

Bellingham Mountaineers Committee Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: March 26, 2013 7:00 pm

Location: Whatcom YMCA

Attendees:

Ken Small
Andrew Hollon
Minda Paul
Sue Bennett
James Pierson
Steve Glenn
Bryan Sehmel
Tracy Sehmel
Nathan Reed
Rhett Winter
Chris

Topics:

Managing Committee and All-Branch Summit Reports (Minda)

- New program center in Tacoma
- Forest Service Permits – working toward long term umbrella permit. In interim will require \$3 per day fee for students required to be there for field trips. Build into budget next year.
- Membership fees for returning volunteers/initiation fees (less than 2% of revenue). Should they be lowered? Is there a sweet spot? Yes, but no one knows where it is.

Board of Directors Report (Ken)

- Ken went to the board of directors' retreat. They discussed the seven layers of strategic planning and were upbeat with the exception of Ken. A point of interest was volunteer count. Volunteers are currently only counted if they are committee members or leaders. How can we count all volunteers? (1,000 estimated)
- \$300 gift to the YMCA approved. All in favor.
- \$300 gift to Mountain Rescue approved. All in favor.

Basic Course Report (Minda)

- We lost one student (not literally Andrew clarified). Eric Lookabill quit. There's a total of 17 students basic now.
- Good report overall

Intermediate Course Report (Sue)

- Successful Intermediate Winter Mountaineering field trip at Chain Lakes
- Successful Intermediate Ice II field trip in February

- Plan for Intermediate Rock I field trip (rendezvous in Leavenworth in May or June may be combined with Rock I) for Tracy and Sam Wiggins.
- Plan for Intermediate Accident Management field trip.

Other Committee Reports

- Mountaineers have an exemption to overnight inside NSR in winter.
- First Aid worked out well to have returning students help with scenarios at reduced cost (materials). Next year Steve will have one weekend.
- Inventory/condition/location of gear. Sue will gather inventory list from Sam and compile it onto spreadsheet (Minda and Sue). Come up with list of needs and wants (Minda, Andrew, Morgan). Buy ice gear for students to use (screws and possibly tools). Students shouldn't have to buy their own since they may decide not continue with ice. We shouldn't use instructors gear. Use Google doc site to check who has equipment. Also, Mammut or Petzl has inventory software. Ken has an old inventory document, which he will bring.
- Guest waiver (Minda). Some volunteers are not members, but they still need to sign the waiver.
- Register stewardship as "trips" in the database (Tracy).
- Tracy will chair the next meeting.
- Next meeting brainstorm areas of interest for a co-committee.
- Youth program "venturing program" in Bellingham. There are two kids that have a basic student equivalency. We could invite them to our field trips/add them to the mailing list as the first step for a youth program. Minda will contact Becca. Your profile says whether or not you're youth qualified.
- Valery is not with the Mountaineers
- Ian Nicholson speaking at Backcountry Essentials on the same date as gear swap April 9th at 8:30. Backcountry rental space \$50/hour.
- Keep track of how many people added and deleted from the listserve

Publicity (Bryan)

- Define roles of branch chairs. Should we put together a branch operation manual? Andrew will email the policies and put them up on the website/location that gets updated.
- Budget for speakers and picnics etc. We can be generous, but should have guidelines. Outreach at Banff and Reel Rock – prizes.
- "How did you hear about us?" on applications
- Western's climbing wall through Outdoor Center
- Western Front
- NW Experience
- Paying for prominent speaker