



**Branch Leadership Committee**  
*Meeting Agenda for October 18, 2023*  
6:00pm to 7:30pm via Zoom

**Meeting Information**

Zoom Meeting [Link](#)

**Branch Leadership Members**

- James H, Nathan Andrus (BHAM), Nick M (EVE), Brad P (FH), John M (KIT), Janette Z (OLY), Curtis S (TAC), Craig K (SEA), Cindy H (GA), Bill A (Safety), Sara R, Becca P
  - Nick, Travis (FH), Mel, Curtis, Craig, Nathan, Bob Keranen-Olympia

**Agenda**

1. Welcome and Introductions--James
2. Review and approval of the meeting agenda for October 18, 2023  
Motion: Craig/Curis: Approved
3. Review and approval of the meeting [minutes](#) from September 20, 2023  
Motion: Nathan/Mel: Approved
4. Activity Charters & Standards
  - Branch Leadership Committee [Charter](#)
    - 2nd Reading & Discussion
      - Next steps to go to Board or Governance Committee. Sara will check with Becca.
      - Motion: Nick/Curis: Approved.
  - Updated Activity Council & Standards [Spreadsheet](#)
    - Continued great progress for 2023!
      - Cross country ski standard have final document for approval by BLC. BLC review in Nov. Close to having Stewardship standards. May have in the first reading in March/April.
5. Committee & Organizational Reports
  - Safety
  - Global Adventures—Cindy
  - Operations - Sara & Becca
    - Check-in on Branch Celebrations
      - Advocacy Director and Sara went to Bellingham. Looking forward to future celebrations.
      - Kitsap: Saturday, Nov. 18 is the tentative date.
      - Sara will talk with the Branch Chair about HQ staff that will attend around a week before the celebration.



- Takeo and Tom will take part at the Everett celebration. Everett, Nov. 4.
- Please review Super Volunteer lists and return to Michelle by October 31
  - Volunteers who have logged 150 or more hours per year.
- **Leadership Conference.** *Registration is now open for both conferences!* For the first time ever, we are excited to offer two in-person days of professional development - one in Seattle and one in Tacoma - dedicated to thanking, inspiring, and empowering The Mountaineers current and aspiring volunteer leaders. Both conferences will offer equivalent content, with a similar line-up of presenters, expanding our reach and giving volunteers the flexibility to select the program that is most convenient for them.
  - Leadership Conference at the Seattle Program Center - December 2, 2023: [Registration Link](#)
  - Leadership Conference at the Tacoma Program Center - March 23, 2024: [Registration Link](#)
- **Leadership Development Series.** This year's series began in October 2023 and runs through April 2024. Check out our [upcoming events!](#)

#### 6. Branch Reports—Mountaineer Branch Chairs

- Open leadership positions
- Relevant Updates
- Status of Branch Charters
- BHAM
  - Had Rendezvous event last week, had ~75 attendees, which is a good turnout. Hosted trivia night after awards and recognition. Branch has seen a lot of interest in “unofficial” trail running activities, working on making that an official M's activity in Bellingham.
  - Looking for a new Treasurer. Has someone in the position who is continuing to help, but would like to roll off. Also looking for a Secretary and Chair Elect. AJ is moving from Chair Elect into Chair position in November.
  - AJ had been working on the Bham newsletter, will be passing that off to another volunteer. Had some discussion across branches about how newsletters work, what cadence. We discussed that Bham is the only branch that does their entirely own newsletter.
  - Still working on charter, Nathan is committed to seeing that through even if it extends beyond his tenure. Still aiming to have finished end of 2023, but may bleed into 2024.
- EVE
  - Getting ready for banquet coming up on November 4. Excited for the speaker they have lined up. Courses are heads-up down getting courses posted and applications reviewed.



- Looking to find new Treasurer, since Robert White was elected to the Board. Question about whether this is a conflict of interest. Will also be looking for a successor to the chair position.
- Discussion that direct asks for successors is more successful than putting out broad asks.
- FH
  - Eric Jensen will be sitting as acting Treasurer (missed the official window for voting). Running a blog in November for open at-large positions for the Council.
  - Travis Prescott stepping down as scrambling chair. Olga K is incoming scrambling chair as of November 1.
  - Branch Celebration is December 8. Brad N will be the speaker.
  - No update on charter, will wait for update from Brad P.
- SEA
  - Still looking for Chair Elect and Secretary replacement. Plans to start being more proactive with targeted recruiting. David Bradley is stepping into First Aid, taking over for Mary Panza who has been in the role for 10+ years. Jeff Patterson and Alina K are going to co-chair scrambling (looking for a third) - chair by committee with defined roles. Hiking Chair is open. Seeing good response and uptake with direct asks for committee support, new folks getting involved.
  - Committees are busy getting courses posted, instructors recruited.
  - Celebration is in late January, has a good planning group working on the details.
- KIT
  - Looking to fill Chair Elect position behind Mel, handoff for Mel to Branch Chair will be at Branch Celebration. Council elections will happen at meeting next month.
  - Celebration tentatively planned November 18.
  - Charter is still in progress, wasn't discussed at next meeting, hoping they will vote at next meeting.
  - Things are generally going well. Basic is almost full, Intermediate is starting on winter field trips. Climbing Committee is meeting to discuss how to get more volunteers involved (had to cut Basic course by 7 students because of instructor/leader shortage). Hope to bring enrollment back up for 2025 class. Nav had a successful fall field trip. Mel will also be taking on role of Nav Committee Chair (and looking for co-chair).
- TAC
  - In middle of elections through the end of October. Chair and Chair Elect are up for election, plus two at-large council members. Branch charter is also part of the election.
  - Branch celebration is planned for Dec 1.



- New hiking/backpacking chair, David Hyde. Heidi Schutz is likely taking over as Stewardship chair. Climbing Committee will be meeting next week to finalize their charter.
  - OLY
    - Bob Keranen is new Chair Elect, this will be his third time as Chair (has served twice before).
    - Not sure what status of charter is.
    - Four new officers that came in October 1. OLY generally doesn't have trouble recruiting except for Branch chair position.
    - Had an open house last month (used to run in January). Changed to accommodate timing of course enrollment. Had good turnout. Hoping to get DeeAnn Kline back into communications position to help with outreach. Branch Banquet and award ceremony is this Saturday. Lowell Skoog is speaking. Starting to plan for Banff in the spring, Adventure Speaker Series is starting soon and runs over winter. Bob running an MOFA class this fall.
7. Information & Discussion Items
- Branch Designated Donations & Spending Deadline
    - [Please review and provide feedback to Bri](#)
  - Question about timeline for VP of Branches successor. Note from Bob K that it would be nice to have someone outside of the Seattle area in the position.
9. Adjourn
- Next meeting BLC Meeting: November 15, 2023
    - Motion to adjourn - Nick and Bob second. Nothing against. Adjourn :)