

Squamish Windsports Society
Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on November 5, 2009 at West Vancouver Yacht Club

Directors present:

Gary Smith (President), Jean-Michel Tremblay, Woody Adal, Jamie Martin, Shannon Goetsch, Kyle Touhey

Directors unable to attend:

Sandra Bicego (Vice President), Chris Glazier (Treasurer), Gwen L'Hirondelle (Secretary), Dan Druet

Members present: 13

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the President at approximately 7:00 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was **moved** by Woody Adal and **seconded** by Jamie Martin that the agenda be approved.

Carried.

3. Approval of Minutes of 2008 AGM

It was **moved** by Jenn Lewis and **seconded** by Jamie Martin that the minutes of the 2008 AGM be approved.

Carried.

4. President's Report

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The President reported as follows:

“[This year was the most successful year we have had in the six years I have been president. This was due to a number of factors, but most notably the wonderful weather. From May to September we had sunshine and wind almost every day. September and October were unpredictable with a few good days as well.

Another reason things went so well was that we had a return of two of our regular staff for a second year and they did an excellent job. They became more proficient at extracting money from day sailors, which really helped our bank account. The area of collections will have to be a priority in the future if we are to maintain financial success. An active and hard-working board of directors made the management of the society more achievable. Jamie did his usual work with the various local groups, Jean-Michel managed the staff and the Spit, Chris kept tabs on the accounting and Gwen took care of the secretarial duties. Woody joined us this year and was successful at getting us a \$5,000 grant as well as upgrading technology and arranging meetings by Skype. Kyle joined this year as well and initiated the kiteboarding races. Sandra was the vice-president and worked on many issues including the emerging new Nexan beach. Dan kept a watch for safety issues and acted as a liaison between the staff and the directors. Shannon was injured and was unable to participate as much this year.

We have come a long way in the past 6 years. We have evolved from a small windsurfing club with some kiteboarders into a much larger mostly kiteboarding society. The new windsports park is in place and we have a decent storage container with clean change rooms. The new dock is paid for. With close to 300 members and many day users we have managed to become financially successful and will have enough funds for a new retrieval craft next year. We are working on repairing and restoring the Windline. Skypilot has donated their webcam to the Society and Mike Harding is working on bringing that back into operation.

There are many items that need to be addressed in the coming years. With increased numbers safety issues will be very important. A lot of ground work has been done this year on safety, and we are almost ready to implement improvements. We will have to lobby the District to continue to participate, especially in the upgrading and maintenance of the road.

It is time to get some new direction for the Board. I am stepping down and Sandra has agreed to stand for the office of president. Most of the rest of the board has agreed to stay on. The majority of the Board members now live in Squamish. It has been a pleasure to work with the many people who have given so generously of themselves over the past six years so we could all have such a wonderful experience doing the sports we love.”

It was **moved** by Jenn Lewis and **seconded** by Jamie Martin that the President’s report be accepted.

Carried.

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5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer was unable to be present to present his report. Jean-Michel Tremblay reviewed the key points: the number of members increased to 300 in 2009, day use was steady, and the Society ended the season with enough money in the bank to cover the cost of purchasing a new jet ski.

It was **moved** by Jenn Lewis and **seconded** by Maurice (?surname) that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Carried.

6. Special presentation:

Jim Hegan presented an excellent slide show of windsports at the Spit during the 2009 season. (There was no detail on the recordings about this. Should anything else be said?)

7. New Business:

a. River access improvements:

The President reported that a set of stairs going down to the river will be built with flat rock by next season.

b. Collection of day fees:

The President noted that it has been suggested that method of payment for day use by students of kite schools be changed.

It was **moved** by Mathieu Pilon and **seconded** by Colin Ernst that a flat annual fee be charged for kite schools, with the amount of the fee for the 2010 season to be worked out between the Directors and the schools.

Defeated: 2 in favour and 10 against.

It was **moved** by Kyle Touhey and **seconded** by (not recorded) that a per person day fee be charged for schools, collected in a different way than at present, with the amount to be decided later and details worked out with the schools.

Carried unanimously.

c. Special resolution to amend the Society's Constitution:

It was **moved** by Shannon Goetsch and **seconded** by Kyle Touhey that the following special resolution, to amend the Society's Constitution, be adopted:

Resolved that the Constitution of the Squamish Windsports Society be amended by changing its purpose, as described in section 2. a), from "*To organize and promote the sport of windsurfing in the Squamish area.*" to "*To organize and promote the sports of windsurfing and kiteboarding in the Squamish area.*"

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Carried unanimously and by the required 75% majority.

d. Oceanfront development at Nexen:

The President asked what role that members want the Society to play with respect to working with the SODC (Squamish Oceanfront Development Corporation) to promote or establish a Windsports park.

It was **moved** by Mathieu Pilon and **seconded** by Kyle Touhey that the Directors work with SODC.

Carried.

e. Condition of the road to the Spit:

The President reported that the District was not able to provide road maintenance during 2009, and that future funding is uncertain.

f. Race series:

The President asked for feedback from the members on the kiteboard race series which was held in 2009.

It was **moved** by Colin Ernst and **seconded** by Kyle Touhey that the race series be continued.

Carried.

It was **moved** by Kyle Touhey (**with no seconder recorded**) that a budget be allocated for a racing series, with the amount of the budget to be worked out by the Directors, and that setting a fee for racing would be part of building the budget.

Carried.

8. Other Business:

a. Windline:

Jamie reported that the service is back in operation. It provides average wind conditions at the terminal buildings opposite the Spit for the past 20, 40, and 60 minutes. This is provided at no cost to members as Squamish Terminals funds the cost of the phone.

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9. Election of Officers:

The President reviewed the names of those who agreed to stand for election as Directors for 2010: Sandra Bicego (also willing to be elected as President), Chris Glazier, Gwen L'Hirondelle, Chris Prior, Tamsyn Morote, Jean-Michel Tremblay, Shannon Goetsch, Woody Adal, Jamie Martin, Kyle Touhey, Dan Druet, Mark Gray, Jenn Lewis, and Mathieu Pilon. The members present agreed to elect the whole slate.

10. Recognition of Retiring President:

Jamie Martin, Past President, spoke on behalf of the Directors. He acknowledged the long-time membership of Gary Smith, who stepped forward from the membership to become President in 2003 when the Society was in danger of dissolving. He has served as President since that date. Unbeknownst to most members, Gary has quietly donated items and services, especially when the Society was short of money. Jamie noted that Gary is well-respected in both the Windsports community and the Windsports industry in the Pacific Northwest. He worked diligently with the District of Squamish to obtain the annual leases for the Spit and was instrumental in obtaining the five-year lease the Society currently holds for the Spit. Jamie recalled that Gary mentioned early in the 2009 season that it was important to him to leave the Society in better shape than he found it. Jamie confirmed that Gary had indeed succeeded with this goal. He noted that the Board will be inviting Gary to a recognition ceremony on Opening Day for the 2010 season. Jamie closed by saying that it had been a privilege to work with Gary, and that his leadership would be missed.

11. Adjournment:

It was **moved** by Woody Adal at 10:15 pm that the meeting be adjourned.

Carried.