

# Meeting Minutes

Alberta Whitewater Association  
2018 Annual General Meeting

February 11, 2018  
10 am – 4 pm

Chair – Kurtis Broda  
Secretary – Kim Casemore

Bass Pro Shop, Iron Mills Shopping Center  
112 – 261055 Cross Iron Blvd  
Rocky View AB

## Attendance

Name	Organization
Denis Jasinsky	Bow Valley Kayak Club
Mark Taylor	Alberta Whitewater Association
Kim Casemore	UAPS / AWA
Joel Gervais	UAPS / AWA
Kate Neigel	UAPS / AWA
Lindsey Walburger	Bow Waters Canoe Club
Emil Ohler	Waterwerks
Mike Holroyd	Waterwerks/ASCK
Kurtis Broda	UAPS / AWA
Chuck Lee	Pincho Crow Creekers / AWA
Ehren Wilson	PJ
Amanda Gibson	PJ
Robb Oliver	Waterwerks

Shane Paterson	ASCK
Jim McAllister	Sundre Paddling Club
Angie Schrodevos	Rocky Canoe Club
Martin Plojhar	PJ

### Informal Discussion

10:15 – Introduction of attendees

#### Harvies Passage (Mark Taylor and Mike Holroyd)

- Once the coffer dam is removed water will flow thru both channels
- Parks is overseeing operation. Mike is working hard to get the approvals and go ahead for the gate installs, talking with a lot of city employees to get them to move the project
- Opening date: Closed until done construction (remove the dirt and landscaping work left. )
- The parking lot and park is leased to the Fish habitat group. They could potentially close the parking lot so the AWA will need to work with the city to make sure plans continue to make sure Harvies passage remains accessible. Need to have river access and parking

#### Canoe Meadows Campground

- Booked basically every weekend throughout summer
- Broke even for operations
- Parks seemed happy and didn't raise any questions about the operation
- Still looking for campground attendant for this coming summer
- Parks is looking at a new master plan (2017) for Kananaskis river area
  - New rafting launch

- Want to make surfers access point at the information center
- Paving and expanding canoe meadows parking lot
- Improving kitchen shelter and camp kitchen
- Individual campsites (10) in the ATCO meadow
- Still have to release final draft for public review, we will have the opportunity to express concerns. The more clubs that submit input, the better chance we have of convincing them of our positions
- New whitewater building at canoe meadows in discussions (changerooms, concession, workshop, storage, meeting rooms) Parks will not build it. Looking into how we could make it feasible (\$1M) 1500 sq ft. Could apply for 50% matching grant with government

#### Schools in Pools (Chuck speaking for Lori Davis who champions program)

- Traveling around Alberta with trailer full of gear to get youth in schools learning how to paddle
- Go into pool, train lifeguards on how to teach kayaking. Leave gear for 2-3 weeks so schools in the area have the opportunity
- \$34,000 Make-a-diff grant. Got another \$20,000 so replaced fleet and are continuing to run program!
- 17 communities, trained 75 lifeguards, taught 1200 people how to paddle
- At end of project were going to give away gear fleet to 4 communities
- Emil asked if there was any follow up so the boats given away don't just sit unused. Feedback from clubs in the room sounds like there is a lot interest in the communities that kids want to continue paddling. Some of the problems are having kids gear, and having clubs in these communities to continue these programs on past the pool
- Aquabatics runs a "micrograms" program for kids as young as 4. The idea is for the kids just to have fun with a little bit of technique. 1 hour a month during the winter in pools, 1 hour a week in the summer moving to lakes and easy rivers. Would be beneficial if we could have a similar program to bring to these communities as a follow up. Would really require having a champion in the communities and also really important to get the parents involved
- Kate said we could maybe team up with Spirit North, a group that does a similar thing in winter with bringing cross country skiing to rural communities.

#### Membership Review

#### Schedule of Festivals, Races, and Events

- Would like to hold freestyle nationals at the same time as slalom nationals. CKC committee wants Alberta to do it. A company out east has put a bid in, so CKC wants us to put a bid in. ASCK wants to help support it, but doesn't want to host the event. Need an organization to put their name on the bid for Alberta and be responsible to co-host with ASCK. If AFKA cannot do it, AWA will submit the bid. Need an Alberta representative to sit on the committee. Chuck said he can do it.
  - Bid and vote needs to happen this week
- Events almost every weekend from May to September. AWA website calendar is up to date with the schedule

### Alberta Summer Games

- Thur-Sunday July 19-22 in Grande Prairie
- Big challenge is getting full teams from all 8 zones. School in Pools program seems to be helping with that.

1. Call to Order at 1:10 (Quorum of 25% of clubs met)
  - See attendance above
  
2. Approvals
  - 2.1. **Motion** by Joel Gervais to approve the agenda, seconded by Kate Neigel
  - 2.2. **Motion** by Denis Jasinsky to approve the minutes of the 2017 AGM, seconded by Jim Mcallister
  
3. Reports
  - 3.1. Financial reports (Kate Neigel)
    - 3.1.1. 2016 financial statement audited by Lori Travis and Steve Simonds from Bow Waters Canoe Club
    - 3.1.2. **Motion** by Kate to approve the 2016 financial statements, seconded by Denis Jasinsky. Motion approved.
    - 3.1.3. Review of 2017 financial statements
      - 3.1.3.1. Waterwerks will audit the 2017 financial statements
  - 3.2. Club Reports
    - 3.2.1. UAPS – membership is increasing. The main event is Brierlies Blowout and also help organize Chicksfest. Added an intermediate level course for 4 weekends for the summer for participants after their beginner program. Also have started a volunteer tracking program and use a point system to give training courses to their volunteers.

- 3.2.2. Sundre Paddle Club - 2018 will be a rebuilding year. 10-20 members
- 3.2.3. Rocky Mountain House Canoe Club – 172 members in 2017. (Quadrupled in the last couple years). Started a youth kayaking program that is continuing to 2018.
- 3.2.4. Bow Valley Kayak Club – 112 members. Went with no club coach, had some support from Aquabatics and Rocky Mountain Paddling. Set up a seecant instead of a trailer to improve gear infrasteucture. Pool pass system instead of a per night cost. Looking into having a coach, just investigating at the business model behind that.
- 3.2.5. Bow Waters Canoe Club – Got new website up and running and started an online waiver system. Took some transitioning but has seemed to be working well. Around 170 members. Membership age is increasing. Presentations monthly but there is still lots of attendance for them.
- 3.2.6. Waterweks – 56 members this year but might not be accurate with the AWA tracking system. Pool sessions are very popular. Youth night runs during the summer with 10 per session, slaloms had an average of 5 per night in may and june. Hoping to do a dedicated night once a week at Harvies Passage once it opens. Thursday nigjht river runs were sold out every week, weekends were just as successful. 3 whitewater camps this summer were run as well. Expecting numbers to increase this year with Alberta Summer Games and opening of Harvies Passage.
- 3.2.7. Paddle Junkies – Membership was down a little bit (mid 90's). Thursday river runs ran every week and were pretty full. Had some intermediate summer runs on the Kan that went well. Kept the ambassedor program going with Aquabatics to get new members who have taken their beginner course. Ran the Reel Paddling Film Fest which brought in some extra income. Working on keeping members certified in L2/I2 to lead trips. Also had a L3 course on the bull and Elk last year
- 3.2.8. POCC – Trained 6 lifeguards for schools in pools programs. Went to tradeshow in Blairmore and they want to be more active in kayaking programs. Ran a variety of kids camps this summer (3 days camps for 7-10 year olds), 5 day camp starting at lakes and progressing to rivers. (10-15 year olds) . Ran first Casino in lethbridge. 280 people at 3 rivers reandevous. 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year for the festival.

### 3.2 Director Reports

#### 3.2.1 President – Kurtis Broda

-2017 had a full slate of officers. Finally resolved legal issue with the 2015 Kananskis, got the fine reduced. Permit has expired so if we want to do any more work we need to reapply for a new permit.

#### 3.2.2 Vice President – Denis Jasinsky

#### 3.2.3 Treasurer – Kate Neigel

- Discussed report with financial statements

#### 3.2.4 Facilities and Environment – Joel Gervais

- Had environmental professional at the Kan to help remove trees that posed a hazard of falling down. Was involved with the Kana

#### 3.2.5 Education and Development – Mark Taylor

-Number of courses was down, hoping to get that back increasing this year.

#### 3.2.6 Communication and Marketing – Michael Gertsima (absent)

#### 3.2.7 Secretary – Kim Casemore

-Working on organizing Women's whitewater weekend again. Planning on running a full beginner course as well as intermediate clinics as that was the feedback

Recreation Development – Eric Lund (absent)

Member at Large – Tom Jacklin (absent)

### 3.3 Discipline Director Reports

3.3.1 ASCK – Fundraised through businesses, individuals, and grants to raise over \$210,000 for Harvies passage slalom gates. Core work is the high performance program. Had 8 weeks of training camps in North America and Europe. 150 paddlers in programs or take part in a slalom race. Lots of trainings and events hosted at different paddling festivals and around the province.

3.3.2 Canoe Polo – started youth polo night on Sundays in Calgary

3.3.3 AFKA –

3.4 Executive Director - Chuck Lee

- Online registration getting up and running. Would like to see more clubs using this to keep registrations simpler. New event this year, EPCOR river festival. Had 3 instructors up there to teach kayaking for three days. Had Leif and Natalie Anderson come in as they travelled through Alberta teaching half day free style clinics. Got new event trailer this year. Has watertanks, a BBQ, 2 stoves, and everything needed for cooking at festivals. Also got a blow up tent.

#### 4. Old Business

Membership Rates – Have been at \$1 for 3 years.

**Motion** by Jim McAllister to leave the membership rate as is with individual fees at \$1 and \$120 for clubs, seconded Robb Oliver

Vote taken. 4 clubs for the motion (Sundre, POCC, Paddle Junkies, and Waterwerks), 4 against (UAPS, Bow Waters, Bow Valley, Rocky Mountain House) 15 in favor 24, opposed based on votes designation in the bylaws. Motion defeated.

**Motion** by Denis Jasinsky to have club fees at \$120, individual member who are club members fees remain at \$1, and non-club individual members \$5 seconded by Aaron Wilson. Vote called, motion passed with 8 clubs for.

#### 5. New Business

None

#### 6. Elections for the 201 Board of Directors (Kurtis Broda)

##### 6.1. Election of Directors

President – Kurtis Broda

Treasurer – Blair Brandon

Secretary – Kim Casemore

Director of Education – Mark Taylor

Recreation Development – Martin Plojhar

Member at Large – Lee Green

Communications and Marketing – Kate Neigel

No one opposed to the nominations, election of the directors approved

7. Adjournment at 3:59