

Wells Gray Outdoors Club

General meeting minutes for

Tuesday September 8th, 2015

7:00 pm at the Clearwater Search and Rescue Building

Present: President: Wes Bieber
Secretary: Jen Belle
Directors: Jean Nelson
Shane Petre
Regrets: Charlotte Smith
Hazel Wadlegger

1. Welcome:

Club president Wes Bieber warmly welcomed all and called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

2. Agenda review:

The agenda was quickly reviewed by Wes with the two additions made, "Cost of membership" and "Fall work bee". The "Trail systems" topic was removed from the agenda.

3. Finances:

A financial review was not done this meeting, although Wes confessed he forgot to bring in some receipts that he needs to be reimbursed for. John White kindly donated his time and expertise in erecting the storage building, and we'll admit he had a few great tricks up his sleeve! Many thanks to his generosity!

4. New business:

a) Safety review/concerns:

We are pleased to announce that not only did we get the difficult aspects of the storage building up, but that we completed the task safely! Nobody was hurt despite the fact that many of us were green to this type of construction. People were well prepared with gloves, and other safety gear. Congratulations for being safe to all those that helped!!

b) Storage building:

We need to look at next steps. At this stage, we have all of the panels up, although loosely. The back will need to be put on, and then the bolts need to be tightened in specific order. We will need Dave, Shane, or Wes there with three other people to work on this task. The weekend of September 26th/27th will be dedicated to completing this job. Some sawhorses will come in handy on these days for cutting the tin (for the back wall). 8:00 a.m. start up time!

The gravel at the front of the building needs to be raked so that it is dropped down four inches from the slab foundation, then graded away from the building at a gentle 1% slope. This will ensure that the groomer isn't turning up any dirt. If we rake the excess gravel away into a pile away from the building, a machine could easily scoop it up to utilize it elsewhere for fill, which we need on the backside of the building and one side as well. The gravel should extend 6 inches or so above the building pad to provide extra support and strength to the pad (lessens the pressure on the pad itself).

We are hoping to have a door built; possibly making use of the extra metal that came with the building.

c) Fall work bee:

A fall work bee needs to be arranged to work on the trails and tidy up around the worksite, and celebrate our new storage building. The tentative date for this will be October 3rd and 4th, pending Bob Dhillon's schedule, as he has agreed to help us with his excavator. We need to move the existing storage unit (can) closer to the new building and have the backfilling done. Wes needs to e-mail the building inspector to double check if we have met the requirements for that permit, because it is a prefabricated, engineered design. Hopefully the backfilling should be allowed to be done after September. He will see if any further inspections need to be made. Solar power was briefly discussed, and hopefully we can learn more from Reid Irly about the subject in early October when he will be in town.

d) Everyone gets to play:

Jean has kindly agreed to represent the Wells Gray Outdoors Club at this event, as she will already be present on behalf of Girl Guides of Canada. She has some membership forms printed off and some Rabbits memorabilia. Sign up for winter sports is to be held at the new Dutch Lake district office for the first time, instead of at the Sportsplex.

e) National Forest Week:

The week of September 21st to 25th is National Forest Week. Bas was wondering if we wanted to have something set up at the warming hut regarding the mountain bike trails during this time. Most club members are busy throughout the week, so any planned occasion will need to happen on a weekend instead. Since we plan to be up there on the 26th/27th anyhow, perhaps we could coordinate something for then as well. Wes will see if Aaron or Darren will be around that weekend to represent the MBT. It would be nice to have an open house for this and to receive some publicity for the mountain bike trails. The mountain bike sub-committee can plan on something for this weekend if they so desire.

f) Cost of membership:

We have decided to not change the membership fees at this time. We are fairly prepared financially for another successful season, but we will need to apply for another grant this fall from Community Forest to support the storage building endeavour (a solar power system, and possibly a woodstove). Mountain bike trail funding will be actively sought as well.

g) Other topics:

Some random quick extra topics were discussed.

Shane inquired about oil, filter and kit for the Skandic, which Wes had the foresight to get already (last year).

There seems to be some disagreement whether or not the PB needs to be serviced. It was suggested that the valves on the engine need to be adjusted. The machine itself has less than a thousand hours on it, so servicing is unlikely. Shane will try to discover what needs to be done. Shane would like to get Erik Belle grooming, and Shane is considering talking to Dean Redman about grooming McMahan's field by the grade school and the pipeline. Andy Schwaiger is another possible candidate for grooming as he has shown an interest in the past. Wes should still be available to groom by the school during the week. Whoever grooms the field should hopefully be able to keep the trailer and snowmobile in their yard, in a secure location. We need 2 groomers!

Once the sea container is moved we can purchase some winter fuel.

Shane was curious if we could replace the gate with a cattle guard. People don't always close the gate after they pass through, so cows may accidentally range freely. Wes will do some investigating on this. If we time things well, we could have it installed while Bob is there with his excavator.

The president of the Wells Gray Outdoors Club would like to extend a massive thank you to all of those that have made the time to be involved in our grand adventures and to help make our

dreams a reality-we now have amazing mountain bike trails and an impressive structure to house our groomer! It has been a stellar successful month!! Thank you!!

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday October 6th, 2015, at 7pm in the Search and Rescue Building.