



The Mountaineers

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting August 7, 2008

Board members present:

Officers

President - Eric Linxweiler
Secretary - Steve Sears
Treasurer - Jordon Roderick
VP Publishing - Don Heck
VP Properties - Dave Claar
Past President - Bill Deters

Trustees at Large

Dale Flynn
Ed Henderson
Patti Polinsky
Don Schaechtel
Dave Shema
Mona West

Branch Trustees

Rob Simonson - Everett
Mike Maude - Seattle
Tom Shimko - Tacoma
John Flanagan – Olympia

Board Members Absent

Tab Wilkins - President Elect
Eva Schoenleitner - Trustee
Steven Glenn - Bellingham Branch Trustee
Gerry Haugen - Foothills Branch Trustee
Jimmy James - Kitsap Branch Trustee

Others Present

Executive Director Steve Costie
Books Publisher Helen Cherullo
Controller Brian Horstman

Guests Present: Fran Troje, Paul Robisch, Gene Yore, Rick Anderson



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Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by Mountaineers President Eric Linxweiler in the Summit room. The President and Secretary were in attendance. A quorum was established.

Approve Agenda

It was moved by Don Heck and seconded to approve the agenda. The motion passed.

Approve Minutes of June 2008 Meeting

It was moved by Steve Sears and seconded to approve the minutes of the June 2008 Board of Trustees meeting. The motion passed

Officer/Staff Reports

President Eric Linxweiler from written report:

General Activities for June and July

- 50 Year Member Luncheon (June 14)
- Junior Naturalist Program Kick-off (June 21)
- Magnuson Walkthrough (July 26)
- Books Governance Board Meeting (July 23)
- Executive Director Performance Evaluation (ongoing)

Committee Updates

- Snoqualmie Land Use Committee
 - Selected consulting firm (Mithune)
- Executive Committee Met on July 29th next meeting on August 26th

Miscellaneous

- Wild Sky Celebration – August 11th @ Seattle REI
- Direct charge to the Conservation and Rec Access Divisions
- President's Work Party (Last weekend in September)

President Elect Tab Wilkins from written report:

Board Responsibilities

- Attended the Olympia Branch Annual Summer Picnic July 25
- Chaired the Managing Committee Meeting on July 24
- Managing Committee voted to increase the mileage reimbursement rate to \$.15 per mile in car pools



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- Met with Steve C and Ruth Neilsen regarding Youth Policy and Travel Policy
Personal Participation

- Submitted Sherpa Peak on Tacoma Branch climb

Planning

- Prepared marketing materials for Adventures in Reading club activity
- Assisted with planning for Seattle Branch Volunteer Recognition Event

Executive Director Steve Costie from written report

Program Development: These are the upcoming highlights for the fall/winter period:

- Winter Travel Clinics – Evening seminar on safe/prepared travel in the backcountry.
- LNT Clinics – Evening seminars and 1 day field outings.
- Snowshoe Tours – Easy snowshoe trips
- XC Ski Trips – For beginners and intermediates.
- Kids Rock Days – Once Magnuson Park is up and running, we'll have tons of opportunities to host these events and more.
- Kayak Outings – Again, a staple once we're at Magnuson. Evening and weekend day trips; beginner level (lake focused)

Notable highlight this month:

- Trailhead's Junior Naturalist Program
- Surveys in Process: Three surveys are in process—a major review of the club's media, a MOFA student survey, a MOFA instructor survey. Results from the major media survey are somewhat disappointing in that response was fairly dismal. Data analysis will take place in August for a full presentation to the board in September.

Public Policy:

- The NW Environmental Issues Course has been re-designed by Leesa Wright. Focus will be on climate change in the first modules. Course schedule is now more open and the program will run almost on an on-going monthly frequency.
- Leave-No-Trace will expand to have staff trainers as well as the key volunteer cadre under Brian Roberts's able leadership. Both Leesa Wright and Ken Hahn will become LNT trainers to help expand the offering under the Trailhead Program.
- Junior Naturalist Program has been offered through Trailhead with great assistance from Leesa Wright.

Planned Giving Program:

- We are starting an advisory committee to assist staff in the implementation of the planned giving program.
- While it is understood that professional staff will handle much of the effort, input from key volunteers from around the club has been requested.

Fund Development/Foundation Support:

- Welcome, Judy Halls to the Mountaineers staff

Mountaineers Productions:



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- Banff, Colin Angus, Pete Athans, Radical Reels and Glen Denny are booked.
- AAC Fall Gathering

NFCC Update:

- Rick Anderson and Gene Yore updated the board.
- The Magnuson project is progressing very well
- There has been lots of volunteer effort saving the club money
- The project is now in the finishing stages of construction
- There was an planning error in the window infill causing a short delay
- There are needed adjustments to expenses at Magnuson
 - Security 18K
 - South Wall needs painting 10k
 - Miscellaneous 6K
 - Bookstore 13K

It was moved by Mike Maude and seconded to approve the NFCC request for an additional \$47,000 construction expenditure at Magnuson.

It was moved by Jordon Roderick and seconded to amend the main motion to remove the \$13,000 book store shelving expense. The motion to amend passed. The main motion to approve the NFCC request for additional \$34,000 construction expenditure at Magnuson passed.

Secretary Steve Sears reported:

- The next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for September 4th 2008.
- A volunteer opportunity exists for ballot counters who are needed on October 25th at the Seattle clubhouse.
- The club-wide annual meeting will be held Sept 10th at the Seattle headquarters

Treasurer Jordan Roderick reported:

- The past months financial performance was good. The club is again ahead of plan for month and year to date
- The club is tracking into the black for the second year in a row
- The Seattle Branch \$30,000 donation to Magnuson puts branches slightly behind plan
- Major budget changes for Magnuson and 2009
 - Building fund interest income of \$120,000 improved the 2008 performance
 - Depreciation increases \$115,000 with the move to Magnuson
 - Building rental revenue will decrease significantly at Magnuson
 - Funding club operations will be challenging
 - Need to improve integrating fundraising within the budget units
 - Strategic Plan implementation will increase expenses
 - Vote on the 2009 club budget at the September Board meeting



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Vice-President Publishing Don Heck reported:

- Extended thanks to Eric for attending the Books Governance Board meeting
- The division has been working diligently on expenses and sales
- Deferred to Publisher Helen Cherullo who reported:
 - Hally Swift has resigned after 16 years with Books
 - Books is experiencing a tough retail environment but are feeling positive with new titles and fundraising potentials
 - The Board should expect a Stake in the Ground discussion in November
 - The Braided River conservation imprint is now federally chartered with a 501 c3 tax status
 - The 2009 budget was presented in the board packet and was supplemented with an overview that led to the bottom line figure.

Vice-President Recreational Properties Dave Claar from written report

- Lodges are presently doing summer events and work parties
- Property Division is currently monitoring along with others, the situation concerning Harry Murry and the Kitsap property
- The next Property Division meeting agenda will include the following topics
 - Jobs Descriptions for Lodge Chairs
 - The 501c 3 items for the budget
 - The lodge budgets
 - Club standards for lodges
 - Kitsap Theatre's lack of use of the Mountaineers logo in advertisements

Committee Reports

Policy and Bylaws Committee Chair Don Schaechtel reported:

- An overview of the process was given
 - Removed old inconsistent policies
 - Condensed old into new
- Each affected Board Policy was identified and commented on briefly
- The Committee is looking for concrete suggestions before final approval
- The Committee will hold a final work session on August 21st at the clubhouse
- Expect an up or down vote in September on the revised Board Policies

Nominating Committee Chair Bill Deters reported

- There are openings for four trustees at large.
- Trustees at end of term are Patti Polinsky, Ed Henderson, previously resigned Sabrina Oesterle and previously resigned Ken Hahn
- The committee requested all Board members assistance in recruiting candidates
- There are candidates under consideration and a final announcement of candidates will be reported in the October edition of The Mountaineer magazine.



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New Business

It was moved by Mike Maude and seconded to amend the fiscal 08 Seattle Branch budget by \$30,000 to fund specific features at Magnuson. The motion passed

It was moved by Don Heck and seconded that \$100,000 be transferred from the Mountaineers Books reserve fund to Mountaineers Books operating fund. The motion passed

It was moved by Tom Shimko and seconded to approve Stan Engle and Helen Engle as Honorary Members of The Mountaineers club. The resolution passed and is attached

Program Reports

Conservation Division member Dale Flynn from written report:

- Ed Henderson has been leading a committee working on presenting a report to the BoT (which Leesa will have presented by your report) on the complicated issue of rebuilding the Doseywallips Road in Olympic NP. This is a complicated conservation/recreation issue, and the BoT will receive other reports from Ed's committee over the next few months.
- Leesa Wright, Mike Shurgot, and Harry Romberg continue to monitor the proposed developments at Stevens Pass ski report. A report to the BoT will appear in the fall.
- Wolves, including cubs, have been sighted in WA. State and CEC members will participate in developing a wolf recovery plan in the state. CEC is also monitoring several legal actions involving reinstatement of grey wolves on the Endangered Species List by a federal judge.
- There will be a Wild Sky celebration at REI on August 11th starting at 5:30 PM, and is open to the public. BoT members are encouraged to attend.
- Major Kudos to Ken Hahn and Leesa Wright for their excellent work on the Junior Naturalist program, which has been very successful. The final outing for this year's program will be at the Ballard Locks at 10:00 AM on Saturday, August 23rd.

Recreational Resources Division member Ed Henderson reported:

- The Conservation Executive Committee and the Recreational Resources Division are working together on a position regarding Doseywallips River Road
- Leesa xxx Club Public Policy Associate presented a report outlining the Doseywallips River Road Environmental Impact Statement and the problems within
- The conclusion suggests that the plan is flawed and inadequate.
- The Recreational Resources committee will write a letter stating our position as;



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- The replacement road should not be built
- The remaining road should be converted to trail
- The existing campsites should be converted to backcountry campsites

Bellingham Branch: Steven Glenn, absent

Everett Branch: Rob Simonsen

- The branch Summer picnic was August 6
- Everett volunteers repaired the Mt Pilchuck lookout which is now reopened
- The Everett Herald newspaper will feature an article about the Pilchuck work.

Foothills Branch: Gerry Haugen, absent

Kitsap Branch: Jimmy James, absent

Olympia Branch: John Flanagan

- The partnership with state parks and Big Brothers and Sisters continues
- The Olympia newspaper is expressing interest in a story about the Olympia branch affiliation with Big Brothers and Sisters
 - Thanks to Tacoma branch for support of Olympia branch effort
- Olympia is running Stewardship programs on two trails August 9th and 10th

Seattle Branch: Mike Maude

- Business as usual, solid year financially

Tacoma Branch: Tom Shimko

- Having to much fun to report

Mountaineers Foundation member Paul Robisch

- Olympia grant request was prepared very well
- The Foundation and Books relationship is evolving with the establishment of Braided River and its 501c3 tax status
- The Foundation hopes to create a conservation easement at the Kitsap Property

Good of the Order

Helen Cherullo displayed the front page of the Congressional Record showing author Steven Kazlowski with Sally Jewel receiving the REI (what award was it?) while displaying the Mountaineers Books title “The Last Polar Bear”

Ed Henderson noted that the Kitsap Players have a production this weekend

Paul Robisch noted his attendance at the memorial service for John Dyer longtime Mountaineer member

Steve Costie introduced to the board his fiancée, Sabrina Oesterle. Steve will vacation in Europe to meet her parents in mid September.

Adjournment



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It was moved by Patti Polinsky and seconded to adjourn at 10:09 pm

Attachment List

1. NFCC Cap Analysis
2. Board Policy Narrative
3. Stan and Helen Engle Resolution
4. Conservation Executive Committee minutes 2008 06
5. Doseywallips River Road report

NFCC Cap Analysis for Board Meeting 2008 08

To be submitted

Draft Policies for Board Review (at the August 2008 meeting)

All policies were revised into a common format. Significant changes are summarized below.

New Section (old number)	Comments
Accident Reporting (424)	Revised to reflect the role of the safety committee in accident investigation. Reviewed by Dan Lauren, safety committee chairperson.
Activities (104, 407, 421)	Combines Activities, Refund of Course Fees, and Leadership Guidelines in one policy. Updated to acknowledge clubwide activity standards, which provide criteria for trips, courses, participants, instructors, and leaders.
Associations (417)	This applies to clubs of clubs, such as the Western Federation of Outdoor Clubs, which The Mountaineers belongs to.
Board of Trustees Meetings (201, 202, 203, 418, 419)	Combines old policies related to how the board functions: consent agendas, executive sessions, and the duties of the secretary.
Board Policies (201, 418)	Combines two old policies to clarify how policies are made, revised, and maintained.
Carpooling	Approved, not included in review package
Club Standards (401)	Some rewording and reformatting. There is a question regarding medications that could impact safety on outdoor activities. It was implied in the old policy. Should it be in the club standards?
Clubwide Activity Standards	Approved, not included in review package
Committees	Approved, not included in review package
Conservation	Not drafted
Contracts and Encumbrances (422)	Some rewording and reformatting. Reviewed by Steve Costie.
Copyright for Volunteer-generated materials (427)	Some rewording and reformatting. Reviewed by Helen Cherullo.
Divisions	Approved, not included in review package
Elections of At Large Trustees	Approved, not included in review package
Elections of Officers	Approved, not included in review package
Financial Management	Not drafted
Fundraising (428)	Revised to acknowledge the fundraising committee (currently alternative funding – a charter change is recommended) and its role in fundraising projects. Reviewed by Ed Henderson.
Harassment	Not drafted
Headquarters Operations (702)	Revised for Magnuson Park operations. Reviewed by Steve Costie.
Library (408, 409)	Combines two old policies and delegates some of the former policy to the library committee. Reviewed by the library committee; their only concern is their reporting relationship to the board, which would be an issue for their charter rather than this policy.

New Section (old number)	Comments
Member Privacy	Approved, not included in review package
Membership (402)	Revised to show the current membership categories. An interesting question is: Should membership be open to children under 14? Children may participate (see the new Participation Policy), but they are not considered members. Reviewed by the staff.
Mountaineers Books (701)	Updated and reviewed by Helen Cherullo.
Outdoor Ethics (411)	Updated and reviewed by the outdoor ethics committee. Note the revision references Leave No Trace principles rather than establishing a set of club principles.
Outings (406)	Updated, with many details from the old policy delegated to the outings committee. Reviewed by Steve Johnson, outings committee chairperson.
Participation in Club Activities (403, 405)	Combines Member Participation and the Guest Policy into one policy that acknowledges the club standards and clubwide activity standards for all participants. Allows non-members to participate without limits, with a fee differential. Reviewed by the staff without unanimous agreement. The challenge is the database does not easily provide a way to assess a non-member fee for events that members join for free (hikes, climbs, etc.).
Problem Behaviors (404)	Revised and reformatted. Takes the board out of imposing restrictions (it would act only on a question of expulsion). Reviewed by Steve Costie.
Publications (413)	Updated and reformatted. Reviewed by Steve Costie.
Recreational Properties (107, 412)	Combines two policies. Reviewed by Dave Claar. We believe we can rescind the Hospitality Business Policy (425).
Recreational Resources	Not drafted

Accident Reporting (424)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to establish and follow procedures for reporting and investigating accidents that occur on club activities.

Application

1. Any accident on a club activity that involves medical treatment, emergency evacuation, or death shall be reported to the Executive Director as soon as possible.
2. Upon receiving an accident report, the executive director shall:
 - Take any immediate action that is required.
 - Report the injury to the Safety Committee chairperson and the applicable branch, division, or committee chairperson.
3. The Safety Committee shall determine the type of accident investigation to be performed.
 - An investigation team shall be assembled for any fatal injury and a report shall be made to the board when the investigation is complete. This team shall include one or more people who have expertise in the activity in which the accident occurred and were not involved with the accident.
 - The Safety Committee shall establish criteria for investigating other accidents and shall encourage activity committees to investigate all accidents whether an injury occurred or not.
4. Incident investigations shall be initiated as soon as possible and documented with a report describing findings and recommendations. The report shall be forwarded to the division or branch safety officer and the chairperson of the Safety Committee.

Responsibilities

The Executive Director is responsible for establishing procedures for reporting accidents on club activities, including notifying the club's insurance broker or attorney when necessary.

The chairperson of the Safety Committee is responsible for establishing procedures for investigating accidents that occur on club activities.

Division and Branch chairpersons are responsible for providing First-Aid/Accident Report forms to leaders that include the phone number for reporting injuries to the executive director.

Activity leaders are responsible for promptly reporting serious injuries to the executive director and assisting accident investigation teams as needed.

Activities (104, 407, 421)**Policy Statement**

It is the policy of The Mountaineers to offer activities to further the club's purposes. Activities include, but are not limited to, trips, courses, and seminars.

Application

1. The Mountaineers shall provide a variety of human-powered activities.
 - Activities may be initiated by branches, divisions, committees, or club staff.
 - Activities shall be selected based on the interests and needs of the members.
 - Activities should foster camaraderie and provide an atmosphere of good fellowship.
 - Activities should provide members the opportunity to learn and practice new skills and assume leadership roles.
2. Activities shall comply with applicable Clubwide Activity Standards.
3. Branches, divisions, or committees who sponsor an activity covered by a Clubwide Activity Standard shall maintain a list of leaders they have approved and:
 - Have a written process for approving leaders.
 - Have a written process for reviewing leader performance concerns and taking corrective action, including removing someone from the leaders' list if necessary.
4. Branch, division, and committee chairpersons shall communicate expectations and responsibilities of both leaders and participants.
5. All club-sponsored outdoor activities that are not part of a course shall be registered in the online database to assure that:
 - Multiple Mountaineers parties are not in the same area in violation of land manager regulations.
 - The activity is covered by the club's insurance policy.
 - Appropriate action may be taken if an emergency occurs.
6. When fees are assessed for a course or seminar:
 - The fee is due upon registration.
 - The fee will be refunded, less an administrative fee determined by the sponsor, if the student cancels before the first activity in the course or seminar.
 - Course or seminar sponsors may authorize a refund or "rain check" in special circumstances.
7. The managing committee shall approve the establishment of any new committee for an activity that is not offered by the club. This process shall include a review of:
 - The proposed activity committee charter
 - The need for a clubwide activity standard
 - How well the activity supports the purposes of the club

Responsibilities

Staff, branch, division, or committee sponsors of activities are responsible for administering this policy.

Associations (417)**Policy Statement**

It is the policy of The Mountaineers that the club may join associations, federations, societies, leagues, coalitions and similar groups to further the purposes of The Mountaineers.

Application

1. The board of trustees shall approve any new affiliation with an association or similar group.
2. The Mountaineers shall abide by the bylaws, rules, and regulations of such associations, subject to these limitations:
 - Club financial responsibilities shall be specified for a definite time period.
 - All affiliations must provide a reasonable means for terminating membership.
3. The club shall not affiliate with:
 - An association where the Mountaineers would be liable to pay for special assessments.
 - An association that is not incorporated or organized to exclude the Mountaineers from any legal liability for any wrongful or negligent acts of the agent or agents of any such organization.

Responsibilities

The executive director is responsible for administering this policy.

Board of Trustees Meetings (replaces 202, 203, 419)**Policy Statement**

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to meet and conduct business as openly as possible, with exceptions allowed for issues that require confidentiality.

Application

1. Board meetings shall be conducted as described in Article VII of the bylaws, "Meetings."
2. The secretary shall send a board packet to trustees prior to the meeting.

- The board packet shall include:
 - The agenda
 - Financial reports
 - Information needed to make decisions required at the board meeting
 - The board packet may include confidential information, so trustees should use care in sharing this information.
3. The secretary shall take minutes of each board meeting.
- The minutes shall include:
 - Names of board members present and absent
 - Summaries of reports presented at the meeting
 - Motions and their outcome, including the names of board members who dissent when a motion is not unanimously approved
 - Draft minutes shall be distributed to board members prior to the next board meeting.
 - A summary of the meeting shall be submitted to the editor of *The Mountaineer* for publication in the next issue.
 - After being approved at the next board meeting, with corrections if necessary, the minutes shall be posted on the Mountaineers public website.
 - Annually the minutes shall be compiled and bound into a volume for the club archives.
4. The board meeting agenda may include items for a “consent agenda” to minimize the time required for routine business matters such as approval of committee members and approval of bank account signatories.
- The consent agenda shall be voted on without discussion.
 - If a board member would like to discuss an item on the consent agenda, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and moved to new business.
 - A majority vote is needed to approve the consent agenda.
5. “Executive sessions” may be called when necessary to discuss confidential matters.
- Examples of confidential matters are:
 - Legal matters involving attorney-client privilege
 - Personnel issues involving specific individuals
 - Real-estate or business negotiations
 - An executive session may be called by the president or any two members of the board of trustees. The order of business for an executive session shall be:
 - The president shall review the need for an executive session.
 - The secretary shall move to continue the executive session, with a 60% majority vote required for approval.
 - Upon completion of the business of the executive session, the president shall close the session.
 - Participation in an executive session is limited to members of the board of trustees and any others invited by the president or the board members who called for the executive session.
 - Actions taken during the executive session must pertain specifically to the reason for which the session was called. Any action that can be concluded in an open session shall be deferred to the next open session.

- Formal motions or resolutions may not be acted upon in executive session. These shall be deferred to the next open session.
- Participants in the executive session shall treat all discussion in the session as confidential information. The presiding officer shall confirm that all present understand and agree to this requirement of confidentiality.
- The secretary shall take minutes of the executive session to document any actions taken and the scope of discussions.
 - These minutes shall be kept in a confidential file, with access limited to members of the board of trustees.
 - Once the need for confidentiality has passed, the board may approve a motion to attach executive session minutes to the minutes of the applicable board meeting. This also waives the confidentiality agreement of the participants of the executive session.

Responsibilities

The executive committee is responsible for planning board meeting agendas, including items to be included in consent agendas or executive sessions.

The president; or the president's absence, the person designated by the bylaws; is responsible for presiding at board meetings.

The secretary is responsible for compiling the board packet and sending it to trustees, taking minutes of the meeting, and publishing approved minutes for all members.

Board Policies (201 and 418)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to compile policies approved by the board so they are accessible to members.

Application

1. The board of trustees is the sole policy-making authority within the Mountaineers as described in Article II, Section 3 of the bylaws, "Powers."
2. New policies and revisions shall be approved by the board of trustees.
 - Any board member may propose a new or revised policy by submitting a draft for inclusion in a board packet prior to the meeting it will be discussed.
 - A majority vote is required to approve, revise, or rescind a board policy.
3. The secretary shall compile board policies into a policy manual and post it on the club website so it is accessible to members.

Responsibilities

The secretary is responsible for maintaining an up-to-date policy manual and making it accessible to members.

Club Standards (401)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to establish standards of personal conduct for participants in club activities.

Application

1. Participants shall exercise personal responsibility and conduct themselves on club activities and premises in a manner that will not impair the safety of the party or prevent the collective participation and enjoyment of others.
2. Participants shall:
 - Respect private property.
 - Obey federal, state, and county, and municipal regulations.
 - Treat everyone with respect – harassment shall not be tolerated.
3. Participants shall minimize the environmental impact on the outdoors by practicing Leave No Trace principles.
4. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on club activities and premises when such use would affect the safety of the party or the collective participation and enjoyment of others.
5. Firearms and illegal drugs are strictly prohibited on club activities and on club premises.
6. Pets are not allowed on Mountaineers premises or club activities with the exceptions of activities specifically planned to include pets, such as “Hikes with Dogs.”
7. Participants shall comply with any rules established by board, branch, division, or committee policies or procedures.

Responsibilities

All participants in club activities are responsible for complying with this policy.

Contracts and Encumbrances (422)**Policy Statement**

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to define authority for signing contracts and encumbrances of club assets.

Application

1. For the purposes of this policy:
 - A contract is any agreement, whether in writing or not, which involves payment or receipt by the club of money, goods, or services.
 - An encumbrance is any agreement, whether in writing or not, which creates an interest, claim, or lien on any real or personal property of the club.
2. Contracts involving club expenditures which have been approved in an annual budget or by the board of trustees may be authorized by, as appropriate:
 - The Executive Director, or
 - The division, branch, or committee chair who has primary responsibility to implement the budgeted item
3. For contracts involving club expenditures which have not been approved in an annual budget:
 - Branch or division chairpersons may authorize contracts for branch or division expenditures for \$5,000 or less provided that:
 - The expenditure is reviewed with the branch or division treasurer and the executive director,
 - The branch or division has sufficient cash on hand to fund any operating deficit in the current fiscal year, plus the unbudgeted expenditure, plus a minimum balance equal to 10% of the annual budgeted revenue, and
 - The contract is reported to the finance committee at or before its next meeting.
 - The executive committee shall review all other contracts, and if they are approved, refer them to the board for approval of the expenditure.
4. All encumbrances of club assets and agreements to lease, purchase, or sell real property shall be made by the president following approval by the board.
5. All encumbrances of branch assets shall be authorized according to branch governing documents following review by the branch treasurer and the executive director.
6. All contracts with a value of more than \$1,500, and all encumbrances of more than one year's duration, shall be in writing.

Responsibilities

The president; executive director; branch, and division, and committee chairpersons are responsible for administering this policy.

Copyright for Volunteer-generated Materials (427)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to retain the copyright on all materials produced for the club by volunteer writers and designers.

Application

1. Volunteer writers and designers freely give the Mountaineers all rights, including that of copyright to their written materials or designs, and place no restrictions on the Mountaineer's present and future uses of the material whatsoever.
 - For Mountaineers Books projects, a written copyright agreement shall be signed by the publisher of Mountaineers Books and the volunteer.
 - The Mountaineers may use, abridge, condense, or create derivative works from the original materials.
2. Volunteer writers retain the right to sell to third parties separately prepared materials based on their original research so long as the work does not contain verbatim extracts longer than 200 words each from the material for which the Mountaineers owns the copyright. The new material shall be reworked so that a prudent person would consider them separate works.
3. Volunteer designers retain the right to sell to third parties separately prepared materials or designs based on their original sketches or designs so long as the material is reworked so that a prudent person would consider them separate works.
4. The Mountaineers logo may not be used in non-Mountaineers publications without the express written permission of the Mountaineers.
5. Whenever possible, the work of volunteer writers and designers will be prominently attributed to them in print within the work itself, but The Mountaineers will retain the copyright.

Responsibilities

The publisher of Mountaineers Books is responsible for implementing this policy regarding volunteer writing and designing for publication by Mountaineers Books.

Branch, division, or committee chairpersons are responsible for informing volunteer writers and designers of this policy before they begin work on behalf of the Mountaineers.

Fundraising (428)**Policy Statement**

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to establish criteria for fundraising projects such as soliciting donations or seeking grants.

Application

1. Fundraising proposals shall be approved by the Fundraising Committee. Fundraising proposals for amounts over \$10,000 shall be approved by the board of trustees.
2. All fundraising projects shall have a written plan which includes the scope, budget, schedule, proposed funding sources, and fundraising methods.
 - Projects seeking grants from The Mountaineers Foundations shall be consistent with the fiscal sponsorship agreement between the Foundation and the club and meet criteria for 501(c)3 status.
 - Projects seeking grants from other sources shall include a draft grant proposal.
3. Solicitations for approved fundraising projects shall have prior approval by the Fundraising Committee and identify the Mountaineers or the Mountaineers Foundation (as applicable) as the recipient.
4. The Mountaineers shall honor requests from donors regarding how funds are used and how they are recognized.

Responsibilities

The chairperson of the Fundraising Committee is responsible for administering this policy.

Headquarters Operations (702)**Policy Statement**

It is the policy of the Mountaineers that the Seattle headquarters building be operated by professional staff to:

- Maximize the use of these facilities by members.
- Foster an inviting, friendly, and social atmosphere.
- Attract new members and develop new programs, both for club membership and public outreach.
- Generate revenue from sources outside the club to assure financial sustainability.

Application

1. The headquarters building shall be operated in compliance with the lease agreement with the City of Seattle.
2. The staff shall establish a reservation system and fee schedule for the facility that accommodates the needs of club activities while allowing rentals to outside groups at times when members are not likely to use it.
3. The staff shall establish and enforce rules for using the facility that ensures the safety and well-being of all users.
4. Smoking shall not be permitted in any part of the facility, whether it is indoors or outside.

Responsibilities

The Executive Director is responsible for administering this policy.

Library (408)**Policy Statement**

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to maintain a library with a collection that reflects the club's purposes and interests.

Application

1. The library committee shall establish:
 - Criteria for the acquisition and disposal of books and periodicals.
 - Procedures for checking out materials or restricting check-out
 - Procedures for handling rare books and documents
2. As resources allow, the library shall be open during hours that meet the needs of the membership.
3. Lost books must be paid for or replaced by the person who checked them out.
4. Non-members may use the library but they may not check out materials.

Responsibilities

The chairperson of the library committee is responsible for implementing this policy.

Membership (402)**Policy Statement**

It is the policy of the Mountaineers, as stated in Article V of the bylaws, Membership, for the board to establish membership criteria and membership categories that encourage people to join by structuring annual dues rates based on family situation, age, or unique contributions.

Application

1. Membership in the Mountaineers is open to all persons age 14 and older.
2. Membership categories shall be:
 - Individual
 - Spouse* (with spouse's individual membership)
 - Family (includes individual, spouse, and/or children age 14-18)
 - Student (age 14 and older)
 - Senior (over age 69)
 - Senior Spouse* (over age 69 with spouse's individual or senior membership)
 - Out-of-state
 - Low income (at staff's discretion)
 - Staff (for active employees of the Mountaineers)
 - Life
 - Honorary

* New spouse and senior spouse memberships are not available.
3. In addition to the membership categories listed above, the staff may establish recognition levels for members who make financial contributions to the club.
4. The amount of dues for each membership category shall be determined by the board and posted on the club website and included on the membership application.
5. All members shall enjoy the following privileges:
 - Receipt of the monthly club publication.
 - Participation at member rates in all club activities for which the member qualifies.
 - A 20% discount on books published by Mountaineers Books and sold by the club.
 - Use of the club library, including check-out privileges.
 - Admittance to all club meetings with the exception of executive sessions of the board of trustees and committee meetings specifically dealing with personnel matters or threat of legal action.
6. Honorary membership may be granted to individuals whose philosophy and deeds uphold the spirit, ideals, and purposes of The Mountaineers in an outstanding manner and who are likely to continue to uphold these principles.

- Nominees for honorary membership may be members or non-members at the time of their nomination.
 - Any member may nominate a person for honorary membership by completing a petition that describes the person's accomplishments, is signed by ten or more members, and submitted to the Executive Director.
 - The Executive Director shall review petitions with the Executive Committee and determine whether or not a petition should be forwarded to the board.
 - Honorary membership shall be conferred by majority vote of the board.
7. Applications for membership may be made online or in writing.
- Applicants shall be accepted upon receipt of their application, signed waiver, and payment of an initiation fee and annual dues.
 - Membership shall begin from the first day of the month of acceptance.
8. Dues notices shall be sent to members before their annual dues expire. Dues are payable upon receipt.
- Members who have not paid their dues within 30 days after their expiration date shall be notified.
 - Members who have not paid their dues within 60 days of their expiration date shall be dropped from club membership.
 - If membership is dropped because of nonpayment of dues, the member may be reinstated at a later time by paying annual dues.

Responsibilities

The Executive Director is responsible for establishing procedures for processing membership applications and dues payments.

Mountaineers Books (701)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Mountaineers for Mountaineers Books to support the purposes of the club as a professional managed operation.

Application

1. The mission of Mountaineers Books is to publish and distribute books and other educational materials which:
 - Support the club's purposes at no cost to the club
 - Serve as a public relations outreach for the club
 - Achieve and maintain high literary standards, including quality of content and physical product
 - Benefit the outdoor community at large by supporting education through exploration, study, preservation, and enjoyment of the natural beauties of the outdoors

2. Mountaineers Books shall be operated and managed professionally and efficiently in the manner of a trade publisher.
 - The daily operation shall be carried out by paid staff under the direction of the position of publisher.
 - Mountaineers Books shall be operated in a fiscally responsible manner.
3. The assets and liabilities of Mountaineers Books and funds generated by its operations shall be:
 - Maintained separately from other assets and liabilities of the club
 - Managed by the professional staff of Mountaineers Books under the direction of the publisher
4. Assets shall not be encumbered without approval of the Board of Trustees.
5. The Books Governance Committee shall serve as a resource to the Books operation.
 - The vice-president of publishing shall chair this committee and approve all author contracts involving royalty payments for new titles to be published by Mountaineers Books.
 - The Books Governance Committee shall:
 - Review monthly financial reports against plan, review and provide strategic guidance on the annual operating budget, and vet reports for the club Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees.
 - Review progress and participate in strategic reviews.
 - Provide strategic integration between the Books operation and Braided River.
6. The board of trustees shall:
 - Approve the annual operating and capital budgets for Mountaineers Books
 - Received quarterly and annual reports on the financial condition of Mountaineers Books in a format agreeable to the board (yes, quarterly financial reports make much more sense than monthly reports)
 - Receive a general monthly report of Mountaineers Books activities at the board meeting
 - Receive an annual report on the accomplishments of Mountaineers Books and plans for the year ahead
 - Provide final approval on all policy and fiscal matters affecting Mountaineers Books, based upon delegation of oversight and strategic authority to the Books Governance Committee and professional staff as it sees fit.
7. Members of the board of trustees shall be offered and may receive a copy of each new title or edition produced by Mountaineers Books. The president shall also be offered and may receive a copy of other items published or distributed, but not produced, by Mountaineers Books.

Responsibilities

The vice-president of publishing is responsible for:

- Recruiting new committee members within the Mountaineers Club as well as outside the organization to reflect a wide range of business, philanthropic, and financial expertise
- Timely reporting to Board of Trustees

The publisher is responsible for:

- Management of the Books operation in a fiscally sound manner in service to the broad educational and inspirational mission of the organization
- Reporting to the Books Governance Committee and Club as noted above
- Serving as Executive Director of Braided River, which exists in part as the conservation imprint of The Mountaineers Books, as well as the 501(c)(3) entity providing funding and complementary educational outreach capacity.

Outdoor Ethics (411)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to reflect in its outdoor philosophy, practices, and educational materials a sense of ethics that respects and preserves outdoor areas.

Application

1. Mountaineers activities shall minimize impact on the natural environment by:
 - Practicing Leave No Trace principles as described by the Center for Outdoor Ethics.
 - Scheduling activities so no two Mountaineers parties are on the same route at the same time.
 - Trips shall be scheduled in the activity database, which only allows one party per route.
 - If two Mountaineers parties encounter each other in the same area, trip leaders should select separate routes and campsites.
 - Limiting party size to a maximum of 12, or smaller when required by land managing agencies.
Exception: Course field trips and work parties may exceed a party size of 12, with permission of the land manager if applicable, if environmental damage can be avoided.
2. Mountaineers activities shall be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations of land managing agencies, including but not limited to the U. S. Forest Service and the National Park Service. This includes:
 - Obtaining permits as required.
 - Registering parties in advance when required.
 - Following all other rules and requirements of the land managing agency.
3. The Mountaineers shall be proactive on issues involving outdoor ethics and wilderness preservation.
 - Courses shall include applicable outdoor ethics training, including Leave No Trace principles.

- Activity committees shall encourage leaders to practice and promote Leave No Trace principles.
4. The Mountaineers shall promote member stewardship of the backcountry through maintenance, restoration and preservation activities.

Responsibilities

Division, branch, or staff sponsors of activities are responsible for administering this policy.

Outings (406)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to offer outings to further the purposes of the club.

Application

1. A club-sponsored activity is considered an outing if it:
 - Lasts longer than 10 days, or
 - Involves travel outside the United States or Canada, or
 - Costs more than \$1,000 per person
2. Outings shall be sponsored by a branch, division, or committee and coordinated with and approved by the Outings Committee.
3. The Outings Committee shall establish procedures for proposing, approving, organizing, funding, and leading outings.
4. The outing shall be conducted in compliance with applicable clubwide activity standards.
5. Outings shall be self-supporting financially, with all expenses paid by the participants.
 - Costs included in the outing price shall be clearly explained to prospective participants, including:
 - Deposits
 - Total price and what it includes and excludes
 - If the leader's travel expenses will be paid by participants.
 - The club accounting staff will collect deposits and outing funds and pay outing expenses through a unique sub-account for each outing.
 - An administrative fee, to be paid to the club, will be collected as part of the total outing price.
 - After all outing expenses are paid, any money remaining shall be credited to the sponsoring committee.
 - Participants shall be charged a \$100 cancellation fee. This money shall be credited to the general fund less any non-recoverable expenses incurred for the outing.

6. Contracts that must be signed by the leader require prior approval by the executive director.
 - Guide or trekking services must provide evidence of liability insurance.
7. Leaders may require participants to have adequate insurance policies that cover sickness, accidents, or evacuation.

Responsibilities

The Outings Committee chairperson is responsible for administering this policy.

Participation in Club Activities (replaces 403 and 405)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to allow members and non-members to participate in club activities as long as they have signed a release and indemnity agreement, have met any prerequisites, and abide by applicable club standards and rules.

Application

1. Participants in club activities must sign a release and indemnity agreement (waiver) prior to the event. This requirement does not apply to indoor social events and presentations.
 - A parent or guardian must also sign the waiver for participants under age 18.
 - This requirement applies to members, non-members, and children.
2. Participants shall abide by all rules described in the “Club Standards” [BP 401].
3. Participants must meet prerequisites in applicable clubwide activity standards and prerequisites established by the sponsoring committee.
4. Activity leaders may limit participation based on levels of knowledge, skill, physical condition, or experience when that is appropriate to assure the safety or success of the party.
 - Leaders must assure that any decision to exclude someone from an activity is not capricious and is based on sound information.
 - No one may be excluded from an activity solely because of age, sex, race, religion, national origin, or sexual preference.
5. Children under the age of 14 may participate in suitable club-sponsored activities.
 - Children under age 14 must be accompanied by a parent unless the division, branch, committee, or staff sponsoring the event has established other policies.
 - Children of members shall participate at discounted rates compared to children of non-members.
6. Non-members may participate in club activities with these considerations:

- For activities that charge a fee:
 - Non-members shall pay a higher fee than members so there is a benefit to joining the Mountaineers.
 - Branches, divisions, or staff shall determine non-member fees for activities they sponsor and make an effort to make non-member fees consistent for similar activities.
 - Non-members who belong to outdoor clubs with reciprocal rate agreements with the Mountaineers may participate at member rates.
- For activities that do not charge a fee:
 - Non-members may participate in two activities per year at no charge (as a trial membership). This does not apply to outreach and production events.
 - After participating in two events, non-members may join additional activities by paying a fee to be determined and administered by the staff.
- The sponsoring branch, division, or the staff may give members and their families sign-up priority or limit non-member registration on a space-available basis.

Responsibilities

The Executive Director is responsible for developing a waiver form and establishing a system to obtain signed waivers from members and non-members.

Division, branch, or staff sponsors of activities are responsible for administering this policy.

Problem Behaviors (404)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to deal promptly and fairly with those rare instances of individual behavior that intrude on the safety and enjoyment of others.

Application

1. During a club activity, leaders are responsible for letting a participant know if he or she is not fulfilling reasonable participant expectations.
 - Discussion should be held in private if possible
 - The discussion should focus on identifying the problem, clarifying expectations, and communicating corrective actions.
 - If a participant identifies problem behavior with a leader, he or she should try to resolve it in a similar manner during the activity.
2. If the problem cannot be sufficiently dealt with during an activity, or if repeated problems with the same person occur, action may be referred to the sponsoring branch, division, or committee chairperson in writing.
 - The chairperson, or a designee, shall initiate a discussion with the participant about the perceived problem.
 - The discussion should take place as soon as possible to prevent escalation of the problem.

- The discussion should focus on identifying the problem, corrective action, and if necessary, restrictions that may be imposed.
3. The branch, division, or committee sponsoring the activity may limit or deny further participation to any individual who has demonstrated that his or her actions jeopardize the safety or enjoyment of others.
 - If restrictions are imposed, the chairperson shall document the decision in writing and send copies to the participant, division or branch chair (if applicable), the executive director, and the president.
 - Restrictions shall apply as follows:
 - Committee chairpersons may impose restrictions only for their committee's activities in their branch.
 - Branch or division chairpersons may impose restrictions only for their branch or division.
 - The executive director may impose clubwide restrictions if necessary.
 4. Participants may appeal restrictions in writing as follows:
 - If a committee chairperson has imposed a restriction, it may be appealed only to the branch or division chairperson, whose decision is final.
 - If a division or branch chair or the executive director has imposed a restriction, it may be appealed only to the club president, whose decision is final.
 5. Expulsion may be considered in extreme cases, with action taken by the board as described in Article V (Membership).

Responsibilities

Branch, division, and committee chairpersons are responsible for administering this policy.

The executive director is responsible for administering restrictions using the activity sign-up system.

Publications (413)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to establish objectives and guidelines for club publications, including, but not limited to *The Mountaineer*.

Application

1. The objectives of club publications are to:
 - Provide articles on topics of specific interest to members
 - Provide opportunities to get involved as a volunteer
 - Educate members on conservation positions and issues

- Inform members about trips, courses, lodge opportunities, membership benefits, and other items of general interest
2. A paid managing editor, hired by the executive director, shall handle day-to-day editorial, administrative, production, and advertising management for *The Mountaineer*.
 3. An editorial committee, consisting of the executive editor, managing editor, executive director, and others as appropriate shall meet periodically to review club publications.
 4. Publications may accept paid advertising of goods and services that are of specific interest to members. However advertising shall not be accepted for:
 - Alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or firearms
 - Personal adsThe managing editor reserves the right to refuse any advertising deemed inappropriate.

Responsibilities

The Executive Director is responsible for implementing this policy.

Recreational Properties (107 and 412)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Mountaineers to operate and maintain recreational properties for the benefit of its members. The use of such properties will support and advance the mission and purposes of the Mountaineers.

Application

1. Recreational properties shall be available to all members and committees on an equitable basis.
2. Buildings and utilities shall be constructed, maintained and operated in a manner that ensures the safety of users and complies with applicable regulations.
3. Lodges which are located on federal lands (currently Mt. Baker Lodge and Stevens Lodge) shall comply with applicable regulations as stated in their Special Use Permits.
4. Recreational properties shall operate in compliance with the clubwide minimum standard for recreational properties.
5. Trees on recreational properties may be cut only if:
 - They must be removed to make room for an approved capital improvement or
 - They pose a safety hazard.

6. The use of herbicides is prohibited on club properties.
7. Insecticides and other hazardous chemicals shall be used safely and judiciously.

Responsibilities

Lodge and recreational property chairpersons are responsible for administering this policy.

Tom Shinko Motion to adopt the following resolution,

Whereas,

Tacoma Branch members Stan Engle and Helen Engle, in their nearly six decades of Mountaineer membership, have contributed so much of their time in service to the Mountaineers Club and especially the Tacoma Branch and,

Whereas

Stan and Helen have become the cornerstones of the Tacoma Branch, have opened their lives and home to the Mountaineers, are known among so many as truly "Great People", "Tireless, organized, enthusiastic proponents of the Mountaineers", are people who truly uphold the spirit, ideals, and purposes of the Mountaineers, be it

Resolved

That Stan Engle and Helen Engle be granted honorary membership in the Mountaineers in recognition of their decades of service.

**THE MOUNTAINEERS
CONSERVATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

June 18, 2008

Members Present: Jim Adcock, Dan Crouse, Dale Flynn, Ed Henderson, Diane Hoff, Dyche Kinder, Ross Lytle, Donna Osseward, Harry Romberg, Michael Shurgot (*Chair*), Fran Troje, Leesa Wright (*Public Policy Associate*)

I. Call to Order and Introductions

- A. Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m.
- B. Guest speakers Ken Wilcox and Mark Bardsley were introduced to the Committee.

II. Review and approval of agenda

- A. Agenda approved with changes
 - 1. Item IV – presentation on the North Cascades Conservation Council moved up to be the first item covered.
 - 2. Mount St. Helens moved to Old Business
 - 3. Add (5) to New Business – Reports to the Board Of Trustees - Fran

III. Review of May minutes

- A. Michael pointed out three minor changes to be made to the minutes of May 21, 2008. The minutes were accepted as corrected.

IV. Old Business

- 1. North Cascades Conservation Council
 - i. Ken Wilcox and Mark Bardsley gave a slide presentation concerning the North Cascades Conservation Council's (NCCC) proposal to add portions of Ross Lake and Lake Chelan National Recreation Areas to North Cascades National Park. This proposal is being made to "head off" a possible future threat from Seattle Power and Light, which may look to develop the area for hydropower.
 - ii. Ed asked what the CEC can do for the project at this point. The speakers said they were looking for input and ideas. Also, they were looking for the Mountaineers' assistance in getting some detailed maps of the area compiled.
 - iii. Dale suggested a survey of the Mountaineers' membership, which could be done via the newsletter. Michael suggested that **Rich Barringer** is the chief webmaster for the Mountaineers – we could work on a membership survey through him.
- 2. Stevens Pass
 - i. Harry informed the Committee that a scoping letter has been received from the Forest Service, dated June 4, 2008, for the Master Development Plan by the Stevens Pass Management. A response is due NLT July 3rd.

IV. Old Business (cont.)

3. Defenders of Wildlife - Montana wolverine lawsuit

- i. Michael informed the CEC that he thought this was no longer an issue. The Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y) seemed to feel that the issue it was too broad, since it covered the entire Lower 48 states for the coalition.
- ii. Dyche countered that the No Surprises lawsuit took eight years - why should Wolverine Lawsuit be any different? Michael explained that he felt he couldn't get it past the Mountaineers Executive Committee. Fran said she didn't think we should "pick a fight over this", given the current Board and political climate – it doesn't directly impact on the Mountaineers' activities.
- iii. Michael said he had no objection in principle to taking it back to Mountaineers Board and to the Executive Committee, but worried about upsetting the current goodwill.
- iv. ***Dyche made the motion that the CEC recommend to Board of Trustees that the Mountaineers join in the suit vs. the USFWS decision to de-list the wolverine. Donna seconded. Motion approved.***
- v. Dyche will draw up the wording of the recommendation to the Board.

4. Planning for new building

- i. Michael reminded the Committee that he is still looking for ideas about the open house for the opening of the new Mountaineers building.

5. Dosewallips Environmental Impact Statement

- i. Ed informed the Committee that the draft EIS is out, and we have 60 days to submit comments. The main proposal is to rebuild the road to Forest Service Road 2610 to the National Forest Service campground at Elkhorn, then to continue around to Dosewallips. Ed said the EIS contains lots of erroneous information and, in some places, completely lacks of information. It contains no details about the road itself.
- ii. Ed said that we need to decide who's going to work on our comments, and on what part of it. The ultimate choice is, do we support the re-opening the road or not? We probably can't decide until we gather more specific information than is presented in the EIS. Donna and Harry have volunteered. Leesa will get with Rick Barringer to find out how many trips the Mountaineers make to this area? Tom O'Keefe will cover the parts of the EIS pertaining to fish.

6. Mount St. Helens

- i. Dan noted the proposal to make Mount St. Helens National Monument into a National Park. There has been some resistance from local officials. The Gifford Pinchot Task Force, and the Mount St. Helens Advisory Committee are the lead agencies to determine if it *should be* a National Park.

IV. Old Business (cont.)

6. Mount St. Helens (cont.)

- i. (cont.) National Park.
- ii. Local concerns include the fact that Mount St. Helens doesn't have the infrastructure that a National Park like Mt. Rainier has. A public meeting on the proposal will be held on the 4th Thursday of July in Chehalis. Ed reminded the Committee that we need to get involved in This. There is an ongoing problem with the snowmobile use in the area, and the snowmobilers are well-represented.

V. New Business

1. Green Jobs Conference

- i. Michael informed the Committee that the Green Jobs Conference will be held this Saturday, at the University of Washington. If anyone wants to go, let him know.

2. Mount Baker Planning Meetings

- i. Leesa noted that they (who?) have asked for the Mountaineers' input on the panel. There will be a meeting in September.

3. Move to New Building

- i. Ed noted that we need a committee to help us go through our "stuff". We have found boxes of CEC stuff from 1997. He's not sure if any of this stuff is backed up on computer or not - we need to identify and catalog it.
- ii. Ed has volunteered to be the lead on this project. Michael also volunteered to help. Ed also showed the Committee plans and layouts for new building. There is an archive room for administrative records.

4. "Mud-up" Events

- i. Michael reminded the Committee of the Puget Sound Partnership-sponsored "Mud-up" events – volunteer clean-up events in Puget Sound. The PSP has a registration form online.

5. Reports to the Board of Trustees

- i. Fran noted that, at a recent Board of Trustees meeting, she felt that Michael has given input that we have not discussed as a Committee. During a recent BOT meeting, a discussion about combining the Recreation Access Committee and the CEC, Michael said he thought it was a "good idea". Fran said this had not been discussed within the CEC. There was some discussion of this, but no clear consensus. Ed noted that this discussion was not part of Mike's report and he was responding to questions from the Trustees.

VI. Reports

A. Dale Flynn

- i. Dale noted that the proposal to combine Recreation Access Committee and the CEC into the "Social Policy Committee" is certainly an issue which we need to look closely at.

B. Ed Henderson

- i. Ed passed around copies of the report of his recent trip to Northwest Energy Conference. The NWECC gave out a "Turkey Award" to the National Marine Fishery Service. This "award" was in recognition of their repeated failure, three times, to submit a satisfactory Biological Opinion in response to a law suit on endangered salmon and the four lower Snake River Dams.

C. Harry Romberg

- i. Harry noted a recent meeting of the Northwest Land Conservancy meeting, which was geared to new initiatives for additional wilderness areas.
- ii. There was nothing new on the Olympic Watersheds Coalition. The Coalition has a meeting this Sunday, June 22nd.

D. Jim Adcock

- i. Jim noted that he is just back from vacation...he is still working on his Carbon Footprint essays for the newsletter.

E. Dyche Kinder

- i. Dyche noted to the Committee a continued slaughter of buffalo that wander out of Yellowstone National Park. He suggested that we write a letter objecting to this process. It is currently being done out of fear that the buffalo could spread brucellosis outside of the park. ***Dyche made a motion to draft a letter of objection to the National Park service. Donna seconded. Motion approved.***

F. Leesa Wright

- i. Leesa informed the Committee about an article regarding a U.S.Forest Service employee who successfully sued the USFS about illegally building roads. There is currently a letter-writing campaign to support her, being conducted by Forest Magazine. ***Leesa made a motion to petition the CEC to write a letter to the U.S. Congressman in charge. Donna seconded. Motion approved.***
- ii. Ed questioned whether this was an approved Mountaineers' policy? Michael said this will have to go through the Board of Trustees.
- iii. Leesa also reminded the Committee that she has a big stack of mail – including several that say we are in arrears for lots of membership dues.

The Mountaineers

Conservation Executive Committee

June 18, 2008 meeting minutes

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VI. Reports (cont.)

G. Dan Crouse

- i. Dan noted that there has been no movement on the changes to the Ross Lake Recreation Plan.

H. Donna Osseward

- i. No report.

I. Fran Troje

- i. Cama Beach State Park opens this weekend.
- ii. Lake Sammamish – we got them to re-write their proposal, because of the faults we found in plan.

J. Ross Lytle

- i. No report.

VII. Announcements for the Good of the Order

1. Michael asked the Committee if we wanted to have a regular meeting in July, or a picnic? Donna said we definitely need at least a meeting. The Committee decided that we will have one at regular time of the month. We could start a little earlier if we have a potluck.
2. Michael thanked Leesa and Ed for their recent articles in the newsletter.
3. Dyche reminded the Committee that the Fish & Forest Plan is ongoing, and that he is keeping on top of it. This fall, will need to decide whether to proceed with the lawsuit.
4. Donna reminded the Committee of the Polar Bear Exhibit at UW Burke Museum.
5. Fran had a question regarding the CEC budget. The budget is usually due on July 11th. There is no meeting scheduled before then. Michael said he will find out what has to be done. CEC membership renewals need to be on the July agenda.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Report to the Board of Trustees Dosewallips River Road Washout

The Dosewallips River Road, Forest Service Road 2610, is one of only two motorized access points to the east side of the Olympic National Park. The other is on the SE corner at Staircase by Lake Cushman. FS 2610 leads to the Dosewallips Campground and Ranger Station 15 miles west of Brinnon on the Hood Canal. The ranger station is the trailhead for trails to Honeymoon Meadows, Anderson Pass and Mt. Anderson, Hayden Meadows and Mt. Mystery. The Trail to Lake Constance and Mt. Constance is a couple of miles from the end of the road.

In January 2002 a storm washed the road out five miles from the end, denying vehicle access to the Dosewallips Ranger Station in the park and to the Forest Services' Campground at Elkhorn, a mile beyond the washout.

In May 2002, the Forest Service published an environmental Assessment (EA) recommending rebuilding the road on the original alignment. This EA was withdrawn as it violated the Northwest Forest Plan's aquatic strategy.

In February 2003 the Forest Service published a second EA again recommending rebuilding the road on the original alignment. This EA was withdrawn as the issues had become too complex to be handled by a simple EA and a full Environmental Impact Statement was required.

In August 2005 the Forest Service published a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS, by 2007.

The Mountaineers has commented on all of these documents and since 2003 has supported the need for an EIS.

In June 2008 the long awaited Draft EIS was published jointly by the Forest Service and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as joint lead agencies.

A Mountaineers team made up of the Conservation and Recreational Resources Divisions and the Public Policy Associate is currently working on a comment letter regarding the 355 page Dosewallips Road Washout DEIS. Each team member has made one or more trips to the washout area. They have hiked the proposed road relocation, and visited the campgrounds beyond the washout. Trips have been made in January, April, June, July, and August.

To date we have uncovered a number of errors and omissions in the document and supporting documents. The team is also working with other local conservation and outdoor recreation organizations, the Forest Service, and Park Service to obtain information. In general, we feel the alternatives chosen by the Forest Service for this project are not feasible to accomplish the project's goals.

The “No Action” alternative is not a “no-action” plan because it would close campgrounds beyond the washout and does not consider that non-motorized recreational access has occurred since the washout and that the campgrounds are currently being used as backcountry walk-in campsites. Mountaineers usage data indicates trips to the area have returned to pre-washout levels.

The remaining three alternatives, costing from 2 to 8 million dollars, leave the area vulnerable to more slides and washouts that could result in considerable environmental damage while not accomplishing the Forest Service and Park Service project goals of providing motorized access to the two campgrounds.

Significant problems in DEIS found to date:

- Federal Highway Administration Planning Maps for the project have the project plotted five miles *downstream* of the actual project area making us unsure of the accuracy of the resulting data.
- The DEIS “proposed alternative” (Alt B) requires “New road cuts with vertical heights in excess of 50 feet and slope distances from the ditch to the top of the cut of 60 to 80 feet or more would be required. The proposed by-pass route is up and over a steep hill of unstable gravel soils, with grades up to 10% (that is 10 vertical feet for every 100 horizontal feet), A very steep road!
- Some of the cuts would be located in alluvial fans or old landslide features that would be susceptible to **slope instability following construction**. Springs and seepage areas exist in some locations along the proposed alignment. To ensure these areas don’t cause failure to the road, **future** slope stabilization measures such as rock buttresses, flattened slopes, retaining walls, and horizontal drain systems **may be** required to drain groundwater and stabilize unstable slopes and landslides resulting from the excavation of new cuts.

Proposed Alternative B further states, “Geotechnical drilling would occur following clearing and pioneering construction in order to determine appropriate stabilization measures.” The team feels Geotechnical drilling should be done *before* a preferred alternative is selected. If good solutions are not found even more damage or complete project failure could result. The study for this information should have been done as a part of the EA and prior to the release of the DEIS because of the impact on possible alternatives selected for the DEIS.

- The Dosewallips has the following threatened fish: Chinook, Coho, summer & fall chum, and pink salmon. It is also has threatened winter & summer steelhead trout and sea-run cutthroat trout. These have all been documented in the project area. The team questions the action alternatives’ conclusions that the projects would have “insignificant” adverse results on the fish of the Dosewallips, as all of the proposed alternatives (except the “No Action” alternative) violate the Northwest Forest Plan’s aquatic strategy.

- In general, the DEIS is poorly prepared containing mislabeled charts, tables and photographs and missing number values for data sets.
- This DEIS will be challenged because:
 - It fails to follow NEPA procedures.
 - It contains statements contrary to environmental law in declaring the alternatives for study in the DEIS.
 - Some of the biological studies needed to make a reasoned decision and required by law have not been done.
 - The Wetland and Stream Delineation Study lacks required data and may be challenged on study methods.
 - The selected action alternatives would require from 1 to 5 waivers from the Pacific Northwest Forest Plan to be executed.
 - The preferred alternative B, as well as alternative C, would result in clear-cutting of seven acres of trees designated as a “Late Successional Reserve” in the Northwest Forest Plan.
 - All alternatives (except the “No Action” alternative) violate the Northwest Forest Plan aquatic strategy.

Comments must be in the headquarters of the Olympic National Forest by August 19, 2008. The authority of this DEIS is shared by the Olympic National Forest, Olympic National Park, and the Western Federal Lands Highway Division of the Federal Highway Administration.

Other organizations commenting on this DEIS:

- Washington Trails Association (WTA)
- Sierra Club
- Washington Audubon
- Olympic Park Associates
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)