**November 5, 2019 — Meeting Minutes \*DRAFT\***

**Foothills Branch Council Meeting – November 5, 2019**

**6:30 PM, in-person meeting, Issaquah Town Hall Eagle Room, 130 E Sunset Way, Issaquah, WA 98027**

**Those in Attendance**

Present: Alan Davey (Navigation Committee Co-Chair), Bonnie Eiber (Avy Course Chair), Kit Eiber (Backcountry Skiing Committee Chair), John Gilbert (Branch Member), Danielle Graham (Nordic Ski Committee Chair), Lori Heath (Branch Secretary), Jim Heber (Navigation Committee Co-Chair), James Henderson (Branch Vice Chair), Daniel Jenkins (Branch member), Richard Lambe (Branch Director), Ashish P (Branch Member), Travis Prescott (Snowshoe Committee Chair), Samantha Sanders (Trail Running Committee Co-Chair), Cheryl Talbert (Branch Chair), Paul Thomsen (Safety Officer), Peter Tran (Branch Member), Fran Troje (Former Chair), Karen Wallace (Branch Member),

**Issues and Decisions**

* Meeting called to order by Cheryl Talbert at 6:30

**Ongoing Business**

* Eastside Program Center – Cheryl
  + Initial concept proposal submitted in April and was approved for further work
  + Looking for about 5000 square feet
  + Commercial broker is helping us find properties, will look more closely at a 3 of them
  + May partner with Seattle Search and Rescue
* Officer position updates
  + Secretary: Lori Heath elected
  + Treasurer: Shyam Vijayaraghavan elected
  + Council vote on Branch chair-elect Cindy Biles
    - Samantha Sanders put forth motion to consider Cindy as a chair-elect. Kit Eiber seconded
    - Dick Lambe made motion to vote, Samantha Sanders seconded
    - Council voted in favor of Cindy as chair-elect
* Process on using City of Bellevue rooms
  + Bellevue can only handle 4 room requests max in a given month
  + Would like 3 months of lead-time for approval of room requests
  + Add registration open date to room request form
* Free classes for Bellevue residents
  + Would like us to provide at least one free class each month we get a free room
  + Potential
    - Intro to hiking
    - Hiking with kids
    - Yoga for hikers and trail runners
    - Dancing
    - Navigation
    - Intro to snowshoeing
    - Avalanche awareness set for January
* Leadership development
  + Our previous full-day Outdoor Leadershipcourse is no longer supported (with the retirement of Carole Olivier from the Mountaineers) so we are now dependent on several smaller modules being coordinated by Sara Ramsey on Mountaineers staff. These are called the Leadership Development Series.
  + Cheryl showed examples of the Leadership Development Series presentations, past and upcoming – these can be found and viewed at <https://www.mountaineers.org/about/vision-leadership/board-of-directors/committees/mountaineers-managing-committee/outdoor-leadership-committee#leadership-development-series>.
  + We’re encouraged to suggest other topics to Sara Ramsey
  + Leadership development conference in December
  + Kit Eiber recommended refresher of core technical skills
  + Travis Prescott recommended something on recruiting and developing committee members
  + Samantha Sanders suggested adding question on motivation to take class on class surveys and leadership seminars
* Committee updates:
  + Kit Eiber: backcountry ski classes open for enrollment and are filling up
  + Paul Thomsen: first aid committee. Completed wilderness first aid class recently, very successful.
  + Travis Prescott: basic snowshoe class starts soon. Intermediate and something else opens for registration soon. Four prospective leaders in the pipeline
  + Alan Davey: finished fall navigation class. Will have de-brief next week. Another course offered last 2 weeks of February, will be posted after the de-brief
  + Jim Heber: focused on winter navigation class, recently posted. Need to find someone to lead Staying Found. Considering adding elementary GPS module in Staying Found. Asked for guidelines for what charge for class. Council recommended he consult with Becca Polglase.
  + Samantha Sanders: thinking about winter trail running series. Just completed intro to back country trail running course. Committee planning for Meany Lodge Trail Running Retreat in June 2020. Recently recruited 19 new leaders, with 3 in the pipeline. Foothills Trail Running Facebook group has 195 members.
  + Danielle Graham: Ski waxing clinic in Tacoma in mid-November. 16 of 22 scrambling students graduated this year. 2020 scrambling course opened for registration, only 3 spots left

**New Business**

* Proposal for Foothills Climbing Committee – Peter Tran
  + Members expressed desire to build and develop foothills climbing community
  + Can improve on foundations laid by Seattle Climbing through Continuous Quality Improvements
  + Seattle Basic Climbing Class 2020 had 218 applicants for 130 spots. ~17% indicated a preference to take class on Eastside. Over last 6 years had ~20% of students in Seattle basic climbing class from east side.
  + Course will focus on developing confident basic alpine climbers
    - Exact course structure is still under discussion
    - Goal is to reduce overall lecture time and reduce overall time frame
    - Class size is heavily dependent on facilities and available resources
  + Also considering developing intermediate class
  + Trying to figure out where to hold the indoor class, prefer place on Eastside
    - South Bellevue Community Center
    - Vertical World Redmond
    - Stone Gardens in Bellevue
  + Also need site for outside skill practices
    - Several places for rock, including Vantage and Mount Erie (which require permits), Marymoor Park, Torguson Park, Exits 32 or 38
    - Potential places for snow include Mount Baker and Mount Rainier (which require permits), Snoqualmie/Stevens Pass, Teanaways, Meany Lodge
  + Mountaineers developing Leadership structure for climbing committees (see slide 11 from [Foothills Climbing 2019-11-5](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1TxP1nuzUlkghcUAfzY1Zsrg5u6A_F9jRG8fojGMMumI/edit#slide=id.p) presentation by Peter Tran)
  + Next steps 2020
    - Develop course schedule and plan
    - Identify/develop agreement with facility for lectures and field trips
    - Recruit volunteers to lead and instruct
  + Travis Prescott put forth Motion to consider formation of Foothills Climbing Committee with Peter Tran as chair, Samantha Sanders seconded
  + Branch Council voted in favor of motion
* Leadership Succession Committee
  + Brad Peacock, Cheryl Talbert and Cindy Biles are members. Looking for others.

**Announcements and Recognition**

* Announcements
  + ***Registration open for Mountaineers Leadership Conference Sat Dec 7, 2019!*** https://www.mountaineers.org/locations-lodges/seattle-program-center/events/mountaineers-leadership-conference-2 ***–*** your active leaders can attend for free with the discount code LC19FOOTHILLS.
* Recognition
  + Recognized our Foothills volunteers of the year: Travis Prescott and Gabrielle Orsi!!
* **Summary: Action Items and Requests**
  + **Cheryl Talbert will send Cindy Biles’ contact info to committee chairs so they can meet with her (have provided committee chair contact info to Cindy)**
  + **Send ideas for Bellevue free classes to Cheryl, she will forward them to Carie Sabochik (DONE!)**
  + **Cheryl to send list of past and upcoming leadership seminars for our review, Council members to get back to her or Sara Ramsey with ideas on other topics**
  + **Cheryl will send class pricing guidelines to Jim Heber**
  + **Cheryl to send out Zoom login information.**