



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Date: February 10, 2026
Time: 6:00p
Location: Precision Plumbing & Heating

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Peter Lane at 6:13p.

Directors Present: Peter Lane, Molly Stanifer, Josh Traeger, Kim Marian, Steve Damman, Bryan Travis, Jake Burden, Rick Gruber

Virtual Participants: Marc DeCubber, Nate Elkins

Ex Officio Non-Voting Participants: Tonya Lewandowski (Executive Director)

Directors Absent: Elaine Tait

2. Officer Reports

President – Peter Lane

Peter addressed the Board regarding his planned resignation. He informed the Board that his resignation would be effective March 10, 2026.

Discussion followed regarding the process for leadership transition and governance steps required under the Club's bylaws.

The Board identified three actions to be taken at the March meeting:

- a. The Board will elect an Interim President effective March 10, 2026.
- b. The Board may elect an Interim Director to fill the resulting vacancy.
- c. The Community Relations Committee will prepare recommended communications regarding the leadership transition for Board consideration prior to public release.

Secretary – Josh Traeger

Josh provided an update regarding governance matters associated with the anticipated presidential transition and ongoing work of the Legal Committee. Additional governance resolutions are currently being developed within committee and are expected to be presented to the Board for consideration at the March meeting.

Treasurer – Molly Stanifer

Molly reported that a Word document has been circulated for submission of budget inputs for the upcoming 2026–2027 fiscal planning process.

Rick Gruber asked whether the Club continues to reconcile financial accounts regularly. Molly confirmed that financial reconciliations are performed.

Executive Director – Tonya Lewandowski

Tonya reported that the Hickory Hills Advisory Committee (HHAC) has been meeting weekly and that discussions with the City have been productive.

She also noted that planning has begun for the 75th anniversary of Hickory Hills, which will occur in January 2027.

Tonya further reported that programming remains active and that strong participation from athletes and families continues, with positive developments across programs on the hill.

3. Committee and Summit Reports

Strategic Planning / Executive Committee

Discussion was held regarding alignment of the Board around strategic planning assignments and process, as previously distributed to Directors.

Governance and Structure – Legal Committee

Josh reiterated that governance resolutions remain under development and are expected to be presented to the Board for consideration at the March meeting.

Communications and Brand Alignment – Community Relations Committee

The Board reviewed outcomes from the February 6 Ad Hoc committee meeting and discussed the role of Board members in the communications process moving forward.

The Committee will continue developing communications plans and timeline expectations, including planning considerations for the Fall Annual Dinner.

4. Follow-Up Items (Old Business)

Rebranding Ad Hoc Committee

- Discussion occurred regarding governance provisions for the Rebranding Ad Hoc Committee.
- Under Section 7.2 of the Bylaws, the appointing authority must designate a Chair of the committee. A Board vote will be required to formally designate the Chair.
- Under Section 7.9 of the Bylaws, the Board must determine how frequently the committee will report to the Board.

Further discussion will occur at a future meeting.

5. Emerging Initiatives (New Business)

Presidential Vacancy

The Board discussed the upcoming presidential vacancy and the process for interim leadership.

Under the Club's governance structure:

- Any Officer must also be a Director.
- The Voting Membership will elect a President to complete the remaining term at the Annual Meeting.
- The Board will address interim leadership appointments at the March 10, 2026 meeting.

Director Vacancy

The Board discussed the possibility of identifying candidates to fill the potential Director vacancy created by the presidential transition.

Volunteer Recognition

Rick Gruber moved to approve the purchase of a Lead Timer Visa gift card in recognition of service of key volunteers. Molly Stanifer seconded.

Result: Approved unanimously.

7. Announcements

The Executive Director reminded the Board of several upcoming Club events and programming milestones, including:

- February 16 – GTSC Hall of Fame event honoring Claire Nixon
- Final programming dates for the season including Learn to Ski, Race Clinics, MSRT, and Sunday Racing
- March 2 – End of Season Celebration at Right Brain Brewery

Tonya also noted several upcoming regional and national racing events for qualifying athletes.

8. Adjournment

The Board collectively voted to adjourn at approximately 7:54p.

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Submitted by Josh Traeger, Secretary, Grand Traverse Ski Club

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