

**MARATHON CANADIEN DE SKI/CANADIAN SKI MARATHON INCORPORATED
ASSEMBLEE GENERAL ANNUELLE 2020/2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Held Via ZOOM [due to COVID-19 Assembly Restrictions] QC/ONT – 09 June 2020

Directors Present (ALL):

Sylvain Parent (President)
Ross MacLeod (Treasurer) – on telephone
Real Perriard (Secretary)
Julie Boyer
Dan Quinlan
Chris Teron
Paul (Boomer) Throop
Justin Braganza
Martine Proulx

Absentees:

None

Guests:

Frederic Menard (Event Director)
Melisandree Godin
56 members attended via the Zoom webinar.

Round-table introductions were carried out prior to start of meeting.

1. Quorum (Sylvain Parent)

Sylvain Parent presided over meeting and Real Perriard recorded minutes as board Secretary. The meeting having been duly called & the members of the Corporation being present in person constituting a quorum, the meeting was declared duly constituted - unanimous.

2. Approval of Minutes (Motion by Real P. and 2nd by Chris T.)

Due to meeting held via Zoom, its voting feature was used to poll membership – 85% approve minutes, 15% abstain. Minutes for 2019 AGM are approved.

3. President's Report (Sylvain Parent)

Sylvain thanks all members for contributions to briefing CSM to skier community. Sylvain announces the sad news of Robert Saunders' (a.k.a. #113) passing in late March. Robert was a long time participant and supporter of the CSM.

The main challenges for 2019 CSM were trail infrastructure, landowner issues and weather. On 1 Dec the organization was notified that the Rouge River bridge would be closed for repairs. On 15 Jan usage of a major trail section was barred by a landowner as he was negotiating with his local municipal government. The CSM organized and developed contingency plans but in the end was able to secure safe passage on the key bridge for

the event Saturday. Also, with help of local government we were able to make use of our usual trail. The weather was more challenging! Much snow on Friday night made it a challenge for many skiers to arrive in the region easily and very intense cold on Sunday made our safety teams to into safety protocol modes. Fred, event director, will address in more details in his report.

At last year's AGM we reported from skier survey that 3 areas of concerns were a) Reduce Ecological footprint, b) Make event easier to understand – especially bussing and, c) Event is costly – especially for families. We acted on all three; launching a green initiative spearheaded by new volunteers, (CP's generated much less wastes and we used recycling boxes as well, b) a new, totally revamped, skier guide was issued and c) new family discounts and first-skier discounts were introduced.

This year's skier survey told us: a) need better guidance/information for 1st time Coureur des Bois, b) continue to improve on Green Initiatives and, c) better guidance/information on how to cope with cold weather (skier guide, website etc.) General satisfaction for the event scored 83% rating that the event represented good value and was a well organized event. We are confident that we will tackle the 3 key items for the 2021 CSM over the next year.

Sylvain presented a list of accomplishments for the year. The Ski At School program generated over 7,000 ski experiences for young children who normally would/could not access cross-country skiing.

The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic are being felt and the CSM team has prepared operational scenarios which will be covered later in the meeting.

4. Event Director Report (Fred M.)

Fred expressed "Thank You" to all volunteers, landowners, partners and skiers and to skiers who made donations to the event, MRC (municipalité régionale de comté), Quebec government, snowmobile clubs, Kenauk Reserve, Safety teams, and the Leblanc family for sharing their values with the CSM, and to board members for the many hours of service and a special thank you to Melisandree. This was Fred's 7th CSM and he is still moved by it and loves this event.

2020 had successes and challenges. With fewer skiers than usual the event was able to generate a small surplus financially. The Check Point equipment was improved and updated. Family discounts were introduced. The Ski at School program continues to bring skiing and healthy outdoor activity kids facing socio-economic challenges.

In response to the new cold forecasted temperatures of Sunday the team held Saturday meetings to train team leaders to recognize frostbite symptoms on skiers and other volunteers. Fred gave an overview of the Gold Camp protocol to extract skiers – between midnight and 3AM 3 skiers were extracted from Gold Camp and taken to Papineauville. At 3AM the medical/safety director and Fred reviewed the cold weather safety protocols and discussed with Julie Boyer (former CSM president and current board member). The 3 options were reviewed with medical staff to a) cancel day 2 b) delay start and c) bring skiers to a further point along course later in the day [when it would be warmer]. The decision was made to start the day but with additional busses at start line and at key locations so skiers could warm up at start line and at first CP. As news of situation worsening CP#5 the CSM deployed 4 buses with 200 sleeping bags within 20 minutes. The action taken by all volunteers were very commendable. There is understanding that we must educate skiers to be better prepared for cold weather in an event as long as the CSM – which is not a usual cross-country ski race.

5. Financial Report Presentation (Ross McLeod)

Ross expressed a special "thank you" to Fred and Melisandree for support, without them his task would be impossible. CSM was a \$697K business with includes the Ski At School Program. Revenues were \$488K of 83% is directly generated by event fees while 17% (\$84K) originates from skier donations and from government support. Expenses were \$481K [\$283K operations, \$173K administrative costs, \$35K marketing] resulting in a positive margin of \$6.3K. \$13K of total donations from skiers is added to our endowment fund.

The Ski at School budget provides free access to kids – there were 7060 ski experiences over the last 2 years. This number is growing. Skier fees to the CSM do not contribute to this program – only donations marked accordingly.

Ross motioned approval of budget, Real seconds – polling yields 87% approve and 13% abstain.

6. By-Laws (Ross MacLeod)

Ross is proposing the following change. Delete last two sentences of “35. Appointment of Officers” – after discussion member asked that last sentence be kept to allow one person to hold two offices. Motion is amended to removing only second and third last sentences from this section while keeping last sentence to allow two or more offices to be held by a single person. Therefore “*A director may not be appointed to any office of the Corporation. An officer may not be a director*” will be deleted from section 35. Chris Teron second motion and 86% approve – 14% abstain.

7. Directorship and current elections (Real P.)

Chris Teron motions to increase the number of possible directors to 12, Ross seconds and approval is 85%, while 15% abstain. The current nine directors are listed/proposed [Sylvain P., Ross M., Real P., Martine P., Paul T., Chris T., Justin B., Julie B., Dan Q.] and Real motions approval for their two year term as per by-laws, Justin seconds the motion; 92.5% approve while 7.5% abstain.

8. COVID-19 and CSM 2021 (Sylvain P.)

Sylvain describes in-situ committee working on 2021 event definition and impact of COVID-19. The drivers are: a) Preserve the CSM organization/culture/spirit, b) be all inclusive, c) due to financial pressures on everyone this year keep event affordable, and d) Ensure the financial survival of the CSM.

Two options are being considered a) 2 day event with low cost, b) 1 day event scaled to really lower cost to all [with a different course/trail concept to adapt]. If we need to cancel the event outright we will let that happen with guidance from government health officials.

9. Other Business (Sylvain P.)

Michel Leblanc, Honorary President for 2020, “merci au conseil pour le travail par tous le monde”. Sylvain also thanked the Leblanc family for their support – across 3 generations!

Adjournment

There being no other business, the 2020 Annual General Meeting is adjourned.

