donation.

Cyndy noted that youth registrations seem low, and asked whether we would meet enrolment targets this season. Wendy indicated that registrations tend to pick up towards the end of October as family winter plans fall into place. Nevertheless, program registration will be highlighted in

upcoming ebcasts to members. Wendy also mentioned that the club had received a grant of \$2,000 to add coaching for some youth programming.

Dave complemented the finance committee on their new ability to project financial results two seasons out (i.e., for the 2024-25 season).

5.2 Environmental Sustainability

Dave raised a motion to place BC Idle Free signs in the parking lots, and indicated that two members of the Environmental Sustainability Committee will donate the costs to purchase the signs. The motion was raised to encourage members/visitors to not idle their vehicles and thereby reduce emission of greenhouse gases and keep air cleaner near the lodge and trails. Concerns were raised regarding school kids and teams returning to freezing cold buses after workouts and becoming quite cold. It was also noted that, in light of the pandemic, some members are still not comfortable coming into the lodge and prefer to rest and eat in their vehicles which need to be made warm through idling. The scenario of a member reporting to staff that a car was idling and expecting the sign to be enforced was raised, potentially leading to staff safety concerns. It was suggested that education and awareness via posters be the starting point to change behaviour on vehicle idling, and that options be discussed with school boards and bus drivers. Given the breadth of concerns, Dave withdrew the motion. The Committee will pursue the suggestions from the board.

Dave provided an update on the committee's pursuit of installation of EV chargers near the electrical building in the lower parking lot. Following discussion and a site visit, the charger company and their electrician recommended two podium chargers and bollards and trenching for electrical and hardware communications connections. Unfortunately, the estimate was approximately 3x the capital budget available for the project. Dave had also looked at federal and provincial grant availability, but it appears the club would not qualify for the grants now being awarded. The committee will pursue another quote with lower levels of groundworks and charger quality.

6. Annual General Meeting

The preferred venue discussed at last month's meeting was no longer available. Possible venues now include the Vernon Rec Centre (seats 700!), two venues at Silver Star, and Sovereign Lake lodge. Options for changing the date had not been explored for other venue availability and may not align with club bylaws. While hosting a virtual meeting was raised the preference is to have an in-person meeting this year. It was suggested that an evening meeting up the mountain would be poorly attended due to dark and potentially snowy driving conditions, and an afternoon meeting was likely not an option for many members due to their working hours. Other potential downtown venues were suggested (e.g., Elks Lodge, Village Green). Tara will explore whether the massage school could be available as it has a venue large enough. Wendy asked for members to suggest potential location and will follow up with these new options to secure a meeting location.

7. Strategic Planning

Dave reviewed the results of the board online vote on stakeholders, and concluded that one of the strategic priorities will be called "Partner, Stakeholder, and Indigenous Consultation". Malcolm noted strategic priorities must be cast as measurable and meaningful.

Dave walked through the board's online submissions for Vision and Mission statements, and after a brief discussion raised the following motions:

Motion: That the board approve the Vision statement: "A world class center for Nordic Sport and Recreation". Motion carried.

Motion: That the board approve the Mission Statement: “In cooperation with BC Parks, we provide outstanding Nordic experiences that are inclusive and accessible, in an environmentally responsible manner”. Motion carried.

Dave walked through a spreadsheet that captured the board’s top strategic priorities, and noted how many of these align with committees that are presently active. As the committees have their own terms of reference and their own “mini” strategic plans, their work is already underpinning the overall strategic plan of the club. This allows us to use the contents of the committees planning to round out the club’s 2023-28 strategic plan. It also confirms that we have the right committees in place and just as importantly are already working on achieving the highest priorities of the club.

There are some strategic priorities that do not have a match to an existing committee. The question was raised as to whether these priorities should be fit into other committees, have their own new committee formed, or other options. In general, these priorities that did not already have a committee were viewed as not large enough to warrant forming another committee from a resource-strapped board, thus setting up a smaller task force to focus on formulating (and executing) the path forward was deemed the most practical option.

Dave advised that he will be updating the strategic plan and is aiming for it to be about four pages long. Dave invited comments on the rough draft that was included at the end of the monthly board package to capture board perspective on the revised strategic plan write-up.

Action 2023-10.7: Cyndy to share Google Doc for board members to submit their thoughts on the rough draft of the revised strategic plan.

Action 2023-10.8: All board members to submit their comments on the rough draft of the revised strategic plan into the shared Google Doc by October 26th.

Dave will work with board members to capture key targets for the plan and address setting up task forces (and their objectives) where there are presently no committees. Board members should expect to see an updated document with a request for their detailed comments shortly, with the end goal that a revised draft is available for the annual general meeting in November.

8. Next Meeting

Next meeting: Tuesday November 28th, 7:00 PM. (Virtual).

9. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.