

Outdoor Recreation Council of BC

Meeting of Board of Directors

5.00 PM Monday, August 28, 2017

1101 - 207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver

MINUTES

<u>Present</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Dave Wharton	Director, Chair	Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
Jeremy McCall	Executive Director	Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society
Natalia Pisarek	ORC Communications & Administration	
<u>By phone</u>		
Roxanne Rousseau	Director, Vice Chair	BC Marine Trails Association
Dennis Webb	Director, Past Chair	Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
Karen Black	Director	Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
Penney Edwards	Director	BC Nature
Kim Reeves	Director	Four Wheel Drive Association of BC
Ciel Sander	Director	Trails Society of BC
Scott Walker	Director	Back Country Horsemen of BC
Gordon Weetman	Director	Advisory Member, UBC Faculty of Forestry

1. Roll call/regrets

The meeting began shortly after 5:00pm. D. Wharton chaired the meeting.

2. Approval of agenda

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 8c. Forest Practices Board recreation project
- 9. Salish Sea Trail event

Motion: Moved & seconded (Dennis/Penney) that the amended agenda be approved. **Motion carried.**

3. June 5 Board meeting minutes

- a. Approval, errors & omissions: The minutes had already been approved at the June 17 Board meeting.
- b. Action items in March meeting minutes: None.
- c. Business arising from minutes. None.

4. June 17 Board meeting minutes

- a. Approval, errors & omissions: Moved & seconded (JM/DW). That the minutes of the July 17 Board meeting be approved. **Motion carried.**
- b. Action items in June 17 meeting minutes: None
- c. Business arising from minutes. None.

5. Administration, membership & general

- a. Transition to BC Societies Act completed
Jeremy confirmed that this has been completed.
- b. Annual meeting motion re: ORC financial statements & budget – J. McCall
At the June 17 AGM the following motions were passed:

Motion: (R. Schroeder/P. Crewe): To have quarterly financial statements produced for the Board of Directors. 12 votes in favour, 1 against. **Motion carried.**

Motion (B. Janyk/D. Oliver): To have an annual budget produced for members at future AGMs. 12 votes in favour, 1 abstention. **Motion carried.**

For the past 10 years, Jeremy has served as ORC's Treasurer and managed the Society's accounts, including producing annual financial statements. (Jeremy was unable to attend the AGM and therefore did not take part in the discussion around these two motions.) Jeremy first stated that a decision such as this is properly the prerogative of the directors, not the members as it is the directors' job to manage the affairs of the Society. He also explained that when he took over ORC's administration in 2006, a bookkeeper produced quarterly statements at a cost of \$200/quarter and a chartered accountant was retained to undertake the annual review engagement. Total costs for financial statements were about \$5,000 per annum, in an annual budget which at the time did not exceed \$20,000. Jeremy took over the bookkeeping and has never charged for providing this service. As a result, ORC has saved many thousands of dollars over the 10 year period.

Jeremy also suggested that opening up the Sage accounting system to prepare regular statements takes valuable time away from dealing with issues related to outdoor recreation and is not the best use of his time, especially since ORC does not spend a lot of money and has relatively few transactions. However, he offered to prepare six month statements and to prepare the annual budget as proposed by members.

Dennis said that he understands Jeremy's position, but added that any motion passed at an AGM can't be disregarded. The other Directors agreed with both Jeremy and Dennis, that semi-annual statements are reasonable and that members must be consulted about this change. Dennis suggested writing to ORC's Member Organizations about revising the motion regarding financial statements. The Directors agreed that Dave should write the letter.

Action: Dave to draft a letter to members regarding the motion.

c. PTAB – Future funding & ORC contract with Patrick Lucas

Patrick Lucas is the Founder of the Aboriginal Youth Mountain Bike Association. He was invited to present to the Provincial Trails Advisory Body (PTAB) at its May 11 meeting. Patrick's presentation was about working with Indigenous communities to develop outdoor recreation. Due to Patrick's success in this space the PTAB commissioned him to produce a guidebook about relationship building with Indigenous communities. Once completed, this document will be shared with ORC's Member Organizations. As co-chair of the PTAB, Jeremy was tasked with establishing a contract with Patrick to complete. PTAB will providing funding for this project. Jeremy anticipates that a first draft will be available by next month.

Action: Jeremy to prepare a contract for Patrick's review.

d. ORC Policy Manual - Expense claim policy

Jeremy presented the draft Expense Claim Policy and provided the rationale for requiring pre-approval for Director's travel expenses.

Motion: Moved & seconded (JM/GW) that the Expense Claim Policy be approved. **Motion carried.**

- e. July e-newsletter – The Outdoor Recreation Report – Natalia
Natalia gave a brief update.

Proposal to develop a strategic plan – Natalia

Natalia explained that she had begun researching the process of strategic planning and gathering information for the purpose of producing a draft strategic plan. ORC does not have a current strategic plan in place. Jeremy added that it should address the question of funding which will become more critical in future given the limited resources of the Outdoor Recreation Foundation. The Directors asked Natalia to compile data sources about outdoor recreation, such as its impact on the economy, and health and wellness. Natalia will continue to gather information and will produce a draft strategic plan outline in time for the next Board meeting.

Action: Natalia to produce a first draft strategic plan outline.

6. Correspondence

- a. LF BC Snowmobile

The BC Snowmobile Federation (BCSF) sent a letter to ORC on June 1 and terminated their membership. Jeremy responded by email on June 7 to acknowledge receipt of BCSF's letter. Jeremy has written a formal letter response and asked the Board to approve it.

Motion: Moved & seconded (PE/GW) that the letter to BCSF be approved. **Carried.**

Action item: Jeremy to send the approved letter to BCSF's President.

- b. LF Minister of Environment

The Board discussed the letter sent by Minister of Environment, George Heyman, outlining his Ministry's priorities as set by the Premier. The Directors noted that BC Parks is not listed as a priority in the Minister's letter.

Action: Jeremy to draft a response letter to the Minister to represent the interests of public outdoor recreation. A draft will be circulated to the Board.

7. Business related to ORC's mission – Ongoing initiatives, projects & reports.

- a. ORC Access Committee: Update, revised terms of reference, access to meeting minutes on Groups.io – Kim

The Access Committee last met in June. There was no meeting in July or August. Kim reported on his presentation at the Private Forest Landowners Association AGM in June. Kim noted that there are only a handful of large landowners (owning more than 5,000 hectares), and that most of the members own small parcels of land. The landowners' greatest concern is fire risk on their land. The next Access Committee meeting is on September 27. The Committee intends to review the access regimes they've been studying and to eliminate regimes that aren't applicable to BC recreation context.

Action: Jeremy to arrange Groups.io access for all current Directors.

- b. PTAB – Member to replace BCSF nominee – Anticipated next meeting date

Jeremy explained that a consequence of the BCSF's termination is that their current PTAB representative will have to be replaced. The current policy is that ORC can only appoint representatives to the PTAB from its Provincial Organization Members. Dennis felt that since BCSF is a motorized organization, someone from the motorized community should replace the BCSF representative. The Board agreed. A motion was put forward to assign the position to Kim Reeves.

Motion: Moved & seconded (DWh/JM) that Kim Reeves be appointed to the PTAB. **Carried**

Action: Jeremy to notify Tennessee Trent that Kim has been appointed to serve on the PTAB.

- c. 2017 Share the Trails Workshop - Follow-up & Steering Committee
The Share the Trails workshop report was published online in August. The document is now available on ORC's website. Click [here to view](#). The Rail Trails Steering Committee was formed following the May 12 Share the Trails Workshop. The objective of the steering committee is to form a Recreation Advisory Group (or RAG) by bringing together stakeholders from the South BC Region. Once formed, the RAG could explore options for more effective use of the rail trails. The rail trails RAG would be modelled after the [Chilliwack Recreation Advisory Group](#) (or CRAG), which was formed in 2010 and brings together a diverse group of recreation users, both motorized and non-motorized, to discuss and work to solve access issues and user conflicts within the Chilliwack Forest District. This group has been successful in improving communication between the different recreation user groups, industry, First Nations, local government and parks. The first meeting of the rail trails steering committee took place on July 17, 2017 via conference call. During this call, the steering committee took first steps in the process of drafting Terms of Reference. The second meeting has not yet been scheduled, but is planned for September. Jeremy is currently produce a draft TOR based on feedback given at the first conference call. He hopes to complete the draft within the next 2-3 weeks.
- d. Trailhead Canada – Ottawa/Gatineau – November 22/23 – BC representation
Jeremy provided an update. No-one from Recreation Sites & Trails BC (RSTBC) is able to attend because it's difficult to get funding for travel outside the province. Due to low registration numbers the event is currently \$36,000 over budget. The early bird registration rate will be extended into mid-September to encourage registrations. Jeremy asked the Directors to spread the word about the event with their contact networks, and to encourage others to attend the event. Dennis said that he intends to attend and that he's already booked his flight and accommodation. Ciel said that a representative from Trails BC will attend.

Action: All Directors to encourage their organization's Members to register and attend Trailhead Canada.

8. Business related to ORC's mission – Emerging and deferred issues.

- a. Proposed Park Issues Committee
The Directors agreed to defer discussion around this issue to next month.
- b. Report on McGillivray Trail meeting – Lillooet – August 22

Jeremy attended a stakeholder meeting about McGillivray Trail. The meeting was held in Lillooet and was organized by Squamish Lillooet Regional District. McGillivray Trail is of interest to various groups, including First Nations, commercial tourism operators, mountain bikers and hikers. Jeremy reported that the group agreed to leave the trail as is, and that enhancement of the trail was not approved. A number of local First Nations representatives expressed concern that more traffic on the trail would negatively affect wildlife in the area.

c. Forest Practices Board recreation project

The Forest Practices Board is setting up a project on forest/outdoor recreation in BC. They've have had a number of complaints and concerns brought to them over the last few years relating to recreation, and have decided to do a province-wide project as a result. Del Williams, the Manager of Audits and Investigations, is tasked with carrying out the project. This recreation management project will focus exclusively on Crown Land. BC Parks is outside the Board's jurisdiction and will be excluded from consideration.

The concerns have spanned a lot of issues, so much so that they cannot cover them all in one project. Mr. Williams is trying to identify the issues that they should tackle by speaking with people in government, NGO's and the private sector to uncover the key issues. Mr. Williams has already had a conversation with Dave, who was representing FMCBC. Jeremy has scheduled a call with Del and will represent ORC. Dave and Jeremy encouraged the Directors to reach out to Mr. Williams to provide their input on the project. Natalia will circulate Mr. William's contact information.

Action: Natalia to send all Directors Mr. William's contact information.

9. Upcoming events, meetings, etc.

- BC Rivers Day – Sunday September 24. The Directors were encouraged to help promote the event.
- Mountain Bike Tourism Association Symposium – Revelstoke – Sept. 14. Jeremy plans to attend and asked for the Board's approval for his registration fee and travel expenses.

Motion: Moved & seconded (DW/CS) that Jeremy's expenses be approved to attend the Mountain Bike Tourism Association Symposium. **Carried**

- Proposed next Board meeting – **Monday October 2 at 5pm**
- Proposed AGM for Outdoor Recreation Foundation – **4 PM Monday October 2**, preceding the ORC Board Meeting.

Action: Jeremy to send out an AGM notice for ORF

- Trailhead Canada 2017 – Gatineau QC – November 22/23
- Salish Sea Marine Trail Grand Opening Celebration – Sept. 5-17
ORC member BC Marine Trails Network Association is celebrating the grand opening of their Salish Sea Marine Trail. This project is part of the ongoing effort to establish a public marine trails network in BC. In honour of the grand opening, a special event is taking place at Newcastle Island Marine Provincial Park on September 5-17. The Salish Sea Marine Trail connects Victoria to Vancouver as part of the Trans Canada Trail.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18PM.

Draft 2

np/jm

Sept. 12/17