

DRAFT YRMPA AGM MINUTES Nov 24, 2021 530 pm-700 pm
Via Zoom

Attending: Peter Coates (chairing), Deb Bartlette (recording), Wolfram Schleicher, Christa Van Laerhoven, Chris Parker, Al Foster, Lidwien, Mike McCormack, Spencer Edelman, Mike De Abreu, Bill Stanzeliet, Anne Jessup, Krista Moroz, Carmen Gustafson, Jason Beinsch, Stan Fordyce, Stephen Mooney, Jeff Brady, George True, Jim Boyde, Mia Lee. Thomas de Jaeger, Rowan (??), Alison Emerenko

Call to order: 530 pm

Dec 2020 AGM minutes: MSC Approve the minutes as circulated. No errors or omissions noted.

Approval of agenda: Approved as circulated.

President's Report: The report was circulated. Peter made some clarifications/additional comments on some things in that report.

Note that the Board has not yet made any final decisions regarding Coalmine/old campground. Some sort of split between the two may happen.

Also note that the decision on race cancellation was discussed and determined by the Race Marshall, Assistant Race Marshall, Carmacks Coordinator, Minto Coordinator, the vice-president and president. The RM, ARM, CC and MC voted to cancel. The VP and President did not vote.

Fees were increased in order to pay for the hiring of a Race Director. This is necessary due 'volunteer burn-out' in the Yukon.

Relationships with First Nations are better than they have been in the past. We continue to work on this.

There has been some confusion over taking only the wait list fee at this point. The race is not full. We are just not taking the full race fees until the new year, in an effort to avoid a lot of refunds.

Correction: Re: safety at 5 Finger Rapids for the Aug race; it was provided by James Smith and Dylan Hale.

Financial report: despite 2 difficult years due to cancellations, we are quite solid financially. We have not made any money, but 'lost' only a bit due to some costs incurred but not offset by revenue.

Our financial position currently looks lower than usual as we have not yet taken any race fees. Lidwien commented that even though the bank account looks healthy, we have no GIC/savings account in reserve. What is in the bank has to cover all our expenses for 2022 and the cushion to start the 2023 year. It is normal to have at least a 20-45 thousand cushion so that we can continue to pay expenses between year end and the collection of the next year's registration fees.

Questions as to cell phone charges: this includes the set-up fees for the Comms room for the 2022 race. Note that we pay NWTel the \$1000 fee and they donate the \$1000 back to us.

Special resolution: that the audit for 2020-2021 financial year be waived.

Moved by: Jeff Brady. Seconded by Anne Jessup. Passed Unanimously.

Introduction of Race director: Mia Lee

Official thank-you to Jeff and Al, departing board members.

Election of directors:

Up for re-election: Anne Jessup, Stan Fordyce, Stephen Mooney

New people running: Jason Beinsch, Krista Mroz

Each of these are a two-year term.

No other nominations. The slate is acclaimed.

Questions from the membership: Deb provided an overview of the risk process.

A question was asked about the staggered start. Peter provided a response. Thomas noted that the early start would be difficult for outfitters hauling boats to the start. Peter said that a 9 am and noon start provide better safety on the lake as fewer boats are on the lake during the late afternoon and early evening period when storms tend to occur.

Carmen commented that there were some concerns from international paddlers (and some locals) re the need for support crew. She commented that is hard for paddlers to contact the board directly with concerns, for e.g., about the fees. Better communication with racers re: changes is needed.

Peter pointed out that the info@ email is on every race page and this goes to the Exec and Race Director. A Rules Committee is under consideration.

Alison raised concerns about qualifying solo paddlers and suggested that the half race be used as a qualifier for the full race. She also asked why half the 2022 field is solo boats. Peter provided an overview of the process used to vet solo paddlers.

Thomas pointed out that there are many uncertainties in each race and we cannot guarantee absolute safety. It is an adventure race. Adventure has certain risks. Even experienced racers can run into problems.

Alison seconded Carmen's point about communication: it is important to reach out to racers.

Adjourned at 650 pm.