

Everett Branch Council Meeting Minutes

Everett Branch Committee, May 28, 2024

6:00 p.m. Virtual

Meeting called to order by Nick Mayo, Everett Branch Chair

Participants:

Nick Mayo, Everett Branch Chair
Rodica Manole, Everett Climbing Chair
Christina Youk, Everett Secretary
Lydia Gillis, Vice Chair for the Everett Branch
Matt Surprenant, Scramble Committee Chair
Robert White, BOD/Everett Treasurer
Beck Clements, First Aid
Bernadette Lamarca, Social Committee
Dan Renfrow, Lookout and Trail Maintenance/Trail Running
Erin Shannon-Starup, Everett LOTM Chair/Foothills TR
Rachel Shafer, Cross Country Ski Committee Chair
Michele Rushmore, First Aid Chair
Sam Benefiel, Communication
Ramki Pitchuiyer, Everett Director

Motion

The Committee approved the meeting minutes from March 26, 2024.

Committee Statuses and Updates

From the hiking and Backpacking perspectives, a few hike leaders' applications have been received as the hiking and backpacking committee is being built. Given the current situation, we are looking for a Co-Chair to split the duties so that the Chair can have some time off to manage her personal obligations as well as the backpacking obligations. If you are interested in the Co-Chair position, please reach out to Everett Branch Chair.

From Nordic Ski perspectives, we are adding two or three new trip leaders this year.

From the Sea Kayaking perspectives, we held our Basic class in the Everett Branch with a bigger pool with 20 Basic students this year. Eighteen students are expected to graduate. Two students moved out of town. Fifteen students became The Mountaineers members specifically just to do Sea Kayaking. We finished one student paddle so far; two more need to be re-scheduled due to other obligations.

Sea Kayaking is also in the building phase because the people who have been running this program for years are retiring. The new Sea Kayaking Chair is putting together training for eight new Sea Kayaking trip leaders. We had a full day of training last Saturday.

We have two more trip leader training sessions for the next two Saturdays.

From a Trail maintenance perspective, three people showed up at the Crew leaders training last week. We have a few committed crew leaders who signed up. Fifteen or sixteen people signed up for National Trail Day. We got commitment from the Forest Service, so we were joined by Darrington Rangers District who hired five Rangers by our Contact. Because the Darrington Rangers District's goal is to wrap up their Rangers training for next year, it's an opportunity for us to join forces with them.

We also have a climbing-related stewardship trip coming up at a 3 O'clock Rock. To build relationships with other climbing organizations, we reached out to Climbing Coalition who we partnered with in the past and they are excited about connecting with us again. We are also looking into connecting with The Access Fund (non-profit rock-climbing organization).

Everett Climbing Chair and Trail Maintenance Chair are going to meet offline to make sure that they are aligned on climbing coordination to avoid conflicts.

From a scramble perspective, we finished a fieldtrip last week with eleven students. We hope to graduate nine students. A couple of them need to defer to next year due to injury. A Rope Workshop is coming up for new qualified Scramble leaders on Tuesday, June 4th, 2024.

A Scramble Reunion is posted. Thirty spots are reserved for Everett; the rest is free for all. Please feel free to sign up.

From the Climbing Committee, Basic Course Snow 2 final fieldtrip was scheduled for this weekend (6/1 – 6/2), but the weather is not looking good. We are hoping the weather improves one of the two days, so we can condense it into one day or if not, we will move it to the following weekend (6/8-6/9).

For LOR, the final Squamish fieldtrip is coming on June 22nd and 23.

IGC kicked off last week with a major fieldtrip at Mount Baker coming up on June 15 and 16.

Crack climbing first clinic in April was a success, so we will repeat that yearly for as long as Tim agrees to do that for awhile until he can train new instructors.

From a First Aid Committee, we are experiencing some difficulty with Base Medical trying to get the final number. Despite that difficulty, we expect to have 70 graduates.

We are working with other First Aid Chairs to finalize First Aid kit standards.

There was a lot of talk about having a master calendar for all the activities. Our Everett Branch Chair is going to work on creating one.

From a Treasury Committee, for 2025 Budget, the new ask requires Committee Chairs/Treasurers to edit directly in the Excel workbook for the month of June. For 2025, please add your enrollment headcounts, course name, course start month, and prices, etc. Branch Chairs/Treasurers will follow up to ensure the information is entered properly. If the Committee Chairs are unsure about how to edit directly in the workbook, please reach out to the Treasurer for assistance. The due date for this edit is July 10. The due date workbook to the Program committee is on July 18, 2024. If the Committee Chairs have any issues meeting the deadline, please contact the Treasurer or the Branch Chair for assistance.

A question was being asked why the pricing guidance for 2025 went down. The treasurer assumed maybe due to the market fair pricing analysis. It could be that our partners lower their prices, so we have to do the same.

The workbook will be posted to the Basecamp on 5/31 after the Committee meeting.

Message from the Board: Based on the observation, the member revenue is dropping for all branches, and the number of people taking courses is also dropping.

On the other hand, the overall revenue for the Mountaineers is solid. The Mountaineers are hiring three more people to support the community and technology.

Several activities are completed with respect to the Keta's settlement; open activities are around Keta's use of Mountaineers name and insurance claim. Seattle Program is asking for more updates on the SHSA progress. Would be a good idea to share any best practices with the SHSA team (Robert is part of it). The committee's charter extended to Oct 31, 2024.

Braided River organization is currently co-mingled with the Mountaineers. Given the growth and independence of both organizations, makes more sense to disconnect the two organizations. Discussed the initial bylaws update of how that would work.

The Everett Chair is working on Everett Branch Charter amendments: Here is a little background for those who missed the last meeting. The Mountaineers at the Program level need the Board to be more involved with the representation of the E&I Committee. Ideally, they would like to have someone on the Branch Committee also sit on the E&I Committee.

Another thing happening is that the Everett Branch Chair is working to put in place a better succession plan for the Branch Chair. After reaching out to some other Branch Chairs, he comes up with a proposal in terms of having Chair Elect and Chair over the course of three years. The Chair Elect serves under the current Chair for one year which allows the new Chair to be up-to-speed before assuming 100% of the

responsibilities. The best way to explain the Chair Elect role is during the first year, the Chair elect shall act as Chair during the temporary absence or disability of a Chair. During the second year, the Chair elect takes over 100% of the Chair duties. On their 3rd year as Chair, they should start mentoring the new Chair Elect and repeat the cycle. For more details regarding the changes, please refer to the Everett Branch Charter.

One benefit from doing this is that the Chair can stay on their two-year election cycle with properly mentoring on their first year as Chair Elect.

The Chair Elect role would be elected along with the Vice Chair, Director, and Secretary roles.

E&I Director Role is someone who sits on the Executive Committee but also sits on the E&I Committee acting as a Liaison to ensure alignment at the programming level and the equity and inclusion goals, objectives, and guidance of the Central E&I Committee.

In about a week, the Chair will post the modified charter on Basecamp for Electronic voting.

For more details regarding Chair Elect, please visit the Everett Branch Charter.

Future Events

- June 15-16: ICG Major Fieldtrip
- June 22 – 23: LOR Final Fieldtrip
- August 2 – 4: Scramble Reunion

Next Steps and Meetings

- The next Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 24, 2024.