

Spearhead Huts Society

Monthly Directors Meeting

Minutes

Date: October 17, 2023
Time: 19:00-20:00
Location: Online

Attending: Robin O'Neill, Paul McBride, Chris Ludwig, Alan Woodland, Andre Charland, Ben Parsons
Absent: Jayson Faulkner
Guest: David Scanlon

The meeting was called to order with quorum at 7:04pm
The agenda was approved with no amendments.
The minutes from the meeting held September 19 were approved.

1. Financial Report

Alan reported out on draft 2 of the K&C Operational Budget with revenues of \$332,000 and expenses set a break-even. Alan has some concerns that the budget for repairs and maintenance (\$27,500) may be too low for substantive investments. On track to finish the current year (October 31) with a surplus of \$20,000. Alan to reach out to account Mike Kerfoot for a notice to reader engagement with the goal of having an AGM at the December meeting.

2. KCH Operations Committee

Pest Control – Iain reported not seeing any mice. Andre commented that mice activity is observable in the generator room.

Zander and his crew made a trip to K&C on September 15. Work performed includes exterior door adjustments on ground floor, flight deck assessment and planning, Starlink installation, propane bracing, deck post sealing, solar rail installation, solar panel restocking, scaffolding cleanup, and systems assessment with JS. Howler Contracting invoice is \$4,860 plus \$1,600 for helicopter transportation.

Two new propane tanks were added to the fleet. We currently have ten 460lb tanks. Plans are to lift the tanks from a hydroelectric dam on Vail property closer to the hut. Plans are to have a 4-5 months of inventory of tanks on-site before opening day.

Hut will be closed starting on October 23. Volunteer hut custodians will be invited to come up in November but no paying guests.

Custodian Training Weekend

Custodians were trained on propane systems, electrical systems, guest relations and toilets and waste management. Cleaning, including mopping floors, organization of the basement, vacuuming out the bunks, wiping down surfaces (incl. mouse droppings) and getting rid of accumulated garbage, was done.

Solar Project - No progress to report. Zander is looking for someone who can complete this.

A spending authorization to pay up to \$10,000 to Howler Contracting for two trips in the next two months was proposed by Robin was approved. Priorities to be directed by the Operations Committee.

Park Use Permit and Reporting to BC Parks

Payment of the Park Use Permit was due on May 1. SHS made a partial payment of \$3,150 in August but we did not report our visitor numbers. Fees associated with the number of guests had not been accounted for. After the board meeting, Jayson and Alan determined another \$5,200 was owed to BC Parks. It is important that SHS meet our obligations under Park Use Permit with BC Parks especially as Macbeth project approvals will be needed in the near future.

Reservations and Bookings - There was some discussion on the cancellation policy but no changes were proposed.

Cloudbeds Project - Chris and Pierre have been communicating about the project

3. Macbeth Update

Workshops on design, energy consumption modelling and costing have taken place over the last month. A site visit took place on Friday October 13 including geotech consultant, construction manager and Paul McBride.

Brian Gould Alpine Solutions has been approached for a formal Avalanche Risk Analysis.

Paul recommended scheduling meetings with various stakeholder communities including the operations team custodians, guides and other stakeholders

It was noted there is a new PPI section head at BC Parks.

4. Fundraising/Funding

Ben reported plans for November 25th event at Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre are going well. Email list has 5,000 contacts and expecting four email blasts in five weeks. Ticket page is up and running. The weeks ahead will be operational planning and weekly update meeting on Mondays. Andre asked that hut custodians be invited to volunteer and/or buy tickets. This event is a good opportunity to provide updates to the community about developments with the society.

A discussion about grants and other funding opportunities was deferred to the Monday fundraising meeting. Robin noted that Tourism Whistler has made Christine available to support SHS with grant writing. Ben suggested we try to get an appointment with Minister Heyman to ask for his support for our cause.

5. Society Matters

Chris reported on a conversation with Alan Brown. Alan indicated he was not a constitution and governance lawyer. There were no recommendations about SHS bylaws.

A set of draft bylaws, first considered in 2019, was discussed. Changes to the membership provisions that reduce the number of seats appointed by the sections were considered. ACCW and ACCV both decrease from two appointed reps to one each. With a democratically controlled board, SHS may become eligible for a BC Gaming Grant. There was some talk about socializing these ideas with the section leadership.

Alan and Robin will meet with Iain to review the job description, update the duties and responsibilities.

Next meeting – November 21 at 7:00pm