

Outdoor Recreation Council of BC
Meeting of Executive Board of Directors

5.30 PM Monday, February 1, 2016
1101 - 207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver

MINUTES

<u>Present</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Gordon Weetman	Director	Advisory Member, UBC Faculty of Forestry
Don Reid	Director	Trails Society of BC
Roxanne Rousseau	Director	Sea Kayak Association of BC
Jeremy McCall	Executive Director	
<u>By phone</u>		
Dennis Webb	Director, Chair	Quad Riders ATV Association of BC
Kim Reeves	Director	Four Wheel Drive Association of BC
Rose Schroeder	Director	Back Country Horsemen of BC
Penney Edwards	Director	BC Nature
<u>Unable to attend</u>		
Dave Wharton	Director, Vice Chair	Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
Erin Hart	Director	BC Snowmobile Federation
David Lock	Director	BC Off Road Motor Cycle Association

1. Dennis called the meeting to order at 5.33 PM and conducted a roll-call.

2. Approval of agenda

Motion: Moved & seconded (RS/KR). That the agenda be approved. Item 7(e) KVR right-of-way at Vaseux Lake, was added. **Agenda approved as amended.**

3. Minutes of the January 11 meeting of the Executive

a. Approval, errors & omissions:

Motion: Moved & seconded (DR/RS). That the minutes of the January 11 meeting be approved. **Motion carried.**

b. Action items in January 11 meeting minutes:

Item 4(b): Check availability of Yarrow Community School for AGM on June 1. Done. Rose has booked the school for June 11.

Item 4(d): Develop policies for Policy Binder. In progress.

Item 4(g): Inform Jeff Mohr and Stephen Partington that they are appointed as members of the Outdoor Recreation Foundation. Informed by Jeremy.

Item 7(b): Jeremy to draft letter to Ministers Thomson and Polak re Singing Pass access. See today's Item 7(b).

c. Business arising from the minutes: None

(Penney and Rose joined meeting)

4. Administration, membership and general

a. 2016 Annual General Meeting – program: This was put on the agenda in case any member of the Executive has a proposal for a presentation. However Dennis said that with the presentation of the new bylaws there is likely to be a lot of discussion so it should be considered as a working meeting. It was agreed that there should be no program. Rose enquired about preferences for the lunch menu and the option of soup and sandwiches was selected.

- c. Revision of ORC's bylaws: Before the weekend Don and Jeremy circulated Versions X & Y of the new bylaws, showing minor differences in their approaches to some sections, together with a joint document listing the reasons for developing completely new bylaws and also listing the principal changes proposed. Dennis agreed to allocate half an hour to discussion of some of the questions raised by the documents. Following the discussion of a few items it was resolved to schedule a special 1.5 hour meeting on Tuesday February 16 at 5.30 PM just to discuss the new by-laws. Don and Jeremy agreed to make amendments based on the feedback from this meeting and develop a fresh draft for the February 16 meeting.
- d. Revised list of headings for proposed ORC Policy Binder: Jeremy sorted the headings into logical order and distributed the list to the Executive. He will begin developing draft policies for the Executive to review during the next few weeks.
- e. Planned hiring of information services assistant: No further progress. Mark Angelo has suggested that an intern assist with writing the report on the 2016 Endangered Rivers List. **Tabled.**

5. Correspondence

None

6. Business related to ORC's mission - Current initiatives, projects & reports

- a. 2016 Share the Trails workshop – update & program: Jeremy and Rose updated members on the plans for this workshop:
 - Date and location: May 6, Prestige Inn, Salmon Arm
 - Program: Professional presentation on the nature of conflict; presentations by Chilliwack Recreation Advisory Group, Tabor Mountain Recreation Association, Shuswap Trail Alliance (STA); STA presentation on working with First Nations; IMBA Canada presentation re education of mountain bike clubs; FLNRO update re Provincial Trails Advisory Body (PTAB) and the Natural Resource Roads Act.
 - Outdoor activities: Saturday May 7 will include an opportunity to learn about equestrian interactions with other trail users

It was agreed that we should have a record of proceedings of this workshop.
- b. Outdoor recreation access on private forest lands - progress report: Graham Litman, the UVic law student allocated to this project, provided a draft of his conclusion which referred to some of his findings. The full report and the conclusion have yet to be approved by Calvin Sanborn, head of the Environmental Law Centre. Some of the findings referred to in the draft conclusion appear to be positive although Gordon questioned whether there would be anything new in the findings.
- c. Campaign for BC Parks – Progress report: On January 27 ORC e-mailed its member organizations to urge them to contact government MLAs with Provincial Parks in their ridings. To assist them with these meetings ORC provided a list of the MLAs and a simple fact sheet indicating the serious decline in funding for BC Parks operations over the past 20 years. The fact sheet was developed in conjunction with George Creek of the Council of BC Yacht Clubs. Prior to the meeting of the Executive, several members had already met with their MLAs and the campaign appeared to be off to a good start. The budget is expected to be announced before the end of February.

- d. January 21 CTF Board meeting report including update on NTC trail grants: The CTF Board meeting was on January 21. Jeremy reported that projects had to be completed by December 31, that the National Program Administrator (NPA) for the non-motorized sector managed 110 trail projects, that wherever possible funds turned back by applicants were transferred to other applicants in the same province, that the final 10% payment by Infrastructure Canada will be made on June 28 and that 44 projects will be audited (it was not clear whether the audit applies to projects from all sectors or just the non-motorized). The CTF directors to the NTC (John Cushing, Jack De Wit) said that allowing 4% of the \$10 million program for administration was not sufficient but they commended the NPAs for doing a good job with limited resources.
- (e) 2016 Endangered Rivers Campaign: Mark Angelo has requested that the nomination period end no later than March 11. Jeremy is revising the on-line survey form to get it ready to launch the campaign by February 8. There was no campaign in 2015. The 2014 survey form will be simpler and will ask those completing it to name the region in which the nominated river is located. That way even if the Peace gets the most nominations again it will be possible for other endangered rivers to stand out.

7. Business related to ORC's mission – Emerging issues

- a. Back Country Horsemen of BC's (BCHBC) trail issues in South Chilcotin Mountains Provincial Park and the Bridge River Valley: Earlier in the day Rose circulated an e-mail from Kevan Bracewell, proprietor of Chilcotin Holidays, which provides horseback tours and other commercial recreation activities in the above areas. Mr Bracewell's e-mail reiterated concerns he was known to have about Destination BC's support for mountain biking trails in the Bridge River Valley. Rose said she thought things had settled down in the area but it appears that Destination BC is funding a program to promote trails in the area though these trails have not yet been officially designated. Rose suggested that in fact, based on the information provided, Mr Bracewell's concerns might be justified and others agreed. Jeremy agreed to bring up the question of Destination BC's indirect funding of outdoor recreation at the meeting of the PTAB being scheduled for later in February.
- b. Singing Pass Trail Access - Draft letter to Ministers Thomson & Polak: Jeremy has assembled some of the relevant facts in a rough draft of the proposed letter which he has circulated to selected members of the Federation of Mountain Clubs (FMC) for fact checking. A question was raised as to whether the FMC wanted ORC to become involved in this issue. Jeremy said members of other organizations such as BC Nature also have a strong interest in getting the Singing Pass Trail reopened so there are good reasons for ORC to get involved.
- c. Garibaldi at Squamish resort development: This is an information item to make sure members of the Executive were aware that the Environmental Assessment certificate for this massive development was issued on January 29 after many fits and starts.
- d. Reprint of the Trail Users Code of Ethics: Penney provided some additional wording to consider for the pamphlet by e-mail. The objective is to have it drafted, designed and printed in time for the Share the Trails Workshop.
- e. KVR right of way at Vaseux Lake: Don proposed that ORC write a letter in support of opening up the right of way on the former KVR railbed where it passes on the west side of Vaseux Lake. A member of Trails BC has established that the

right of way is within an area managed by the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) and that it is in the immediate vicinity of a Big Horn Sheep Wildlife Management Area. Don said that in these circumstances it was questionable whether any access along the railbed would be permitted and it is doubtful that motorized access would be allowed. Don agreed to do more research into precisely what ORC would be asked to support. The matter was deferred until March.

Action item: Don to research the pros and cons of opening the KVR right of way at Vaseux Lake and draft a support letter if appropriate.

8. Upcoming events & meetings:

- a. Next meeting of the Executive re bylaws: 5.30 PM – 7 PM Tuesday February 16.
- b. Next regular meeting of the Executive: 5.30 PM Monday March 7
- b. ORC Annual General Meeting: Saturday June 11 at the Prestige Inn, Salmon Arm.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7.40 PM.

As approved
Mar. 7/16
jm