

Everett Branch Council Meeting Minutes

Everett Branch Committee, March 26, 2024

6:00 p.m. Everett PUD & Virtual

Meeting called to order by Nick Mayo, Everett Branch Chair

Participants:

Nick Mayo, Everett Branch Chair
Rodica Manole, Everett Climbing Chair
Christina Youk, Everett Secretary
Lydia Gillis, Vice Chair for the Everett Branch
Barry Hershly, Everett Safety Officer
Kristen Clark for Matt Surprenant, Scramble Committee Chair
Alexandria Fetzer, Hiking and Backpacking Chair
Robert White, BOD/Everett Treasurer
Beck Clements, First Aid
Bernadette Lamarca, Social Committee
Dan Renfrow, Lookout and Trail Maintenance/Trail Running
Erin Shannon-Starup, Everett LOTM Chair/Foothills TR
Matt Hansen, Guest
Sandra Ingalls, Guest from Outdoor Youth Connections
Rachel Shafer, Cross Country Ski Committee Chair

Motion

The Committee approved the meeting minutes from January 30, 2024.

Committee Statuses and Updates

From the climbing perspective, the Intermediate, LOR, and Basic classes are running in full swing. For the Intermediate and LOR, a kickoff field trip is coming up in less than two weeks. Basic class just had a mid-term last week. Basic Rock 2 field trip is coming up on April 27 and 28.

There is a concern about the level of the Snowpack at Stevens Pass that might not be generous for us to build for Snow 2 fieldtrip. Rodica is monitoring the condition and in the meantime, she is applying for a Mount Baker permit as a backup in case Stevens Pass is not working out.

Taylor's Landing pilot for BCC practice sessions had a great turn out. There is a chance that we might do it again next year at the same location.

From a First Aid perspective, we have 20 students in a class coming up next weekend and the last two classes will start in April. Because of the price increase on the First Aid course, we are generating more revenue than last year.

From a Social Status perspective, a survey completed by Sara MacGillivray from earlier this year had suggested that people would like to have more family-friendly social events and be located up north. To better serve the Mountaineering Community based on the survey result, we are hosting a Kid-friendly Happy Hour on May 1st. Pizza, beer, and other non-alcoholic beverages will be served at a rental place. Beer and other alcoholic drinks will be purchased out of pocket by the participants while the Social Committee will provide pizza and non-alcoholic beverages. More details will be shared in the newsletter and other social media channels. The purpose of this event is for people to reconnect and share interests with each other.

From a Hiking and Backpacking perspective, hiking and backpacking is expected to pick up in May. A new hike leader just joined the team.

From a Cross Country Ski Committee perspective, we have a full class with positive feedback. About 60% of the class graduated. Some of those graduates will return to volunteer next year.

From a Lookout and Trail Maintenance perspective, the stewardship activity list at Lord Hill is full. Some people are on the waitlist. Crew Leader training is coming up in May. We currently have three crew leaders and two more are doing crew mentorship. We used all our personal protection equipment (PPE) on Sunday. We are expecting more PPE to arrive on Friday. A National Trail Day is being planned with some contingencies to smooth out.

From an Everett Safety Perspective, there have been a few safety reports. One of them was on an individual's sprained ankle during a class practice session. More people have been reporting a lot of near misses, which is good because others can benefit from it.

The Everett Basic Sea Kayaking course begins on April 4th. Twenty students have registered with eight students on the wait list. We have nine students in the paddle planning stages. We are in the process of training eight individuals to become Lead Instructors and Trip Leaders.

For Treasurer Update, Midflight and 5-year plan presentation will be posted to Base Camp soon. Treasurer meeting is coming up this Thursday. Robert will share the presentation on Basecamp. The enrollments are low at all branches. The three-year plan will be put together to address this year's midflight.

For Scramble Course, snowshoes successfully completed their course. The Navigation fieldtrip was this weekend. The Scramble class is underway with 16 students. The Scramble reunion is scheduled for August 2nd through August 4th.

Everett Youth Program, we have two guests, Sandra Ingalls and Matt Hansen. To provide a little background on Youth Program. Back in 2019 and 2020, we were tempted to re-start a Youth Program, but was cancelled due to COVID-19. Fast

forward, now that COVID-19 is behind us, we want to re-start the program again. We asked for a Volunteer to lead the Youth Program. Matt Hansen is interested. Matt had some experience leading Boy Scout in the past. In parallel, Nick reached out to Andy Bassett at the Program Center for some insight because Andy used to lead Youth Program for a while when the program was still running.

Sandra said that the Youth Program originated in 1999 in honor of her husband. She would love to see the program in effect again and asked for collaboration in making it happen.

More research needs to be done regarding the demand for the Youth Program, the Volunteers, and other logistics before the Committee decides whether to move forward with the Youth Program.

Nick, Andy, and Matt are going to work on brainstorming some of the survey questions to determine the curriculum interests of the parents, etc. Then will decide on what the next step will be.

Sexual Harassment & Sexual Assault Prevention Advisory Committee

A while back, the Mountaineers took action to create advisory committee to protect members against Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault. There is a blog on the Mountaineers [Website](#) that provides the update on the status of the Committee.

The Committee meets twice a month to talk about the differences between sexual harassment and sexual assault, code of ethics, etc. The next meeting will be held on April 1, 2024. The Board just approved the Charter for this sub-committee. The sub-committee is planning on submitting their final code of ethics recommendations to the Board by June 2024.

There was a proposal that each Branch have their own Branch Council E&I representative who would also sit on E&I Committee. The Everett Branch has been doing that informally back in 2020. Nick suggested that we update our Charter to include E&I Representative on the Executive Committee to make it formal. Nick will create a draft of the Charter language and will share it with the Committee in Basecamp. If the change happens, we would be the first Branch that made this change. Hopefully, other Branches will follow.

Under umbrella of the E&I committee, there was a question about whether we should do a universal application for scrambling for all branches, climbing for all branches, sea kayaking for all branches, cross country skilling for all branches, etc. Nick will post something in the Basecamp to start the discussion.

Besides universal application, the E&I Committee would like to add "Emotional Safety Course" to our courses. That will be added to the Basecamp for discussion as well.

Creation of Chair-Election Position

As the election term for Chair, Board of Director, Secretary, and Vice Chair position is approaching in November of 2024, Nick will meet separately with Vice Chair, Board of Director, and Secretary to determine what they want to do for the next term.

In the meantime, for Chair role, other Branches have Chair-elect role which Everett Branch never had before. A Chair-Elect is a person who has been elected as Chair of an organization but who has not yet started the job until a specific time. What Nick would like to do is consider creating the Chair-elect role three years like Board of Director. Nick is going to do some more research, then post it to Basecamp for the Committee comments and feedback.

Future Events

- April 6: The Mountaineers Annual GALA: Adventure with Purpose
- April 27-28: Basic Rock 2 Fieldtrip
- April 30: Mountaineers State of the Organization
- August 2 – 4: Scramble Reunion

Next Steps and Meetings

- The next Committee meeting will be held on May 28, 2024