

Friends of the Rossland Range BOARD MEETING Thursday Apr. 20th, 2023
5:00pm MINUTES Prestige Hotel Meeting Room

Present:

Randy Bennett, Les Carter*, Kim Deane*, Dan Derby, Larry Doell*, Sara Golling, Gerry Heacock*, Rob Richardson* and Dolf VanNus *Director

Meeting called to order at 5:05pm

- 1) Quorum present? Yes – 5 Directors present.
- 2) Approval of Minutes of previous meeting (Feb. 2nd, 2023)
“Moved that these Minutes be approved”. Moved by Larry Doell; seconded by Les Carter.
Vote called: motion passed.
- 3) Appointment of Dan Derby to vacant Director’s position:
“Moved that Dan Derby be appointed to the vacant Director’s position forthwith.”
Vote called: motion passed.
Meeting congratulated Dan and welcomed him to the Board.
- 4) FoRR Board ‘Governance’
Les has submitted two papers:
“What does being a FoRR Director involve?” (1-page)
“Notes ...as a discussion starter (for Board meetings)” (4-pages)
Les noted that FoRR has accomplished a great deal and is regarded by RS&T BC, funders and others as an excellent manager. It has done this with an informal governance style and a heavy reliance on a few people (not uncommon in volunteer, non-profit organizations).
Les suggests that due to the ‘age & stage’ of FoRR, key volunteers and the Rec Site itself; plus a possible increase in Gov’t involvement, the Board should consider a review of its ‘Governance’. The objective is to keep FoRR energetic and matched to evolving demands.
Les proposes this review be done over time to allow us collectively to increase understandings and maximize input from Board members - say, into this coming fall.
The Meeting was supportive of this task and timetable - encouraging Board members to give thought to Les’ material for upcoming meetings.
- 5) Risk Management topic.
Kim asked if FoRR needed a formal ‘Risk Management’ policy.
A discussion ensued with informed comments both pro and con. It was clear the collective experience of the Board members in this regard is substantial, and the factors involved are complex. Next step - ask RS&T BC (Justin) for his thoughts. Then, to consider this further.
- 6) Financial: Term Deposit at NDCU \$50,000 1-year at 4.2%. early Feb, ’23 to ’24).
Rob has collected money from the Donation Box at the pass: \$775.10.
Plowings (Rob): 15 this season. Est cost: \$9,000 (FoRR largest operating expense by far).

- 7) Requests for use of Rec Site:
 - a) Wedding – an application to RS&T BC for use of land beside Chimo (but not the cabin itself) for a 2-hour ceremony was referred to FoRR. Numbers: 60 to 80. RS&T BC said ‘no’. They receive a high number of wedding requests in Rec Sites. They refuse them due to the activity being outside the ‘core’ purpose of Rec Sites.
FoRR also learned that any planned activities in Rec Sites of more than 15 persons requires RS&T BC approval. Typically, this is not enforced for ‘core’ activities such as school class “winter outdoor days”.
 - b) ‘Bike Camp’ – a rather vague request. Rob seeking more info’.
- 8) Igloo Cabin: Chimney bent over by snow sliding off. Temporary cover to keep weather out & the stove has been made inoperable. Dolf & Randy have a plan to fabricate a metal box cover over the short distance between the chimney and the top edge of the shed-style roof.
- 9) Big Red Cats (BRC) – Rec Site boundaries: two matters (a) ridge of Mt. Crow (popular – used by skiers from both Rec Site & BRC - busy strip: and (b) FoRR interest in adding to Rec Site lands to include Low Road and ‘knob’ with the old ‘Snowbiler’s Cabin’. Rob & Les will meet with Big Red Cats and follow up further with RS&T BC, etc.as required
- 10) Accessible Trail Project completion. Rob reported - adding another bench, some ‘clean-up’ and possible improvements to Old Growth Trail creek crossing (to be determined).
- 11) Black Jack ‘Planning’: FoRR learned this is for Black Jack purposes only. Mainly, to explore expanding the Biathlon area if uncertain snow at lower trails becomes a major problem. It is possible they may consider crossing Hwy 3B onto Rec Site lands (where the new Cedar Trail is situated).
- 12) Air Crash Site: It is attracting high public interest – reportedly from beyond our region as well. Interesting. Local resident Ron Dennett has done much historic research, and recently gave a presentation (very well-attended) at the Museum. Mention of an archaeologist being involved. Rob has previously contacted the ‘Air Force’ who are also interested in some sort of memorial. Rob to meet with Ron Dennett. Q: What role for FoRR?
- 13) Search & Rescue: Rob: FoRR could request a summary of incidents in Rec Site (patterns?). Kim to follow up through Laura (our SAR contact).
- 14) Sara asked if publicity in media to elicit volunteers, or other would be helpful to FoRR?
Rob commented that with regard to volunteers we have a list – however, a) when asked they haven’t responded; and b) there isn’t a great amount of work in the Rec Site overall suitable for casual volunteers. He noted FoRR promotes assigned ‘Cabin Groups’ to managing all work related to cabins – repairs, staining, firewood, etc. This is somewhat successful – some good, others less so.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20pm. Next meeting: Thursday June 22nd, 2023 at Prestige Hotel 5:00pm