

Officer Committee Meeting
Olympia Center

August 12th, 2015

Attendance

Officers:

- Greg Lovelady, Chair
- Brian List, Chair Elect
- Derek Pierson, Secretary
- Henry Romer, Director

Members:

- Curt Rosler
- Donna Kreuger
- Bob Keranen
- Dean Taylor
- Michael Mellors
- Ray Philen
- Carolyn Burreson

Greg Lovelady called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Due to the lack of quorum we will review minutes at the next meeting.

Announcements:

Greg Lovelady said that nominations for the Olympia branch service award are needed and submissions should be sent to Carolyn Burreson by August 16th. He also relayed that completed information for pins and patches needs to be submitted to Kerry Lowry by September 15th. Greg mentioned that Dixie Havlak and Henry Romer will be sponsoring a Mountaineers' BBQ at Dixie's home on Ken Lake August 22nd at 5:30 PM, and to please send RSVPs to Dixie. He also mentioned the Wilderness Risk Management Conference scholarship to which two volunteers from The Mountaineers (all branches) will be sent to a special conference in Portland, Oct 14th through the 16th. Applications are due by August 30th. He said we have already received two entries, one from Tim Nagel and Bob Keranen from the Olympia Branch both of whom the officers agreed to “endorse” as ideal candidates.

Brian List suggested that whoever goes to the conference be committed to becoming involved with our leadership class as a requirement to becoming endorsed by our branch.

Current Business

Carolyn Burreson said that the Service Award Committee which consists of, Carolyn Burreson, Curt Rosler and Mike Kretzler has completed an updated service award policy which they now recommend for adoption by the Officer's Committee. It was distributed to the officers for review last month. However, due to the lack of quorum we will also have to wait until the next meeting to vote.

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Dean Taylor said that he has resigned as the Olympia Branch web master. He said that Ray Philen has stepped in to help out as the new web master. Though, Dean did say he does not plan to step completely away from helping with the website and recommends his title be changed to assistant web master. Both Dean and Ray are seeking recommendations for changes to the website.

Carolyn Bureson noted that the current branch awards page is empty, as well as the potluck page and hopes to see content there soon. She also asked that all of the course chairs spend some time updating their respective fliers both front and back or help in providing a single page summary of what the Olympia branch has to offer. She also asked that Greg (or the board) appoint someone to be in charge of handling setup and take down of fliers at events. Carolyn said that she will send Michael Mellors more detail about the upcoming potluck so that he can include it in this month's E-Blast.

Bob Keranen said that he has been handling the branch calendar, meetup and climbers Facebook group. He also said that he would help Dean and Ray in providing recommendations for the branch website. He mentioned Mike Riley, who was not present, might also want to be involved in those recommendations as well. Bob replied to Carolyn about the single page summary of courses for distribution at the potlucks by saying that he thinks it might be quite challenging due to the fact that most courses haven't set their dates in stone and may change them around to accommodate other activities.

Henry Romer suggested that we have more defined transitions at the potlucks, one that is for the presentation and the other to introduce new potential members that are interested in joining The Mountaineers. Henry suggested that Carolyn email Kristina Ciari (Seattle staff) about membership documents / hand outs for our potlucks.

Michael Mellors suggested that it might help if at a potluck we set the tables up in a horse shoe configuration to promote a more "open" environment.

Donna Kreuger suggested having just one table set up as a "friendship" table that would be reserved for new people interested in gathering information about The Mountaineers.

Officers Reports

Social Chair: Donna Kreuger who is standing in for Carla Jonientz said that last years Banquet we charged \$30 per person and she was wondering if the price should go up? Also, she asks the question, do we want to continue to give the "big ticket" classes, namely climbing and scrambling free tickets for graduating members? She also said that this year they are requesting a \$2000 budget for the banquet expenses for such things as, rent, beverages, speaker, etc.

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- > Brian List moved to approve the \$2000 budget for the Banquet and continue the graduate discount and ticket price like last year Henry Romer seconded and the motion passed.

Chair Elect: Brian List said, regarding this year's officers' elections, that he got one email from a member saying that she thinks the voting process went well this year.

Director: Henry Romer said that yesterday was Martinique's last day and the interim director, Elizabeth Lunney, previously the executive director of the Washington Trails Association, has shown a lot of promise. However she agreed, as part of becoming the interim, to not run for the full director position. Henry also said that the search committee is moving forward with posting a job listing online in search of a new director. He also said that the new position description will include Mountaineers Books in its list of management duties.

Henry said that, so far, three people were nominated to fill director at large, Cloe Hatfort, Tom Varga, Steve Swenson, and Kara Stone, all of which will soon be announced on the club's website. Henry also said that the group discussed the budget and Steve McClure (Treasurer) expressed concern with the current budget, and suggested differing acceptance of this years budget as well as continued to push the concept of raising course prices. Regardless of these concerns the board had already approved the budget, although Henry and Gene Yore apposed the motion.

Henry also mentioned that the board had voted last winter to put the Snoqualmie property up for sale, to which there were three potential bidders, The Snoqualmie Ski Area, The Pacific Crest Trail Association and the Forest Service who said that they would buy it so that they could allow the PCT Association to re-route the PCT as desired. However, the Forest Service's budget was cut this year and the Snoqualmie Ski Area put in a counter bid for quite a bit more than the asking price and agreed to allow the PCT to re-route through its property if they win the bid.

Henry also said that the new Management Committee has been tasked with the job of looking into the following areas: excessive amounts of people on wait lists, and the current and historical price of all courses.

In summary the board passed the following motions:

- The Collaborations Task Force brought four motions and all were approved. They also submitted a report with recommendations which was also accepted.
- Direct secretary to prepare Bylaw the addition of a new board position “Vice President of Branches” whom would be a voting member of the board and sits on the executive committee which will require a Bylaws change.
- Adopt policy change to allow naming interim of this new position.
- Direct management committee voted to update the executive committee charter to incorporate the suggestions of the task forces report.

Greg Lovelady asked for clarification about the actual deficit amount, to which Henry replied it is ten percent of the total budget or \$300,000.

Greg also mentioned the possibility of creating a new committee called the “Family Activities Committee”, we might see a proposal sometime next month.

Telluride Film Festival:

Michael Mellors who is the chair of the Olympia Branch's Telluride Committee asked for a volunteer to be the presenter for this event, like Richard Kennedy for Banff. He said that it was suggested by Telluride to hold a question and answer session where the film's producer is present at the end of the festival. Michael also asked about getting new sponsors, however every time he asks a company they respond with “what do you need from us?” and he has no answer. On that note, he suggests having some kind of policies in place for on-boarding new sponsors. He also mentioned involvement with schools, possibly holding an assembly. Olympia printing is asking \$200 for posters. Michael also mentioned that Mix 96 is going to talk about the festival on the radio and The Olympian might write an article including the involvement of schools with the festival. He also asked if anyone has any suggestions for a photo to use for the advertisement.

Greg Lovelady said that the board voted (via email) and passed a motion to pursue the new festival. He also suggested that Michael might check the photos that came from last year's branch photo contest to see if anything there might work.

Derek Pierson suggested that when a new sponsor comes on board we just ask for merchandise to raffle off at the event.

Old Business:

Henry Romer talked about the Olympia Branch Activities Summit to which he thinks is going to be a great way to get people together to discuss issues that span across all activities. He is of the opinion that breakout sessions are where a lot of good discussion happens, so building the topics for such sessions will be a bit of a challenge. Henry thinks that the main agenda of the summit is to address adult activities. He said that it was brought to his attention that there needs to be discussion about the climbing equivalency test. He thinks it may be possible to have an existing member attend an actual activity to showcase their skills instead of taking the test. Henry mentioned that the kayaking class does not allow the ability for a member to attend an activity without doing an equivalency.

Bob Keranan said that basic climbing offers members who pay \$200 a course where their skills are tested. He also said that he's had quite a few people say that they are only taking the basic climbing course to meet friends, they already have the skills.

Branch Rules Committee:

Greg Lovelady said the process has started for adopting revised rules.

Henry Romer suggests that Greg send an email out since there is a lack of officers present to vote, and hope to hear back from people by the next meeting. Greg said the email was sent to the officers in July.

Good of the order:

Bob Keranan had asked Dee Ann Kline to take over running Mountain Oriented First Aid course as the interim chair. He said currently there are 32 registered in MOFA and 20 or so on the waiting list. Bob said a suggestion is to teach a separate course for people just interested in taking a refresher. He also said that they are looking at taking three volunteers and putting them through specialized training to get them certified to instruct for MOFA. Bob also suggested that all incident reports be sent to the MOFA instructors, as it could offer good insight into real world incidents. He also said that we offer Tom Pearson more help with the safety committee since he's been doing it by himself for a while now. Bob also said that if we do end up putting together a formal "training" class we may be able to get other branches involved and taking the course.

Greg Lovelady adjourned the meeting at 8:07 PM.

The next meeting is September 9th at 6:00 PM at the Olympia Center.