

SCC AGM November 7, 2016

Annual General Meeting of Saskatoon Canoe Club

J.S. Wood Library, 801 Lansdown Avenue

Present: Dave Peters (Past President), Edith MacHattie (Marathon), Eithan Pillipow (Recreation), Tom Rogers (Membership), Dwayne Surdu-Miller (President), Kate Germin (Treasurer), Brendan Haynes (Equipment-Canoes), Austin Dyck (Equipment-Kayaks), Ann Popoff (Secretary), plus SCC members Brent Cooper, Bob Jackson, Richard Rance, Sima Morazari, John McClean (MAL).

1. Dave opens the meeting at 7:02PM.
2. Agenda adopted as e-mailed.
3. Review of SCC November 9, 2015 AGM minutes.

Motion: Tom Rogers moves adoption of the SCC 2015 AGM minutes. Edith MacHattie seconds. Unanimous.

4. Executive Reports

a) President: Dwayne Surdu-Miller

Some previous executive members remained on this year: Dave, Dwayne, Tom, Kate and Ann. New members are Edith (marathon), Brent (recreation), Brendan (equipment-canoes), Cathy Reaume (equipment-kayaks) and Raina Vingerhoeds (social/publicity); and MAL (members at large) Chelsea Lussier and Adam Trevor. Brent and Cathy resigned and their positions were filled by Austin Dyck (equipment-kayak) and Eithan Pillipow (recreation).

The rack structure for storage at the back of the boathouse was modified to make headroom. Raina put out a spring newsletter and managed a successful Open House, including the Prairie Lily giving instructional rides to inform members on safety procedures. We had a record number of members this year and met with our new CKS Executive Director Kia Schollar. Trip Tales will be held this Saturday November 12 at St. George Anglican Church.

b) Membership: Tom Rogers

- NEW ONLINE MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION: system began January 1, 2016. The system uses the Zone4.ca company online service out of Canmore, Alberta. Zone4 is a major supplier of sports online member and event registration in Canada. The system likely played a major role in increased membership. It also saved the Membership Director and the Treasurer hundreds of hours, since we did not have to input each member's data, and make bank deposits and reconciliations.

- LARGEST MEMBERSHIP IN CLUB HISTORY: SCC currently has 1,332 members, the largest number of members in its history, up from 627 in 2014 and 917 in 2015. The increase possibly occurred because of favourable river conditions and weather, our new online registration system, increasing interest in outdoor activities, the convenience of our location and facilities, and as numbers grow friends bring friends. A large number of new members have never or seldom canoed before. This caused problems throughout the year in terms of proper use of equipment and facilities. The Executive is discussing ways of providing basic training to new members.

- **ORIENTATION CHALLENGE:** Membership registration was 226 between January 1 and our open house on May 1, with another 290 registering at the open house. With only a few members doing orientations we were overwhelmed on May 1 and for several weeks afterward. We were not prepared for such a large number of members so that orientations were rushed and inadequate. A different approach will be needed for orientations in 2017. **One option is to start doing orientations before May 1** for those members registering early. Another option is to organize 15-20 experienced volunteer members and volunteers to do orientations during the May open house, with only a few minutes spent in the boathouse. With nearly 300 members joining during the open house 15 to 20 orientation sessions will be needed.

- **MEMBERSHIP WAS CLOSED FOR 1 MONTH:** Membership continued to increase by about 100 per week after May 1, and by June 30 we had 1,265 members. The Executive was concerned that our equipment could not support that number of members and that members did not know proper use of the equipment, so membership was closed for the month of July. Membership was reopened in August after which 67 more members registered. If membership had not been closed for July, I estimate we would have had another 150 members or roughly 1,500 members by the end of the season.

- **AUGUST MEMBERSHIP:** I was travelling during August during which Membership was thankfully and capably coordinated by Chelsea Lussier, Executive-Members-at-Large.

- **GOOGLE SHEETS USED TO ORGANIZE TUESDAY ORIENTATIONS:** With the assistance of Minna Liang, Executive-Member -at- Large a Google Sheets documents “SCC Tuesday Orientation and Registration 7-7:30pm Volunteer sign-up sheet 2016” was created to assist members to volunteer to sign up for registering members and conducting orientations on Tuesdays. While we were overwhelmed with the numbers of members coming to register and have orientations the Sheets documents was useful to scheduling the volunteers. The document was also useful in keeping track of volunteers for free memberships. It might also be useful to schedule and track volunteers for the Thursday Paddle.

- **FREE MEMBERSHIPS:** Free memberships for 2017 for those assisting with Tuesday Registrations and Orientations, and Thursday paddles are recommended for:

Deborah McConkey, Richard Wiens, Minna Liang, Penny-Lynne Micklewright, Matt Kozun, Mark Folstad, Raina Vingerhoeds, Darleen Pratt, Richard Letkeman, Chelsea Lussier, Dave Peters, John McClean, Dwayne Surdu-Millar, Brendan Haynes. (please advise if I have missed anyone).

- **THANK YOU:** It was an enjoyable year. I will be available to give advice to the incoming Membership Director.

- **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NEXT EXECUTIVE:**

1. Wifi access at the boathouse would be convenient for members to register, and save more time for the Membership Director and the Treasurer
2. A battery operated motion detector light was added to the stairway to the upper equipment level. This light should be hard wired.

3. The boat sign out system, ie the white board, and the bulletin board, are difficult to access resulting in sporadic use and lack of information to members. Access would be improved with removal of the cindercrete block storage area at the front of the boathouse and finding another option for storage of the safety boat gasoline can.
4. More signs indicating proper use of boathouse facilities would help accomplish that goal.
5. We have grown beyond a group of friends and now require significant time to run the club. The executive should hire part time advisors to help new members and assist with orientations. They could be at the boathouse 4-8pm weekdays and 8am-8pm on weekends. Another option is working with other clubs to have full time management at the boathouse.
6. The executive could consider installation a security system, perhaps in conjunction with the other clubs at the boathouse, and with the City. We have many examples of misuse of club equipment and facilities, non-member use of club facilities, and bike thefts from the outdoor racks.
7. Our open house, dock maintenance and installation, and access to water need to be coordinated with the other clubs and the City.
8. There is no formal communication between boathouse users and the City. My casual discussions with the other clubs, The Saskatoon Racing Canoe Club, The Saskatoon Rowing Club, and the City suggest that there is interest meeting to discuss possible improvements for all clubs as mentioned above. Some possibilities I see are joint management, better coordination of equipment like safety boats, more efficient use of space, making structural changes at the boathouse, discussion of future plans for boathouse expansion and parking. It might also be useful and other clubs might be interested in sharing the space and the cost of the heated area of the boathouse.

c) Treasurer: Kate Germin

We have had a good financial year with the revenue from the biggest membership ever. Plus the ability of members to easily donate to the club when they register has brought in an extra \$1725. The donation money has been added to the Administration account. Question by Brendon Haynes: Does Zone 4 take 3% of the donated money as well? Yes. Discussion re other ways for club members to donate. Discussion that we would not see the amount of donation if it were not made so easy by Zone 4.

Explanation of Zone 4 fees: \$1 per cart, \$1 per person on each cart and 3% of the total dollars of each cart.

Balances to date:

Administration - \$21,949.17

Marathon - \$2,367.93

Recreation - \$39,022.41

Rec Self Insurance - \$6,000.00

CKS - \$0 (all CKS membership fees are paid)

Total – \$69,339.51

At the end of the year the money in the administration account will be distributed on a pro rated basis to Marathon and Recreation, leaving \$5000.00 in the administration account to start the new year.

Please see the attached Review Engagement Report and Financial Statement for the year ending Dec 31, 2015.

d) Marathon Director: Edith MacHattie

It was a good year for Marathon. We had a total of 30 Marathon only members and 63 Marathon and Recreation members. Many of these were returning members but there were some keen new ones. A number of younger members came out consistently to group paddles, volunteered at races, and even tried racing which is encouraging for the future of the club.

We continued group paddle sessions as last year with the Wednesday paddle being a mentoring session for newer paddlers. It again included a focus each week with some instruction and coaching. This year we re-introduced a fun mini points race into the Wednesday group paddle, which was well received. We managed 18 official group paddles this season but a core group of members still meets twice weekly to paddle.

In the spring we did many needed repairs on our boats. We had a great showing of volunteer spirit as this was a major undertaking and took most of a weekend to accomplish.

We also purchased a used Gillies boat to add to our fleet. Almost all of our boats are V1 models and the idea behind the purchase was to allow members to try paddling a different model used in racing.

We hosted three races which were attended by paddlers from SK, MB, AB and BC. New this year was hosting a clinic associated with a race, something we will do again next year.

SCC Marathon paddlers made a good showing at provincial races this year, helping other clubs with the success of their events. Several members also raced internationally in the Triple Crown series and did very well.

Next year's dates for hosting races have been set and communicated to CKS:

1. Cranberry Punch (race and clinic) – Saturday July 15, 2017
2. Eb's Classic (race and clinic) – Sunday July 16, 2017
3. Rec & Rookie Race – Saturday September 9, 2017

Plans for additional clinics are in the works and applications for funding will be sent out in a timely manner.

e) Recreation Director : Eithan Pillipow

Eithan is working with Kate (treasurer) applying for grants. He is looking forward to learning more and participating in group paddles. This past year Dave (our past president) did all Thursday night recreation paddles introducing new members to boat handling on our river.

f) Equipment Director-Canoes: Brendan Haynes

We purchased and sold some canoes. The plan is to purchase a broader range of different boats from different manufacturers so members can make decisions about which ones to buy for themselves.. Next year we will order more paddles and PFD's. A new canoe is on order. Storage is at our limit. It is a relief to have a kayak equipment manager.

g) Equipment Director-Kayaks: Austin Dyck

We probably do not need to purchase more kayaks but plan to buy better paddles. There is some preventable wear on kayaks; those not reparable will be sold and replaced. The Delta is the most popular so gets more wear. There have been requests for more tandems (1 or 2). There is a possibility of working with Eb's for weekly inspection and repairs.

h) Social/Publicity: Raina Vingerhoeds (absent)

Raina organized a very successful open house and sent out a spring newsletter. Trip tales Saturday November 12 at St. George's Church, 5:30.

5. Budget Presentation: Kate Germin

The budget was distributed, discussed and accepted with one small change. See attached. Note adjustment to marathon numbers. Equipment grants will change in 2017.

Motion: Kate Germin moves the budget be adopted as presented with changes. John Mclean seconds. Unanimous.

6. Financial review

Motion: Dave Peters moves SCC have a financial review performed for the 2016 financial year rather than a financial audit. Dwayne Surdo-Miller seconds. Unanimous.

7. Elections

President-Vacant

Membership-Vacant

Marathon-Edith MacHattie

Treasurer-Kate Germin

Recreation-Eithan Pillipow

Equipment: Canoes-Brendan Haynes

Equipment: Kayaks-Austin Dyck

Secretary-Ann Popoff

Social/Publications-Raina Vingerhoeds

Positions were filled by acclamation. President and membership director vacant.

Members at Large (MAL): Richard Rance

John McClean

Trevor Robinson

Members were elected as MAL by acclamation.

8. Purchasing Procedure: John McClean

John summarizes the purchasing procedure the SCC made in 2010.

Recommendations: a) Put the purchasing procedure on next year's SCC AGM.

b) The SCC 2017 AGM also review the recommendation: "That a voting SCC executive member cannot be paid for any work done for the club."

9. Adjournment: Dave Peters Adjourns the SCC 2016 AGM at 8:31PM.

NOTE: next executive meeting Monday, November 28th, 7PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by J. Ann Popoff