

Bellingham Mountaineers Branch Committee Meeting Minutes - Unapproved

Date/Time: March 18, 2023 6:00 PM

Location: Zoom

Attending: Ben H., Tim Schafermeyer, AJ Scheule, Dana, Joshua Williams, Nathan Reed, Justin Blackburn

Welcome/Introductions:

- Reminder that meeting is open and public; be respectful and concise
- Intros
- Agenda review
- [Meeting minutes from last meeting approved](#) - motion to approve by Tim, seconded by Dana, majority in favor: Approved.

Updates

- Branch Chair (AJ Schuehle) - BLC meeting coming up this week which should discuss the SHSA advisory committee
- Secretary (Dana) - Between Dana and AJ the minutes will be submitted to the
- Climbing Committee (Varun) - Not present, Tim shared that BMC and IMC are both progressing with Winter Mountaineering, Small Party Rock Rescue (SPRR), FUNdamentals and Knots Eval coming up. Will be processing and confirming new climb leader applications today in Climbing Committee.
- Hiking Committee (Hiking, Uphill Training Series) (Ben) - Switched to weekly hike and UTS at 6pm which has been successful, all UTS hikes have been full with waitlist. Currently have 6 consistent hike leaders (Audrey, Will, Ben, Dustin, Sascha, ?). Do not currently have Hiking Committee meeting, AJ willing to meet with Ben to chat about the system. Tim will work with Ben on website permissions for posting/managing hike offerings.
- Communications (Cassidy) - Not present. AJ shared that the Cheryl talk was great, however did not have strong turnout. Still have another talk upcoming (date?). Already seeking ideas for next season. AJ and Cassidy will be collaborating to draft a charter for the Comms Committee to solidify structure of committee in terms of social media management,
- Safety (James) - Not present.
- Diversity, Equality, & Inclusion (Meredith) - Not present.
- Board of Directors (Tim Schafermeyer) - The Mountaineers Gala (main fundraiser) is coming up (April 6, 2024) which is sold out in person but a virtual option is still available, keynote will be Reinhold Messner. Tim is available to provide further input on the BCCC.
- Treasurer (Krista) - Not present.
- Code of Conduct Committee (James/Dana) -

Old Business (next steps/follow up)

- Open positions (All of the positions were listed in the Instructor Gathering Survey, and Tim thinks there's at least 1 person mentioned they had interest in Chair Elect) - if there was no response in the volunteer survey
- Branch Charter
- Trail Running update - runs posted on are no longer marked as clearly unofficial, routes are roving into backcountry so we need this formalized to avoid liability
- Gear Swap - happening this Thursday, March 21, 6-8pm at Goods

New Business (action/decision needed)

- Official vs. unofficial hikes within UTS/BMC ok?
- [Yearly Planning Guide](#) Review - shelved
- Branch Committee google groups: Should the existing google groups get cleaned up? Should we rebuild the google group for branch council?
 - Need to consider Google group hygiene to monitor BMC and membership email groups?
 - Steps: 1) Ask HQ to provide a list of who is designated as a dues paying member of the Bellingham Branch, 2) Send emails to folks before removing them ("Would you like to stay in this communication?")
 - Main consideration is voting accessibility for all Bellingham members
 - Look into nesting groups?
- Communications Committee Charter
 - Solidify committee responsibilities and clarify various roles that form part of the committee (e.g. social media manager, social planning coordinator, speaker series coordinator etc)
 - Establish that communications committee is responsible for events
 - Form guidelines for what is/is not "official" mountaineers events
 - Clarifies the BCoCC sphere of responsibility
- Review [E&I Committee Proposal](#) - Bham group is receptive and interested in this proposal.
 - Formally add E&I Representative to each branch's executive committee, who also sits on the Mountaineers E&I Committee
 - Note - Bellingham already has someone on the E&I Committee this would be formally adding that role to the Executive Committee via Branch Charter
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Action Items:

- AJ to follow up with Alanna to see on a formal plan/timeline for formalizing Trail Running Committee
- AJ to meet with Cassidy regarding Communications
- AJ to follow up with member who was interested in creating a committee for sea kayaking