

## MCCSC AGM April 6, 2024 Minutes

President Norm Brown called the meeting to order at 8 pm. The adoption of the agenda was moved by Arlene Martin and seconded by Charles Fives. Motion Carried

### President's Report:

Norm welcomed everyone to the 49th AGM. He recognized special guests Veronique Arsenault, city councilor and Nola Chiasson, one of our lodgekeepers. Keith Dickson, a long-time lodgekeeper, was unable to attend and had sent his regrets to Norm. With a ski season only starting January 12 and official grooming ending Feb 27 it was the shortest season in club history. Highlights were a provincial NB Cup cross country ski race, the Ray Thibodeau Miramichi Loppet and a Time Trail hosted by the biathlon club (that attracted skiers from PEI and NS) . Unfortunately, the scheduled provincial biathlon championships had to be cancelled due to lack of snow. The Youth program ran again this year, and we hosted another successful Family Ski Day on NB Family Day, Feb 19, which was especially popular with newcomers to Miramichi. For the third year we had rental equipment costs covered by a generous donation. The Owl's Rest Disc Golf club, located on our property, officially opened in July and had a successful fall tournament with over 80 participants from around the Maritimes. Another highlight of the season was the social activities put on by Arlene Martin and her committee. Norm thanked the executive for their hard work , the lodgekeepers Keith, Nola, Darlene, Patrick and Ellie. He thanked the grooming team led by Gilles which included Trent, Rodney and Norm. Peter Gadd was thanked for this photography. Kari Underhill and her team were thanked for organizing an on-line auction which is raising money for a new groomer. Norm thanked club members and other volunteers, the city of Miramichi and council for their support. He also thanked the province of NB, Chris and Randy Clark for trail work, North Shore construction, K. Daigle for lighted trail repairs and Adaptive Office Solutions for their support.

### Minutes from the 2023 AGM:

Deana Gadd read the minutes from the 2023 AGM. Peter Gadd moved their adoption, seconded by Kris Wierzchoslowski. Motion Carried

### Business arising from the minutes:

A shelter to protect the grooming equipment from the elements was constructed in the summer, with a roof attached to the trailer. A portion of the Purple Trail between Junction 8 and 9 was widened in the summer, and work will continue.

#### Financial Report:

Treasurer Paul Mackinnon presented the report. The full report will be sent out separately.

#### Summary of accounts:

Special projects \$548.65, Loppet account \$1500.00, Groomer fundraiser \$15,926.57,  
General account \$48,959.21

The total expenditures from the general account were quite similar to income, but land taxes of \$5382.60 still have to come out of the account.

The adoption of the financial report was moved by Gilles Chiasson and seconded by Kris Wierzchoslawski. Motion carried.

#### New Business:

##### Club priorities are:

1. Increasing membership. We had 118 members this year. The number of day pass users and school groups was also down this year. Veronique Arsenault let us know about grants the city has which included Festivals and Events, City Sponsorship and the Community matching funds grant.
2. Improve trails. Last year work was done between junction 8 and 9 and work needs to be done on trails.
3. Obtain a newer grooming machine. We have done well with several fundraising initiatives this year. A new groomer could deal better with icy conditions.

#### Committee reports:

**Trails** - Gilles reported that work needs to be done on the entrance to the Blue trail, where grooming is not possible until there is a lot of snow. He looked at industrial solar lighting but it is still too expensive. We could look at non-industrial options. Peter Gadd added that the snowshoe trail will need work this fall as the 5 and 6 km loops were not cleared this year.

**Youth program** - Emily Comeau reported that there were 17 youth, 12 Jackrabbits and 5 Bunnies. The program was only 6 weeks but enjoyed by leaders and children. 7 Jackrabbits from the current and previous season took part in our Loppet. The Track Attack program for older youth did not run this year.

**Miramichi Ray Thibodeau Loppet** - James Tremblay reported that the Loppet went as well as could be expected with the poor conditions. There was discussion about chip timing and whether we lost attendance by not offering it.

**Biathlon** - Yves reported for Paula Cavanaugh. The club members attended a few events one in PEI and a major U.S. Nationals at Fort Kent, Maine. Biathlon Bears , for younger children was offered this year with 4 registered. Bridget Perry attended a camp in Canmore, Alberta.

**Social** - it was a busy season with many events in a short time. Arlene Martin thanked committee members Janis Brown, Nancy Smith, Deana Gadd and Bill Martin. Two moonlight skis where held, the second one unsuccessful due to rain. Meals were provided for 4 major events. Tuesdays had ski/snowshoe and lunch events that were better attended when a full meal was offered. Next year there is a need for better advertising of events outside at the trail head, purchasing dishes to avoid disposables and work on the clubhouse interior. Yves mentioned that he could host an astronomy night at the club next winter.

**Instruction** - Yves St. Germain reported that he held one learn to skate lesson and two classic lessons this year. Nordiq Canada is introducing new criteria for instruction and Safe Sport training will be mandatory.

**Publicity** - The Facebook page is very popular. Deana did an article for the Giver magazine and has a article going in the Miramichi River Guide. Peter mentioned the struggle with the MCCSC web site. It is still on-line, but he can no longer maintain it due to the 20 year old software becoming obsolete. It is worth keeping, particularly with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year for the club coming up for its archival content. A new web site <https://skimiramichi.blog> is up and running but is a work in progress. It has some advantages over the former site.

Nomination of executive members.

Several executive members let their names stand and no nominations were received for their positions, so they were won by acclamation.

President - Norman Brown

Trails- Gilles Chiasson

Youth program - Emily Comeau

Social committee - Arlene Martin

Biathlon- Paula Cavanaugh

Member at large Charles Fives

Publicity- Deana Gadd

There are 5 positions that needed to be filled - Vice President, treasurer, secretary, Loppet and instruction. No nominations were received for these positions and there were no nominations from the floor. The executive committee will have to work on filling these positions before the next ski season.

A motion to adjourn was made by Arlene Martin and it was seconded by Charles Fives at 9:30 pm. Motion Carried

#### MCCSC AWARDS 2023 - 2024 AGM

Paula Keating Award – presented to youth who ski 500 or more kilometers in a season.

Jarrold Wilson - 600.2 km

Joey Doucet Distance Award Female – Paula Keating - 589 km

Joey Doucet Distance Award Male – Kris Wierzchoslowski – 1027 km

Boston Family Award (MCCSC Family) Miramichi Ray Thibodeau Loppet

Gadd Martin Family

Dr. Guptill Award – presented to an individual (or two) deemed by the club executive by secret ballot to have made a significant contribution to Cross Country Skiing

Janis Brown

Spill Award – not made this year.

Respectfully Submitted by

Deana Gadd

Recording Secretary