

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

**Date/Time:** Monday March 17, 2024

**Location:** Zoom,

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

**Attending:** Jonah, James, AJ, Audrey, Michael, Jessica, Tim, Ryan, Krista, Ben

### **Welcome/Introductions:**

- Reminder that meeting is open and public; be respectful and concise
- Intros
- Agenda review
- Review and Approval of previous month's meeting minutes

### **Updates**

- Branch Chair (AJ Schuehle) - Branch Charter submitted last month to BLC, first pass review this coming Wednesday.
- Secretary (Dana) - not present
- Climbing Committee (Tim) - Courses in full swing. Question about swag (Jason and AJ). Budget questions have come up recently, AJ to work with Tim and Krista.
- Hiking Committee (Hiking, Uphill Training Series) (Ben) - Uphill training series started in March, two hikes per week at the beginning to accommodate more people, down to one a week now. Mentored hikes underway. Recently asked about hikes on weekends, is possible but needs volunteers to lead. Can climb leaders be hike leaders?
- Communications (Cassidy) - Gear Swap date has been updated, newsletter still has the 20th - potentially send out an email blast to mailing list with an update? Jess has set up a specific location for students to post pics but not much use yet. Still receiving most pics separately. Audrey suggests sending an email to students after trips/lectures reminding them to post pics. Is there a way to include the hyperlink to google photos within the trip surveys that get sent out? Jess to talk with Lauren to see if there is a way to collaborate.
- Safety (James) - Safety committee meeting schedule changes. IMC Winter mountaineering this past weekend, 9 attendees, horrible weather! One student left early, weather had improved which made it safer for them to return.
- Diversity, Equality, & Inclusion (Meredith) - AJ to ping Becca at the BLC tomorrow regarding BIPOC climb night at Vital
- Board of Directors (Jonah) - BOD retreat this past weekend, Jonah attended. Reviewed survey, Bellingham did not have great participation. Planning to promote this more next year to get better participation from our branch. Course capacity analysis - our branch is tracking pretty well compared to other branches, all branches are experiencing the same struggles with volunteer recruiting, one area of focus is on members who may not have been active recently but want to get back involved. Gala is coming up, Jonah was told the branch should not reimburse him for attending...BOD members are required to participate but there are a variety of ways

to do so which do not require the \$250 fee. 80% donor base. AJ to talk with Heather about potential fund raising opportunities in future years to cover the cost for one or more members to attend.

- Treasurer (Krista) - Submitted mid-flight at end of Feb, didn't change any numbers and only a few comments - more revenue because we had more students, but expenses will also increase.
- Stewardship (Ryan R.) - RMT (previously RMI) is asking for some time at the council meeting to promote a business relationship. Zack Newhard is a good contact for context about why we haven't used them for WFA etc. AJ to talk to Zack and then Tyler to find out more. RMT offers a 10% discount on individual WFA or WFR certification classes. Ryan still working towards obtaining a Stewardship Trip leader badge.
- Code of Conduct Committee (James/Dana) - see actions below, awaiting comments from the BLC on the new Code of Conduct committee

#### **Old Business** (next steps/follow up)

- [Yearly Planning Guide](#) Review
- [2025 Mountaineers Calendar review](#)
- Vital/Mountaineers BIPOC climb night collab update
- Google calendar management update.

#### **New Business** (action/decision needed)

- New committee opportunity - Injured Reserves Club - postpone to April due to time

#### **Action Items:**

- AJ talk to Dana about providing a second bystander intervention training this year, possibly look to provide two per year one at the beginning of the course season and one near the beginning of the climbing season, geared towards instructors and leaders. Potentially do it for two different demographics
- AJ to talk with Heather about potential fund raising opportunities in future years to cover the cost for one or more members to attend.
- AJ to ping Becca at the BLC tomorrow regarding BIPOC climb night at Vital
- Jess to talk with Lauren to see if there is a way to collaborate on photo gathering and sharing from the 2025 class
- AJ to talk to Ben about whether climb leaders can be hike leaders by default.
- AJ to see if Zack and he can reach out to Tyler at RMT.
- Should we consider posting these slides to the webs?[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1TH2tG5wFtSvIH3Glserb0pZQ\\_74NKyxDcql8rFjxdag/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1TH2tG5wFtSvIH3Glserb0pZQ_74NKyxDcql8rFjxdag/edit?usp=sharing)

