

Olympia Branch Council

Meeting Minutes – 10/14/2020

Teleconference

Attendees

Officers: *Neal Kirby, Bob Keranen, Scott Carlson, Dean Taylor, Mike Kretzler, Virginia Haas, Beth Peden, Max Dunkelman*

Guests: *Julie Dasso, Donna Kreuger, Tom Eckhout, Nancy Lloyd, Dee Ann Kline, Paul Kallman, Monty Pratt*

Agenda Items

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Approval of September 2020 minutes

- The September minutes were approved by all

Annual Banquet (Virtual Awards and Recognition Event) – Virginia Hass and Maxine Dunkelman

- Will be held via Zoom on Saturday, October 24 from 6:00-8:00
- Bob and Neal will host, the agenda will be the same as last year, Dee Ann will handle the mic
- 24 people have RSVP'd so far
- There will be three practice sessions for the speakers the weekend of Oct. 17-19 @ 5pm

New Officers

- New officers Mike Kretzler (Director), Scott Carlson (Chair-Elect) and Dean Taylor (Secretary-Communications) were welcomed

New Scrambling Chair

- The branch council welcomed Paul Kallman as the new Olympia Alpine Scrambling Chair

Upcoming opening for new Safety Chair

- Mike McIntosh is seeking someone to take over the position

Hiking / Backpacking leadership – Donna Kreuger

- After 6 years Carla Jonientz and Donna Kreuger are stepping down as co-chairs

- Monty Pratt will be taking over as hiking chair

Conditioning hiking course plans 2020 – Donna Kreuger

- They have a solid plan for 2021 – smaller groups, limited to 20 people if COVID restrictions do not change
- Donna will also be stepping down as conditioning hiking chair at the end of 2021 and is looking for someone to take over

Update on McCleary rock – Bob Keranen

- Met with Washington Climbers Coalition and Olympic Climbers Coalition to get help on what happens to that area
- Hearing through the grapevine that some coalitions are unhappy with the unofficial trailwork
- Bob wants to meet and tour the area with the head ranger to them what we're doing there

Club Finances – Bob Keranen

- Attended a recent club budget meeting. Club finances are better than expected then after COVID first hit, there is \$700,000 in the bank
- Good news with Mountaineers Books, which is almost back on target - new focus areas are exceeding expectations. Virtual classes are also doing well.

Virtual classes: Leadership – Neal

- Learned a lot in a virtual GPS class as well as the virtual leadership class

Getting a branch zoom account – Bob

- Garret at the Program Center handles all reservations via an online form
- Garret has given Olympia our own Zoom account since we make enough requests to warrant it, but we will need a Zoom master to lead the scheduling & training effort

Access and Permits: Washington State DNR Land

A Message from Sara Ramsay on access and permits:

“Each December, Program Center staff applies for an annual Land Use License for any permitted programming planned for the following year. This includes:

- All fee-based trips, regardless of the number of participants. This includes all activities that are exclusively for course participants, such as field trips, SIG outings, and conditioners.
- All activities taking place on NRCA land with more than 12 participants (even if the activity is free).

- All activities taking place on State Forest land with more than 25 participants (even if the activity is free).

If you plan to run any Mountaineers activities on DNR land in 2021 that fit these permit requirements, post them to the website by December 20, 2020 to be included in our 2021 application. Staff will continue to send out reminders about this deadline as it approaches. We do not anticipate being able to add additional permitted trips in 2021 after our application has been submitted, so consider requesting alternate dates as a part of our year-end application. Please contact [Sara Ramsay](#) to submit alternate dates that are not listed on the website.”

- Bob K. does not believe we have any concerns in this area

Activity Reports

Leadership

- Marko Pavela is looking for someone to take over the leadership course.

Scrambling

- Paul Kallman will be convening his first scrambling committee meeting next week.

Communications

- Dee Ann says Olympia has very few offerings for the e-blast.

Branch Officer Reports

Director – Mike Kretzler

- Mike also attended the aforementioned budget meeting and was impressed at the club's financial situation.

Secretary – Dean Taylor

- The title/responsibilities of Communications has historically been attached to the role of Secretary. Dee Ann Kline has been contributing heavily to the branch's communications efforts and will touch base with Dean on this topic.

Treasurer – Beth Peden

- Beth Peden is now back and heartily thanks Bob K. for his help with the branch finances while she was out.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 7:01pm