

**Squamish Windsports Society
Minutes of the 2012 Annual General Meeting**

Held on Nov 20, 2012 at West Vancouver Yacht Club

Directors Present:

Simon Kent (President), Jamie Martin (Vice-President), Chris Glazier (Treasurer), Woody Adal (Secretary),
Jean-Michel Tremblay (Director - Operations), Don Campbell (Director - Race)

Directors Unable to Attend:

Mark Leng.

Members Present:23

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the president at 7:30 PM.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Woody Adal and seconded by Chris Glazier that the agenda be approved.
CARRIED.

3. Approval 2011 AGM minutes:

It was moved by Simon Kent and seconded by Woody Adal that the minutes be approved.
CARRIED.

4. President's Report & Significant Developments:

- Membership increased to 372 members.
- Set a record number of Day fees; almost doubled from prior year. The increase was due to increase interest in Kiteboarding and Groupon promotions by Kite schools.
- Replenished the gravel that was lost via winter storms and erosion.
- Replaced worn rigging mats; the new ones came from a mill in Kamloops.
- The race series was a success and gained a lot of press.
- Continued to negotiate with the District of Squamish on the Spit lease.
- The society instituted water sampling with Vancouver Coastal Health. Results so far are within acceptable limits for public safety.
- No accidents occurred this year
- Noticed an improved vibe this year when compared to previous years.

5. Goals for next year:

- Implement launching and landing right of ways, improve the placement of Beached kites.
- Review the expansion of the spit to allow for more members; however funding will be a challenge.
- Consult with Vancouver Parks Board to establish a Kiteboard launching and landing near Arcadia. Had the first meeting at Jericho with the director at which time rigging and flying a kite was demonstrated.
- Monitor the water quality of the sailing area. During one weekend a few members complained of being sick after being exposed to the river water. The water treatment plant upriver remove particulates but they do not treat the water. There are more pollutants coming from various upstream sites so the germs/pollutants may not be from the water treatment plant. SWS is working with Vancouver Coastal Health to monitor water quality by sampling several areas near the spit: river, launch site and out in the sound. The following are the results of one testing day: 82 in river, 75 launch area and 91 in open water (Test score of under 200 is okay for swimming). Will test in spring again; more information is available at the VCH website.
- As the society grows there is an increase risk of fraud or misuse of funds. The board will implement stricter financial controls.
- The board would like to establish a rainy day fund to pay for (jet ski, rescue sled, gravel replenishment). Although we had a record year in terms of day fees collected the society cannot rely on this stream of income.
- At some point in the future the society would like to expand the site by widening the walkway to the pier.
- The lease with the District of Squamish expired in 2010, the past and current presidents has been diligent in negotiating for a lease. The District would like to have a 10 years lease and at present is working on a Parks and Recreational Master Plan. There has been no timeline given by the District on when they will like a lease to be signed. In the mean time SWS will continue to operate within the lease framework.

6. Spit:

- Camping - no camping at the spit; SWS was not told until this year the spit is not zoned for that activity; the district is willing to work with SWS to rezoned the area; however until it is rezoned bylaws officers may issue tickets to campers.
- Dogs - During the season it was observed that dogs were pooping all over the spit and in some instances fighting with each other. The Board will review the safety policy and ensure compliance; there is a danger of children being bitten by dogs.

7. Road:

- Complaints of speeding on the spit road which in turn throws up dust - There was talk of putting asphalt, concrete or oil to minimize dust thrown by passing motorist; however these options are expensive and not environmentally friendly.
- The District is not willing to put up speed limit signs on the spit road as they fear they will be stolen or vandalized.

- Ideas were put forth to slow cars down by putting in Speed bumps or move walkers away from the road by creating a walking path. If there are interested parties they can form a group to lobby for funding.
- District will grade when they have time; they will only grade when it rains to avoid dust clouds. Grading the spit road is harsh on the equipment

8. Parking:

- Bylaw officer noted that during the big race events and busy weekends; it would have been difficult for first responders to access the spit. The district would like the society to enforce diagonal parking. Kyle suggested he could look at setting up parking lines as not drivers are aware of angle parking requirement. We may need to have a parking monitor during busy weekends.

9. Treasury Report:

- There is a requirement that non profit societies that have revenues over \$50,000 collect HST. 2010 was the first year the society revenues exceeded \$50,000; as such the Society is on the hook to pay HST for 2010, 2011 and 2012. There is enough money in the SWS bank account to pay the amounts owing.
- Membership fees for 2013 onward will include all taxes.
- Revenue collected this year was used for the following: site maintenance, Porta-Potties, jetski operations, rigging mats, dock repair, misc supplies, excavation, peat gravel, payroll and Board of Directors conference calls.
- The society supported racing to the tune of \$400; there was no cost to the society for Kite'o'ween.
- Society will introduce online Credit card payment at the spit.
- Copy of Revenue and Expenditure were provided to the members.

It was moved by Simon Kent and seconded by Woody Adal that the Treasury report be approved.
CARRIED.

10. Operation Report:

- Started the year with one new school; the school built a deck. SWS had to remove the deck as no permit was given from the District to erect the deck.
- With the three schools there are too many boats with the current dock. It time consuming for staff to get the jet ski out for retrieval and dock again or tie up to an existing boat. May have to get a new dock module or limit use of the dock for the schools.
- A of money was spent to maintain the jet skis; spent money on refinishing the surface.
- New rescue sled will be bought for 2013.
- Had one day where 200 people was at the spit.
- Spit manager expressed a concern that by having a Retrieval service, some members have been increased their level of risk tolerance, in terms of the wind conditions in which they will sail.

11. Race Report:

- The Summer Race series had up to 20 participants.
- The Big Event Race sold out at 35. The racers were some of the world's best kite boarders.
- Overall racing contributed to the overall good vibe at the spit. There was coverage in the local papers and Television for the Big Event.
- The Major sponsor would like to to it again for 2013.
- The negative to this event, is that the Big Event is becoming too popular; there are too many racing rigs on the beach. Race Directors will have to create innovated ways to handle the number of beached kites; one idea would be to split racing from one full day to two half days.
- Directors are considering moving the Big Event to a weekday; however, Sponsors and Press want it for the weekend.
- Revenue collected for Racing Totaled \$10000; \$5100 of the total came from race fees.

12. New Business:

- Complaints about launching and landing. There are too many kites and its not efficient anymore to have a free for all. Hood River has a beach marshals to direct landing and launching.; the Board would like to have similar approach. At the last board of Directors meeting, it was agreed a beach marshal would be needed. the job will be to direct and educate members on launching, landing, and resting kites etiquette. Beach Marshal needed for the busy time, high tide and beginning of the season. Don Campbell presented various ideas for how to organize landing and launching of kites. This should be in place for next season. Don will post the idea on the KiteBC.
- Request by a member to get corporate sponsorship for the Spit.

13. Revenue:

- Explore the possibility of charging a fee to the Schools.
- Raise membership fees to help pay for increase in staff. Raising the day fees is more of an incentive for full membership.
- It was moved by Simon Kent and seconded by Chris Glazier that the fee schedule be changed to the following (all prices include tax).
 - Remove early bird discount.
 - Remove one week.
 - Remove couple.
 - Day \$20.
 - Season \$165.
 - Family \$275.
 - Student \$75.
 - Half Season beginning Aug 1 \$105.

It was unanimously agreed upon by all in attendance. CARRIED

14. Election of Officers:

Each position was unchallenged and each officer was elected unanimously by the members in attendance.

- President - Simon Kent
- Vice-President - Jamie Martin
- Treasury - Chris Glazier
- Secretary - Woody Adal
- Director:Operations - Jean-Michel Tremblay
- Directors:Race - Don Campbell, Andrew Wong
- Director:Vancouver Beach Access: Steve Codrington

15. Adjournment:

It was moved by Woody Adal at 10:00 PM that the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED.