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Herewith the minutes last AGM held on 11 March 2016. The Chairman's Report, the Financial Statements and the Treasurer's report are attached.

MINUTES OF THE 33rd TCSA AGM, held at THE MEADOWRIDGE TENNIS CLUB on Friday 11 March, 2016.

1. PRESENT

- 25 members present
- Quorum, minimum of 15, easily reached.

2. APOLOGIES

Maré Ascott, Ethnee Hepburn, Chris Donald, Gail Wells, Margie Humphris, James Humphris, Patricia Callaghan, Rosemary Hilton, Di de Villiers, Irene Upton, Cathy Carelse, Karen Hart, Dave Hart, Heather Cook, Lee Tonkin, Arabel Norrish, Gudrun Oberprieler, Robin Cooper, Ursula Laverty, Rosemary Davis, Trish Owen, Carola Meyer, Barbara Kahn, Gesina Pasche, Diana Jones, Renee Duggan, Geoff Barton, Debbie Marshbank.

3. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: accepted

- Acceptance proposed by G Tinker & seconded by R Paul

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- The attached report was presented by Denise Hopkins
- Acceptance was proposed by B Ford and seconded by M Henderson

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

- The attached report was presented by Mark Delbridge.
- Acceptance was proposed by T Burton & seconded by B Ford

6. AWARDS FOR THE MOST KM HIKED DURING 2014

• Ladies:

1st	Deborah Shearing Cooper	490 kms
2nd	Debbie Marshbank	474 kms
3rd	Gudrun Oberprieler	361 kms

• Men:

1st	Robin Cooper	464 kms
2nd	Mervyn Henderson	402 kms
3rd	Tommy Hiscock	312 kms

7. ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE

- Chairperson: Denise Hopkins
- Day Hikes Coordinator: Mervyn Henderson
- Trails Coordinator: To be decided by hike leaders
(Debra Shearing-Cooper has since agreed to stand)
- Treasurer: Mark Delbridge assisted by Brian Ford
- Membership Secretary: Colleen Delbridge
- Minutes Secretary: Julie Ward

8. GENERAL

- Mark Delbridge thanked Denise for all she does.
- Tony Burton requested that the club revive the two-way radio. This was agreed and Mervyn agreed to manage its use.
- The meeting was then closed at 21:05 and refreshments were enjoyed by all.

Geoff Tinker showed the DVDs of the recent Oystercatcher Trail

The AGM was fairly well attended and it was good to catch up with old friends, and for some of us, put faces to names.

Chairman's report 2016

Two weeks ago I was privileged to attend a presentation by a couple of very well spoken school girls from Phillippi who were mentors in a group known as Beyond Expectation Environmental Project (BEEP). Every weekend BEEP provide around 20 learners from different schools and community organisations an opportunity to break free from an environment dominated by poverty and to immerse themselves in the wonders of Table Mountain National Park for two stimulating days. They use nature as a platform to help kids from impoverished communities reconnect with their core being and to help them discover their purpose and overcome the challenges they face. The point I want to make is that I was quickly reminded of some of the simple delights of being on the mountain that we may well have forgotten and take for granted whilst we hike to improve our fitness, catch up with friends and take snapshots with our cameras; these youngsters spoke of living in poverty within noisy crowded houses with thin walls, taxis hooting as they go past and the sound of gunshots. When taken on the mountain they experience for the first time the closest they will ever come to silence as they hear the sound of running water, birds singing in the trees and the wind providing some relief from the heat. You may have heard the saying, some people need therapy, the rest of us climb mountains. That's just a reminder of what we are all about.

So how was your year in hiking? Mine showed signs of improvement as my new found freedom has allowed me to be more participative and I have enjoyed 3 away trips, having returned recently from the very successful Oystercatcher trip on the Garden Route in February and am looking forward to going to the Kruger Park next month. Since the last AGM other club members have also ventured forth into the Little Karroo, Grootvadersbosch and Cederberg areas, Robertson, McGregor and to the Outeniqua at the end of the year.

This year the Club was invited to attend a meeting organised by the Mountain Club of interested parties who use the mountain whether it be for hiking, trail running or climbing. So far it is an informal group without a name (pending) or a constitution whose main concern is Safety and Security. Representatives are from the Western Cape Mountain Club, MCSA, U3A, the Meridians, the Ramblers, Hikers Network and Friends of Lions Head amongst others. Once we have established the numbers that the different parties represent the next meeting will be called in April with SANParks North, South and Central to discuss issues

Club membership is now just under 100 members but despite this limited number weekend hikes and trails remain fully booked with Saturday afternoon hikes showing a good turnout. 7 members have joined since January this year. Mark worked on an exercise to see who paid subs for 2016 and I have either phoned or emailed the parties where they were identified as regular hikers. I am not sure whether our car stickers have had any effect on marketing but they have had the unexpected advantage of enabling members to confirm meeting places and have been particularly useful when

travelling long distances in keeping co-travellers in sight. I am aware some members have been punting the Club which has also had a positive spin off. We have a visitors emailing list and some of the names on there are now starting to join. I must also mention the Club no longer has a post box, it has been removed from our website, all payments must now be electronic.

Accolades must go to our Hike Leaders without whose support this Club would not exist. It has been a tough year for hike leaders dealing with extreme weather be it the heat or the rain and many have been beset by health issues. We are always looking for new hike leaders and if you feel you have the experience we would appreciate new volunteers. You will be put through a short training period with an experienced hike leader before being asked to lead on your own and the Club will be willing to sponsor 50% of the cost of a First Aid course should you wish to do one. Phil and myself did a first aid course at Bergvliet High in May last year.

We have tried to throw in a social or two and the Coopers had two restaurant evenings, I arranged a get together at the Darling Flower Show which was well attended and also a historical hike of Cape Town followed by a lunch in the Malay Quarters with the assistance of Wolfgang Pasche which was fully booked. We had a photographic evening here at the Club and whilst not very well attended, the Club's photographers were all there, but I still don't think I am applying the 1/3 rule correctly, I am working on it. The Champagne Breakfast was moved to Little Stream and was well attended. It proved to be a delightful venue albeit with limitations on the numbers attending.

This year the committee members delivered on their portfolios in a professional manner and it is with great sadness that Phil Williams' has finished his 5 year stint on the committee (although I suspect he is not sad) as he has been a pillar of strength organising the hike leader's meetings and arranging the quarterly schedule for us as well as standing as Vice Chairman and I would like to thank him for his dedication to the Club. Although I have stood as Chairman on a number of occasions I am sorry to say this has been a difficult year and have to keep my sense of humour dealing with issues that range from personality differences to searching for false teeth after a braai on a trail and stolen food at a social. I want to thank Geoff Tinker, past Chairman, for being my sounding board over the last year and am glad we agreed on all issues discussed.

Thanks must also go to those that work outside the Committee like Maré Ascott who runs our website and Robin Cooper who runs our Facebook page and the members that kindly contribute their photos. Thanks also goes to those that took the effort to do the write ups after trails particularly to Margie and James Humphris.

Treasurer's Comments:

1. Changed the format of the income statement to exclude trails income/expenditure from operating income.
2. Suggested that in future the trails income/expenditure be processed in the balance sheet and once a trail is completed the profit or loss for that trail be transferred to the income statement. This will ensure the income statement reflects a more accurate state of affairs, especially over year end.
3. In line with the above the Club has been operating at a loss over the past number of years, mainly due to falling membership numbers.
4. Income needed to be increased and expenditure reduced. In this regard suggested that a levy be added to away trails and that entertainment costs be reduced.
5. Noted that the club had donated R2,000 to Volunteer Wildfire Services.
6. The bank account remained healthy, although reducing each year. Noted that trails income over the year end did distort the true bank balance.

Trails Club of South Africa

**Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2015**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
	R	R
ASSETS		
Current assets	72,992	46,564
Bank – Market Link account	68,503	22,895
Bank – Current account	4,466	23,541
Petty Cash	23	128
Total assets	<u>72,992</u>	<u>46,564</u>
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Accumulated funds	72,882	46,564
Balance brought forward	46,564	56,053
Income/(loss) for the year	26,318	(9,489)
Current liabilities	110	-
Accounts payable	110	-
Total accumulated funds and liabilities	<u>72,992</u>	<u>46,564</u>

Trails Club of South Africa

**Income Statement
for the year ended 31 December 2015**

	Notes	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
		R	R
Income		10,307	11,357
Subscriptions & joining fees		8,822	10,607
Visitors fees		885	570
Permits and entrance fees		600	180
Expenditure		14,703	14,760
Advertising		-	1,205
Bank charges		1,601	1,678
Donation – Volunteer Wildfire Services		2,000	-
Entertainment & hire	1	5,974	6,759
Gift vouchers		2,850	1,000
Permits & entrance fees		-	1,360
Printing and stationery		71	359
Postage		558	382
Sundry expenses	2	1,049	817
Website administration		600	1,200
Net income/(loss) from operations		<u>(4,396)</u>	<u>(3,403)</u>
Interest received		1,327	767
Net inflow/(outflow) from trails		<u>29,387</u>	<u>(6,853)</u>
Income/(loss) for the year		<u>26,318</u>	<u>(9,489)</u>

NOTES:

1. Entertainment & hire:

- Catering – AGM	1,088	815
- Catering – Committee meetings	-	180
- Catering – Hike Leaders meetings	1,775	1,315
- Catering – Trail planning	-	650
- Champagne Breakfast	501	549
- Committee dinner	950	1,370
- Hire of facilities – meetings	1,880	1,900
	<u>5,974</u>	<u>6,759</u>

2. Sundry expenses:

- Orienteering Day	-	817
- First Aid Course	550	-
- Flowers	400	-
- Gift – Photographic presentation	99	-
	<u>1,049</u>	<u>817</u>