



Branch Leadership Committee
Meeting Agenda for September 20, 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

Attendance: Brad P, Travis V, Nick M, Mel W, Sara R, Becca P, Nathan A, Brad N, John M, Craig K

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions--James
2. Review and approval of the meeting agenda for September 20, 2023
Nick moves, Nathan seconds. Approved
3. Review and approval of the meeting [minutes](#) from August 16, 2023
Brad moves, Nick seconds. Approved
4. Branch Reports—Mountaineer Branch Chairs
 - Open leadership positions
 - Relevant Updates
 - Status of Branch Charters

Bellingham - Sept potluck very well-attended, including lots of new folks. Rendezvous October 10. Possible candidates to fill hiking chair and treasurer. No one is fully committed but things are looking up! Working on charter...

General discussion about how to make amendments to Branch Charters. Charters are written so the branch executive committees have authority to amend. Discussion about when/how this needs to be brought through BLC and Board approval. Maybe an annual review cycle?

Foothills - Eric Jensen candidate for treasurer - holding a special election; turnover coming up in climbing and scrambling chairs (Peter Tran & Travis Prescott); Steve LeBrun is stepping down from snowshoe course chair. Other than these upcoming openings (in a year), FTH is in pretty good shape. Proposal: Branch chair serve 2 years; immediate past chair goes away (in a formal capacity). 1 year chair-elect; 2 years chair. Still TBD about which direction the branch will go. Urban Walks via Liz McNett Crawl has added a lot of creative sub-activities (MOE - Mindful Outdoor Experience); geocaching. FTH is encouraging volunteer creativity which is building a



positive and welcoming culture. Trailrunning Winter Conditioning Course. 46(!) trail runs listed with the course. 30 students. Foothills annual celebration in December.

Everett - summer picnic went well; new hiking/backpacking chair for 2024; might be losing treasurer (Robert White) who just got elected to the BOD; scrambling & sea kayaking had some great end of season celebrations.

Kitsap - difficulty getting enough climbs posted to support the climbing courses. Considering reducing climb requirements from 3 to 2. Branch celebration coming up (still figuring out date). Either Nov 12 or Nov 18.

Seattle - New treasurer, Stella Kim. Peter Clitherow is stepping up to lead Basic Climbing Course; secretary & chair elect remain open; scrambling chair filled with an interim; new snowshoe chair; new tentative first aid chair as Mary Panza steps away; planning first branch banquet with a good working group

Tacoma (submitted in advance from Curtis S):

* Link to the DRAFT Branch Charter was provided in the September branch newsletter, to give 30 day notice that it will be up for a vote in October.

* A few ongoing conversations with folks to fill council vacancies - chair-elect, safety officer and possibly branch chair.

* Branch elections planned for the month of October.

Olympia (submitted in advance from Janette Z): Olympia found candidates for open positions: chair-elect, director, and treasurer. Elections have been held; just waiting for official results.

5. Committee & Organizational Reports

- Safety
- Global Adventures—Cindy
- Operations - Sara & Becca
 - Check-in on Branch Celebrations
 - Plan is to bring the org-wide celebration to branches by having at least one BOD member and one staff attend each branch celebration (these folks will give an org update as well as present any org-wide awards)
 - **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.** We're excited to announce new Leadership Development Series seminars, beginning October 2023 and running through April 2024. Check out our [upcoming events!](#)
 - I want to give **special mention** to an in-person program on crisis management and critical incident stress management by Katja Hurt: [Peer Support for Mountaineers](#) on Saturday, October 14 at the Seattle Program Center. Katja will provide the fundamentals of supporting someone through a crisis using psychological first aid and an optional Question-Persuade-Refer (QPR) Gatekeeper Training for suicide prevention and intervention.
 - First Aid updates
 - Transition to Base Medical requires us to have in-house trainers, and there is a clear and relatively low-lift process to become a trainer
 - eLearning updates
 - Working on having tutorials by end of calendar year
6. Activity Charters & Standards
- Branch Leadership Committee [Charter](#)
 - 1st Reading & Discussion
 - Nick motion, Brad Peacock 2nd; approved for first reading tabled to next month
 - Updated Activity Council & Standards [Spreadsheet](#)
 - Continued great progress for 2023!
7. Information & Discussion Items
- Branch Leadership Committee Proposed Retreat
 - Proposal dates are January 27 or January 28.
 - We'll bring this to a Basecamp conversation to finalize a date
 - Branch Designated Donations & Spending Deadline
 - We only had a brief discussion about this. Nick has a couple of questions to be discussed at a future date.
9. Adjourn
- Next meeting BLC Meeting: October 18, 2023