

## Bellingham Mountaineers Branch Committee Meeting Agenda

May 24, 2022 6:30 PM

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83406059779?pwd=dHcrNjQyaXdKM0lZRHd6RkhMUzFtQT09>

**Invited:** All branch members, interested public

**House Rules:** Zoom (mute, raise hand, camera on), listen carefully, respect all, be concise.

Updates are 2 minutes or less; if longer add to New Business.

Time	Topic (desired outcome)	Lead
6:30	<b>Welcome/Introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>House rules, attendance (welcome new members)</li> <li>Agenda review</li> <li>Approve minutes from last meeting</li> </ul>	Brian Brian Ingrid
6:35	<b>Updates</b> (<2 minutes; information sharing, action item report back) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Branch Chair</li> <li>Secretary</li> <li>Climbing Committee (BMC, IMC, Crag, Scrambling)</li> <li>Hiking Committee (Hiking, Uphill Training Series)</li> <li>Communications</li> <li>Safety</li> <li>Conservation/Stewardship</li> <li>Diversity, Equality, &amp; Inclusion subcommittee</li> <li>Board of Directors</li> <li>Treasurer</li> </ul>	Brian Ingrid Krissy/Chairs Eric/Chairs AJ James Breanna Breanna Maura Ryan
6:50	<b>Old Business</b> (next steps/follow up) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create new hiking subcommittee—confirm, next steps</li> <li>Potlucks update</li> <li>2023 budget review subcommittee update</li> <li>Annual officer elections and job descriptions update. See <a href="#">proposed election process update and next steps</a> for discussion.</li> </ul>	? Krissy/Audrey Ryan Brian/AJ/Ingrid
7:00	<b>New Business</b> (action/decision needed?) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upcoming tasks from <a href="#">Yearly Planning Guide</a> (check status and assign follow up as needed)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treasurer finalizes budget for mother branch submittal (May)</li> <li>Review leader list and committee rosters (May)</li> <li>Discuss new ideas/changes (May)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Basecamp               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview</li> <li>Invites</li> <li>File management</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Ingrid       Brian/Krissy
7:20	<b>Action Items Review</b>	Ingrid

	Next meeting agenda items	
7:25	<b>Adjourn</b>	

## **Bellingham Mountaineers Branch Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date/Time:** May 24, 2022 6:30 PM

**Location:** Zoom

**Attending:** Brian McNitt, Ingrid Enschede, Breanna Beach Duffy, Eric Henry, Krissy Fagan, Jason Speer, Nathan Reed, AJ Schuehle, Ryan Monahan, Justin Blackburn, James Pierson, Galen Shae, Jack Duffy, Kyle Breakey

**Welcome/Introductions:** Approved April meeting minutes

### **Updates**

- Branch Chair (Brian) - Reminder to keep updates short and move items requiring discussion to new or old business
- Secretary (Ingrid) - no update
- Climbing Committee (BMC, IMC, Crag, Scrambling) (Krissy) - Branch received all 2023 class field trip locations and dates submitted to the internal lottery
- Hiking Committee (Hiking, Uphill Training Series) (Eric) Wednesday evening hikes will restart June 1. Sent a google sheet for hike leaders to sign up. Leaders can change location as needed. The default is Pine and Cedar. Still looking for more hike leaders.
- Communications (AJ) - Will put Wednesday hikes starting June 1 into the next newsletter. Question: what to do with informal trip reports received? Answer: recommend members submit trip reports to the mountaineers website. AJ can help as needed and link official trip reports to the newsletter. Updates made to the Bellingham Branch section of TheMountaineers.org website: updated About Us, uploaded 2022 meeting agendas and minutes.
- Safety (James) - The safety committee is working on checklists cards for leaders to prepare for trips and use on trips. Outdoor center charters are revised to include a safety officer. Quarterly incident reports and safety data are on TheMountaineers.org site under the safety committee pages. James will send the link to AJ to include in newsletter. The safety committee is recruiting a new chair to start in October.
- Conservation/Stewardship (Breanna) - no updates
- Diversity, Equality, & Inclusion subcommittee (Breanna) - Had a group discussion with leaders today and identified some next steps to work within the branch and with The Mountaineers.
- Board of Directors (Maura) - sent an email update: The Mountaineers are seeking nominations for at large positions on the Board of Directors. This is an expansion of a new process piloted by the governance committee last year, seeking to increase

transparency, rigor and continue to diversify the background, skillsets and perspectives of the board. Learn more: <https://www.mountaineers.org/blog/open-nominations-join-the-mountaineers-board-of-directors-in-2022>. Recommend that the Bellingham Branch board of directors representative position be a 2-3 year term. Suggestions copied into the Bellingham Branch officer election process document.

- Treasurer (Ryan) - Current balance is about \$5,000.

#### Action Items:

- Newsletter items (AJ)
  - Wednesday hikes start June 1
  - James send AJ link to quarterly incident report

#### **Old Business**

- Create new hiking subcommittee - AJ explained there already is a separate hiking committee with Eric as lead. AJ can show Eric how to manage the hiking committee site on TheMountaineers.org site. Decided don't need regular hiking committee meetings. Suggestion two per year: 1 to prepare for spring/summer and 1 to prepare for fall/winter hikes. AJ suggested looking at what other branches are doing. Nathan is willing to help plan. AJ, Eric, Nathan follow up.
- Potlucks update (Krissy) - No volunteer from the basic class to organize potlucks and no space rental. Table to June meeting.
- 2023 budget review subcommittee update - the subcommittee worked on a draft budget proposal. See new business.
- Annual officer elections and job descriptions update. See [proposed election process update and next steps](#) for discussion. Tabled to June meeting.

#### Action Items:

- Discuss hiking committee - AJ, Eric, Nathan

#### **New Business**

- Upcoming tasks from [Yearly Planning Guide](#) (check status and assign follow up as needed) Table
  - Treasurer finalizes budget for mother branch submittal (May) - working on
  - Review leader list and committee rosters (May) - table to June
  - Discuss new ideas/changes (May) - table to June
- Branch budget review - Ryan shared slides summarizing major expenditures and a draft 2023 budget proposal. Discussion and decisions:
  - Biggest annual expenses is the WFA course (~\$5,000)
  - Storage unit cost increases \$10/month next time pay for a year \$114/month
  - Course prices drive revenue. The Mountaineers staff reviewed Bellingham Branch course prices, used a calculator based on median income and cost of

living and provided recommendations to change prices. Recommendation is to increase cost for Basic and decrease cost for Crag.

- Confirmed there are need-based scholarships available and these funds often go unused. Scholarships are promoted with Basic class information but need to continue to promote. Ryan will clarify if the branch is reimbursed for scholarships.
- Suggestions to use increased revenue from increased Basic class fees to build a gear library for students to check out gear and reduce financial burden of buying gear for those who need the help.
- Suggestion to make the non-member price difference more than the cost of annual membership.
- Returning students pay for materials their second year.
- Jason and Ryan will discuss option to run avalanche classes through the Bellingham Branch
- Ryan will look into the status of the Bellingham Branch's one-time savings account. When HQ took over branch accounts there was over \$13,000 moved into a savings account the branch can use for a special expense.
- Decisions made:
  - Adopt The Mountaineers staff recommended price for basic class.
  - Use 22 students attending for 2023 revenue estimate
  - Move discussion of Crag and Intermediate class fees to Climbing Committee

- Basecamp discussion - table

#### **Other**

- Note many people are getting Covid right now. Consider safety.

#### Action Items:

- Ryan look into ~\$13,000 branch savings
- Ryan and Jason discuss avalanche classes
- Ryan confirm if Branch is reimbursed for class tuition scholarships