

Bellingham Mountaineers Branch Committee Meeting Minutes DRAFT

Date/Time: Dec 6, 2022 6:30 PM

Location: Zoom

Attending: Nathan Andrus, Dana Ringler, James Pierson, Jack Duffy, Brian McNitt, Alanna Steele, Breanna Duffy, Justin Blackburn, Ryan Monahan, Meredith LaFrance, Nathan Reed, Audrey Gleser, Clint Carrell

Welcome/Introductions:

- Reminder that meeting is open and public; be respectful and concise
- Intros
- Agenda review
- October meeting minutes approved.

Updates

- Branch Chair - (Nathan) - Working with Krissy and Minda on updating the Scrambling Committee, the Scrambling Committee has been added to the [branch page](#).
- Secretary - (Dana) - No update.
- Climbing Committee (BMC, IMC, Crag, Scrambling) - (Krissy) - Not present.
- Hiking Committee (Hiking, Uphill Training Series) - (Eric) - Not present, Nathan read update. On January 7, 2023, HQ is hosting a summit for all Hiking Committee leaders. Eric cannot attend so is looking for a volunteer to go in his place, anyone can go to the summit. HQ generally wants 2-3 representatives from each branch. Alanna and Dana volunteered. Leaders in the Hiking Committee are meeting shortly to coordinate the Uphill Training Series, open call for UTS recommendations, information can be sent to Will, Eric, or Audrey.
- Communications - (AJ) - Not present. First Speaker Series event is with Lowell Skoog, Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 7:30pm at Backcountry Essentials. Next speakers are not confirmed, tentatively Craig Romano, and another for January and February. Hoping to meet with Jack D. to work on Webmaster to contribute to website management. Looking for content for the December newsletter including local events, community achievements, DEI initiatives.
- Safety - (James) - The outdoor center doesn't have representation on the Safety Committee. Working to establish organization-wide blog series for safety information, looking for content. Intermediate course notice went out to new students! Looking for current intermediate volunteers to assist with water ice instruction coming up.
- Stewardship (Breanna) - Meeting with Amy in the next week to transition roles.
- Diversity, Equality, & Inclusion - (Meredith/Breanna) - Presented at the Pickford for the PASANG showings in October. Planning to meet up and climb with Kimber from the Seattle branch to collaborate towards increased accessibility initiatives in branches. Met with 2022 BMC students to discuss their experience with gender-identity, ability, etc. during the basic course. Planning a newsletter with Breanna to provide instructors and course members resources for inclusion and accessibility. Working on post-trip/post-course surveys to gauge emotional safety. Starting Monday, January 9, 2023, at

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Is this on the bellinghammountaineers.com or the mountaineers.org branch info?

Commented [2]: Mountaineers.org

9:00pm, the DEI Committee will hold their first standing committee meeting. Open invitation to POC/women/adaptive climbers/ mental health to create an open forum for discussion. Looking for ways to have buy-in to include students as well as folks in positions of authority (instructors, brand chairs, etc.). Jack suggests working with AJ to collaborate on the post-trip surveys for Basic and Intermediate Course participants to get the word out. Audrey voiced that post-trip surveys would be very valuable to collect before the BSC materials review.

- Board of Directors - (Tim Schafermeyer) - Not present.
- Treasurer - (Ryan Monahan) - Winter is a high spending time period due to preparation for Basic and Intermediate course preparation. Presented typical annual expenses: branch budgets for approximately \$16,000 in expenses; branch budgets for approximately \$28,000 in revenue. Revenue is changing from historical numbers due to changes in Crag Course participation. Basic Course cost was reviewed in April/May to adjust for current pricing. Must adjust 2022 expenses to reflect club equipment purchases (new ice tools, new ropes, new radios, etc.). Discussed selling old materials to a local organization for upcycling. Jack Duffy asked about retaining revenue so that funds are not absorbed into the HQ if they aren't spent.

Old Business

- Google group management administration - Nathan Q's
- T Shirt order - did new t-shirts get ordered?
 - T shirt coordination members are not present, this business will need to revisit another time.

New Business

- Volunteer Time Tracking
 - [Mountaineers updated instructions](#)
 - Nathan will make an event on the branch website for each Branch Meeting and will track Branch Meeting participants' to volunteer hours (including meetings, admin time, course planning time, etc.).
- Trail Running Series/Committee
 - Alanna volunteered to start up a trail running committee to take advantage of running trails to augment the Uphill Training Series.
 - Brian McNitt, Nathan, and Alanna will meet to start a trail running group for a bit of market analysis before making the group official as a committee because committees require a charter, branch website logistics, and some larger.
 - Brian McNitt recommends reaching out to the Foothills branch for information on the logistical aspects of a trail running specific committee, and a discussion with treasurers to determine how a branch activity can be income generating in terms of selling the concept.
 - Alanna will reach out to the Foothills branch chair to learn more about their charter, committee coursework, requirements for being a trail running leader, and their process, and loop in headquarters. Nathan informed us that Kitsap, and other branches also have new Trail Running Committees.
 - Nathan R., James P., and Dana R. support a trail running group!
- Hiking Summit January 7th, Tacoma - Representative

- Dana and Alanna volunteered
- Financial Update on the Branch from Ryan
 - See above.
- Upcoming tasks from [Yearly Planning Guide](#) (check the status and assign follow-up as needed, flag edits needed to guide)
 - All Climbing Committee tasks? Need to update planning guide to note Branch/Climbing Committee
 - Review branch the schedule and designate someone to revise and print.

Action Items:

- Leaders in the Hiking Committee are meeting shortly to coordinate the Uphill Training Series, open call for UTS recommendations, information can be sent to Will, Eric, or Audrey
- AJ will meet with Jack D. to work on Webmaster to contribute to website management. Looking for content for the December newsletter including local events, community achievements, DEI initiatives.
- Meredith will work with AJ on post-trip/post-course surveys to gauge emotional safety.
- Meredith and Breanna will start a regular DEI committee meeting, beginning with a first meeting on Monday, January 9, 2023, at 9:00pm.
- Ryan will determine whether there are HQ regulations for retaining revenue so that funds are not absorbed into the HQ if they aren't spent.
- Decide whether we should sell and/or donate old equipment to a local organization for upcycling (for example, ropes).
- T-shirt Order - Tim S. and Minda P. will coordinate on inventory, material choice, and placing order.

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