

Bellingham Mountaineers Branch Committee Meeting Minutes - Approved

Date/Time: July 15, 2023 6:00 PM

Location: Zoom

Attending: AJ S., Dana R., Meredith L., Ben H., Tim S., James P.

Welcome/Introductions:

- Reminder that meeting is open and public; be respectful and concise
- Intros
- Agenda review
- Approved in August meeting

Updates

- Branch Chair (AJ Schuehle) - Will discuss updates in Old Business.
- Secretary (Dana) - Dana may not be present for the 8/19 meeting.
- Climbing Committee (Varun) - Tim shared on Varun's behalf: glaciers are still in, climbs are going well, folks are concerned about volunteer capacity between the crag course and the intermediate course.
- Hiking Committee (Hiking, Uphill Training Series) (Ben) - Restarted hiking but last hike didn't have enough participants to go.
- Communications (Cassidy) - Jess Dupuy is the new social media coordinator, any requests for social media posts should be emailed to Jess and CC in email AJ and Cassidy
- Safety (James) - Close call on Justin/Sujay climb, will continue debriefing and take next steps if needed.
- Diversity, Equality, & Inclusion (Meredith) - Started Climbers of Color climb night in June (1 attendee last month, 1 different attendee this month). Would like to market the event to the basic students, through social media, or current class' Facebook group or email listserv, printouts/posters to bring to potlucks, etc. Meredith is considering becoming a frontcountry leader so that she can facilitate a field trip with Vamos so that we can continue to collaborate with the organization more in depth next year. Vamos suggested July/August as a good time frame, however this is a difficult time to plan events with volunteers.
- Board of Directors (Tim Schafermeyer) - Few due to summer hiatus. Continuing to advocate for more concrete, efficient action on the SHSA committee, and Board positions are currently open for nominations/applications.
- Treasurer (Krista) - Currently working to reconcile additional income in preparation for submitting 2025 budget.
- Code of Conduct Committee (James/Dana) - No real updates, have not met since last branch meeting. Main advisory committee continues to be slow honoring commitments

and timeline, Tim offered to follow up with the Board.

Old Business (next steps/follow up)

- Status of open positions
 - Looking at term lengths, is 1 year too short for minimum for some positions?
 - Our elections will occur in a couple months (November?) and we won't be able to enact the updated charter until afterwards
 - Will we use the formal Mountaineers election form or just vote on folks during committee?
- Status of [Branch Charter](#)
 - What do we actually have to do to ratify the charter? Submit to BLC to review before taking it to the Board for confirmation. "It's pretty quick, but it will probably be a two month process." - AJ, optimistically
 - Meredith to review DEI components
- Status of Trail Running activity committee - no updates
- [Yearly Planning Guide](#) Review - AJ edited the planning guide, should be reviewed by council. Hope to have this as a timed agenda item for future meetings.
 - Designate someone to rent space for courses and speaker series - James is working on AAI partnership
- Status of [Communications Committee Charter](#) - Draft charter is under review
- Social Media Guidelines
 - AJ took steps to executively establish rules of engagement for social media
 - Working on tools for cohesive message, posting schedule, inclusivity of all branch activities, outreach to community, etc.
 - Committee will finalize list and share it to the council for feedback before implementing
 - Proposing adopting the [Mountaineers Social Media Moderator Guidelines](#)

New Business (action/decision needed)

- Branch electronic account password changes
- Need new payee for Just Host website hosting - this should be one of the responsibilities of the treasurer (unless they don't have a credit card)

Action Items:

- Did we officially get the deferral for the budget info? **AJ to ask Krista**
- Start the process of selecting the Service Award Winner. (Branch Committee)
- Start the process of selecting the Sue B Leader of the Year Award winner (Climbing Committee)
- Find a Fall Rendezvous host/planner; schedule a venue (Branch Committee)
- Approve June meeting minutes
- 2024 Budget review and 2025 Budget Proposal
- AJ to create a (or update one if it exists?) Branch Chair onboarding doc and include account access handover notes (change 2-factor authentication phone number, etc)
action AJ