SLNC BOD June Meeting Minutes

June 25, 2026

Present: D. Embleton; C. Flores; D. Dennier; A. Klein; T. Klaschka; B. Miller; T. Fulop; L. Bot; C. O'Conner; W. Shannon

Regrets: L. Lennie

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm

Land Acknowledgement

Agenda: Approved

Minutes from May 2025 Meeting approved with housekeeping edits

Lodge Committee

- **Design and Fundraising Update:** Hugh Hamilton provided an update on the design and fundraising efforts for the lodge renovation and addition. They have been working with architect Wally Newman and received a cost estimate and are now tweaking the design to reduce costs while maintaining functionality. This process is ongoing and aims to align the project with their fundraising target of around $5 million. BC Parks has agreed to take the lead on the addition, while the team will handle the renovation, allowing for more flexibility in funding and volunteer involvement. By splitting the project into renovation and addition phases, the team can spread out the renovation costs and involve volunteers or donors in specific aspects, making the project more financially manageable
- **Fundraising Campaign Progress:** Hugh Hamilton reported on the progress of the fundraising campaign, which started in October. They have nearly met their target for the Members and Friends campaign, which is a prerequisite for many grant applications. However, government funding has been uncertain, causing delays in grant announcements.
- **Capital Gaming Grant:** Hugh Hamilton discussed the capital gaming grant and the board's agreement to pursue it for the lodge. The challenge is that the overall project cannot exceed 1.25 million, but by splitting the project into two phases (renovation and addition), they can fit within the grant's requirements. The renovation phase includes necessary improvements like insulation, windows, doors, and an elevator.
- **Summer Fundraising Plans:** Hugh Hamilton mentioned that fundraising efforts will slow down during the summer, but they plan to have a workshop in August to relaunch the campaign after Labor Day. They are open to ideas and will continue to work on securing funds.
- **BC Parks Project Management:** Dianna inquired about the change in sentiment from BC Parks regarding project management. Hugh Hamilton explained that BC Parks has agreed to let the team take the lead on the renovation while they handle the addition. This change was negotiated by Jeff Ward and will be discussed further in a meeting with BC Parks in mid-September.

- **Meeting with MLA:** Hugh Hamilton mentioned an upcoming meeting with MLA Sandhu to discuss the lodge project and confirm the 1.4 million funding commitment from BC Parks. Carolyn expressed interest in joining the meeting but was unavailable. Hugh suggested she send a note to MLA Sandhu.

GM Report

- **Capital Budget Discussion:** Wendy presented the draft capital budget, which includes necessary infrastructure repairs, environmental upgrades, and operational expenses. The board discussed the importance of addressing the leaking roof and agreed to approve the budget with the understanding that some spending may be restricted until January.
    - **Environmental Upgrades:** The budget includes environmental upgrades, such as electrical improvements, which have already resulted in significant cost savings. These upgrades are expected to continue reducing operational costs.
- **POS Equipment and Scanning:** Laura inquired about the POS equipment and the ability to scan day tickets. Wendy explained that they are testing new equipment to improve scanning capabilities and reduce the use of paper tickets.
- **Capital Budget Approval:** The board voted to approve the capital budget as written, with the understanding that some spending may be restricted until January based on the GM's discretion.

Strategic Plan

- **Strategic Plan Review:** Dave proposed revisiting the strategic plan to streamline priorities and focus on financial results. The board discussed the importance of updating the plan and agreed to revisit it in the next meeting.
    - **Programs Committee Strategic Plan:** Laura raised the question of the timing for updating the programs committee's strategic plan. The board agreed to wait for the new GM to be onboarded before making significant updates.

Events Committee

- **Events Committee Report:** Tara provided an update on the events committee, highlighting the success of cookie days and the importance of attending Chamber of Commerce events. She emphasized the need for board members to participate in networking events to promote Sovereign Lake.

Competitions Committee

- **Competitions Committee Feedback:** The competitions committee requested permission to investigate being a backup for the Nordic Olympic Trials. The board expressed concerns about volunteer availability but agreed to allow the investigation to proceed.

Sustainability Committee

- **Annual Emissions Report:** Dave updated the board on the annual emissions report, noting a reduction in emissions due to improved staff shift calculations and reduced gasoline purchases. He will share the full report and an executive summary in the next meeting package.

Next Meeting:

July – No meeting

AGM – November 17 at the Elk’s Lodge

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm