



Branch Leadership Committee
Meeting Minutes for August 17, 2022
6:00pm to 7:30pm via Zoom

Meeting Information

Zoom Meeting

Branch Leadership Members Present

- James H
- Brian M (BHAM)
- Nathan Andrus (BHAM)
- Elaina J (EVE)
- Nick M (EVE -- Potentially incoming Chair)
- Ben M (FH)
- Brad P (FH - Chair Elect)
- Gretchen T (KIT)
- John M (KIT - Chair Elect)
- Scott C (OLY)
- Janette Z (OLY - Chair Elect)
- Tess W (SEA)
- Craig K (SEA -- Chair Elect)
- Curtis S (TAG)
- Cindy H (GA)
- Bill A (Safety)
- Sara R
- Becca P

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions--James
2. Review and approval of the meeting agenda for August 17, 2022
Motion for approval: Tess; Second: Brian; Motion passed
3. [Review and approval of the meeting minutes from June 15, 2022](#)
Motion for approval: Gretchen; Second: Scott; Motion passed
4. Mountaineers Strategic Plan Update
 - Brianne Vanderlinden
 - Bri provided an overview of the Vision 2033 [document](#) and updated of the strategic planning process to the branch leaders.



5. Branch Reports—Mountaineer Branch Chairs

- Open leadership positions
- Relevant Updates
 - **Bellingham:** Open Positions: Looking for candidates to fill the branch chair position. A branch member has been identified who has expressed interest in the position. In addition, the secretary position needs to be filled. The basic climbing coordinator has recently been filled.
 - **Seattle:** A backcountry ski committee charter has been developed. First reading will occur in September 2022, and then the charter will be submitted to the Branch Leadership Committee for review and approval. A potential new chair-elect for the branch has been identified.
 - **Olympia:** Branch elections are underway for the social chair treasurer, and a new chair-elect. Jeannette, the current chair-elect, will become branch chair on Oct. 1. Currently, the branch is in a good position with future officers. The summer picnic was held on July 25 and was well attended with approximately 45 members and guests. The annual banquet is scheduled for Oct. 15. Overall, programs are going well and a good cohort of graduates.
 - **Foothills:** July was a quiet month. Current leadership positions open included a strong candidate for branch board representative. Branch is currently looking for chair-elect and events chair.
 - **Kitsap:** July was also a quiet month. Basic climbing students are getting in their first basic climbs. The branch has open positions for treasurer and chair-elect.
 - **Tacoma:** July was a quiet month for the branch as well. The Tacoma Mountaineers website is currently down, and we are working to get it fixed. Branch leadership positions currently open include the treasurer position and three at-large positions are coming open. There are concerns from the climbing program about not having enough volunteers to support student climbs. As a result, this may affect student graduation from basic climbing.
 - **Everett:** The branch is working to align upcoming elections with the Mountaineers board elections in October. Currently, we are searching for candidates for vice-chair, secretary, and branch board representative. Overall, a quiet summer. Basic climbing went well and graduates are turning into volunteers.

6. Committee & Organizational Reports

- Safety –Bill
 - Safety Updates & Lessons Learned
 - Lots of incident reports. Safety officers are working hard to respond to incident reports. Slips, trips, falls are common. Near misses due to rock fall and weather conditions are also occurring.



- Safety officers should be communicating to branch chairs about incidents. It is important for safety officers to talk about risk management with their branch chairs to support programs and activities. Bill recommended the branch chairs read Tom Vogl's recent blog about crevasses as a good example to highlight risk mitigation techniques. Bill asked the chairs to please work with branch safety officers to discuss incidents and then craft a blog from a leadership perspective about risk and safety.
 - Tess and Craig undertook a risk management review. The review was a high-level evaluation that will eventually go to the board with recommendations. Prior to going to the board, branch leadership will have an opportunity to review the recommendations.
 - *Risk management: The Risk Committee looks at risk across the organizations. This is an opportunity to check-in with a branch to do a quick review with branch leadership to identify potential gaps for risk mitigation. Any findings are relayed to the board.*
 - Bill's tenure as Safety Committee Chair is about to end. His term expires on Sept. 31. Please let Bill know if there are any strong candidates for the Safety Committee chair. Bill is developing a position description and will share it with the branches.
- Operations - Sara & Becca
 - Board and Council Elections
 - Board election cycle: Dates and deadlines to align with Board elections in October. Need information from branches in early September.
 - The Mountaineers recently launched two foundation of leadership courses. A soft launch was conducted in spring to get feedback and make refinements. The two courses include a foundation of leadership and a foundation of instruction. Please share the course offerings with members and let Becca know if there is any feedback about the courses.
 - A leadership conference is being scheduled for early December 2022. As of now it will be a one-day in-person event and registration is scheduled to begin in mid-September. Sara will put a link to the conference in basecamp.
 - A reminder the fiscal year closes at the end of September. If you have any branch contributions, please spend them asap.
 - [Branch Leadership Charter](#)
 - Status of draft



- A brief update was provided about the status of the charter and that further work on updating the charter will begin after the new Mountaineers bylaws have been approved.

7. Standards, Summits & Activity Charters ([Matrix](#))

- [Sea Kayaking Council Charter](#)
 - Second reading and discussion of the charter agreed to by Branches (Everett, Kitsap, Olympia, Seattle, Tacoma).
 - Motion to approve: Gretchen; Second: Tess; Motion was approved
- [Packrafting Activity Standards](#)
 - Second reading and discussion of revised standards. Revision to standards reflects changes in operations identified during activity launch.
 - Agreement by Packraft Committee (only currently offered in Seattle).
 - Motion to approve: Curtis; Second: Ben; Motion was approved

8. Information Items

- No additional items were presented or discussed.

9. Adjourn

- Next meeting September 21, 2022