**Foothills Branch Council Meeting Sept 22, 2020 – 7-9PM**

**Zoom Video Conference**

*Please RSVP at* [*https://www.mountaineers.org/locations-lodges/foothills-branch/events/foothills-branch-council-meeting-sep-15-2020*](https://www.mountaineers.org/locations-lodges/foothills-branch/events/foothills-branch-council-meeting-sep-15-2020)

**Zoom dial-in details**: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81933126400?pwd=V1hyNUVxV3VKaXZoaUorVENjYzhOQT09>

Meeting ID: 819 3312 6400, Password: 740791, dial-in +1 206 337 9723 US (Seattle)

**Social Time if available** (6:30-7)

**Present:** Alan Davey, Kit Eiber, Lori Heath, Richard Lambe, Travis Prescott, Samantha Sanders, Cheryl Talber, Nancy Temkin, Paul Thomsen, Peter Tran, Shyam Vijayaraghavan, Tom Eng, James Henderson

**Introductions, Call to order** (Cheryl- 7 PM)

* Welcome and introductions, Thank yous!!
  + Cheryl thanked Lori for keeping the newsletter going
* Approve Agenda
  + Approved

**Ongoing Business (followups on prior council decisions/discussions)**(7:15 PM)

* Branch elections – update on process and timeline, introduce and vote on another new candidate for At Large Council Member
  + Several people up for election
  + Voting opens Wednesday Sept 30 and closes Oct 21.
  + Branch members will receive an email ballot from the Mountaineers
    - Mail-in ballots will also be accepted
  + Newly elected of officials take office Nov 1
  + Karen Wallace new At-Large Council Member candidate
    - Reviewed her resume and letter-of-intent
    - Branch Council voted unanimously in favor of adding Karen to the 2021 ballot.
    - Will serve as an appointed member until the next elections in 2021
  + More information about Board and Branch elections can be found on the Mountaineers website: <https://www.mountaineers.org/blog/elections2020>
* Vote to approve new Scrambling Committee chair role
  + Bill Borom needed to retire for personal reasons. Travis volunteered to be new chair and Scrambling Committee approved. Travis will continue to be Snowshoe Chair but is actively looking for a replacement
  + Dick motioned to approve Travis as Scramble Chair, seconded by Paul Thomsen
  + Motion approved unanimously
* Board report and club level financials summary; branch actuals and 2021 plan
  + James reviewed Club level financial information,
    - on track to meet COVID target goals.
    - Book sales are trending up, new titles coming soon. Mountaineers Books will likely meet financial targets
    - Big push to move courses and events online
  + Shyam reviewed Foothills Branch financials (spreadsheets in [Basecamp)](https://3.basecamp.com/3528906/buckets/15009148/vaults/2463360395)
    - Doing fairly well due to people who have donated course fees
    - Large drop in expenses
    - Net income higher than original projection
    - At committee level, revenue and expenses are both lower than planned
* Committee status reports with particular focus on updates to 2020 programs, how you and your volunteers are doing, forecasted spending or revenues, the view looking ahead to 2021, how could council or staff help?
  + **Peter Tran** (Climbing Committee Chair): Will run Sport Climbing course and 5 pre-requisite modules for Intermediate Glacier Travel, in addition to Basic Alpine Climbing. Have 5 instructors for the intermediate modules. Building curriculum on-line. Classes will only meet in-person for the hands-on training activities. Registration opens in November
  + **Alan Davey** (Navigation Committee Chair): Will finish field trips from the 2020 winter navigation class in October. Starting Wilderness Navigation course in January; everything but field trips on-line. Staying Found will be finish up soon; the field trip was postponed due to the smoke, but re-scheduled in October. Will be working on instructor training next year. Expecting to offer Staying Found 2x/year and Wilderness Navigation 2x/year. Thinking about some additional online classes but need more instructors. Alan will draft request for instructors and send to other committee leaders to post on their face-book pages.
  + **Nancy Temkin and Cheryl Talbert** (Hiking and Backpacking Co-Chairs): Thinking about starting a Hiking with Families program. GoHike still planning to go forward in 2021. Backpacking B3 class went virtual, except for actual trips, with a high percentage of course graduates this year; many of the B3 lectures for the 2021 course will be on-line too.
  + **Kit Eiber** (Backcountry Ski Committee Chair): Backcountry ski AIARE course migrated on line. Ski and Snowboard mountaineering class will be offered again next year, with many sessions on line. Expecting to adjust number of students in Glacial Travel course due to COVID-19 restrictions, but class size adjustments are not necessary for the other courses. Classes will post in the next week or two.
  + **Paul Thomsen** (First Aid Committee Chair): Difficult to adjust classes for COVID restrictions because first aid scenarios require hands-on contact. Next Wilderness First Aid class scheduled to start in late October, we may add more. Would like other committee chairs to send information on any courses with a first aid requirement so he can get a better estimate of demand for additional first aid courses.
  + **Samantha Sanders** (Trail Running Committee Chair): Trail running has been relatively dormant. Planning an online leadership seminar. Several trail running activities scheduled. Several events planned for 2021.
  + **Travis Prescott** (Scrambling Committee Chair, Snowshoe Committee Chair): 2021 Alpine Scrambling class will be posted Oct 1 and open for registration Nov 1, has 24 slots. All snowshoe instructors are back; will conduct intermediate snowshoe class, basic snowshoe class, and winter camping course. Also making Avalanche Awareness class with google classrooms.
  + **Deloa Dalby** (Conservation Committee Chair): Trailhead Ambassador Program is on hold while they move to online training. Recent stewardship activities included Garfield Ledge trail and CCC trail restoration. The Conservation Committee has been performing under it’s CARE model as follows:
    - C Ongoing Conservation Activities provided by Deloa Dalby in support of public lands located in the Mountains to Sound Greenway
    - A Advocacy provided in support of the Great American Outdoor Act for funding maintenance of brush and deadfall in an effort to reduce wildfire risks
    - R Restoration performed by Russ Levy under the direction of WTA at Denney Creek, Dingford Creek and the CCC Trails.
    - E Trailhead Ambassador Program. Currently transitioning program to a virtual format.

National Public Lands Day is this Saturday and all are encouraged to join the challenge to assist the cleanup of our public trails and trailheads. Please work within your “bubble” and Recreate Responsibly.

* Please sign up at on the App “Litterati”, then follow this link for full information about the event. <https://mtsgreenway.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/NPLD_CleanupGuide_FINAL.pdf>
* Follow the map to places that need our help https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=14JwOy5T17CjXqSyAwoOG53\_A6NrJ6ccn&ll=47. 4880438%2C-121.7231639&z=8
* Share your experience and spread the word!
* Converting programs to virtual and/or small group structures:
  + Travis discussed his experiences with google classroom
  + More info on educational materials at
    - [Redesigning Outdoor Education](https://www.mountaineers.org/blog/redesigning-outdoor-education-fall-webinar-series)
    - [Content Creation Tools](https://www.mountaineers.org/volunteer/leader-resources/content-creation-tools)
* Recognition: thank you cards – any other special recognition nominations? branch and club service awards – virtual volunteer recognition ‘banquet’?
  + Cheryl needs to know the number of thank you cards needed by each committee by the end of this month
  + Cheryl asked what people think about virtual volunteer recognition
    - Several suggestions:
      * wrap the recognition event around something else, like a speaker
      * frame it as a virtual social
      * calling it a “Happy Hour” and playonline games
      * separate participants into topic-based break-out rooms
  + Are there any volunteers worthy of monetary recognition awards? If so, send names to Cheryl

**Adjourned 9 PM**

***Next steps:***

* Any committees with courses that have First Aid or Navigation components should let Paul and Alan know so they can get a better estimate of demand
* Committee chairs should send number of thank you cards they need to Cheryl by end of month
* Alan will draft request for navigation instructors and send to other committee leaders to post on their face-book pages. Lori will also include it in the October Foothills Branch newsletter.
* Send ideas for newsletter content to Lori

**Announcements:**

* Upcoming Cross-Branch Activity Summits:
* Oct 14, 2020 - [Navigation](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.mountaineers.org%2Flocations-lodges%2Fseattle-branch%2Fevents%2Fnavigation-summit-standards-review&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ca62c900fabb54e3f39fe08d864ce76b8%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637370185196360570&sdata=HwDWq54Mbv58HOTzVVAF%2ByvqvV3wKC7ItX0eWAk6xsU%3D&reserved=0)
* Oct 25, 2020 - [Climbing](https://www.mountaineers.org/locations-lodges/tacoma-program-center/events/2020-fall-climbing-summit)
* Nov 14, 2020 - [Scrambling](https://www.mountaineers.org/locations-lodges/tacoma-program-center/events/2020-scramble-summit)
* Jan 9, 2021 -  [Hiking/Backpacking](https://www.mountaineers.org/locations-lodges/seattle-program-center/events/2021-hiking-and-backpacking-summit)
* Upcoming branch council meetings
  + November 10, 2020 - <https://www.mountaineers.org/locations-lodges/foothills-branch/events/foothills-branch-council-meeting-sep-15-2020-2020-11-10>
  + January 5, 2021 - <https://www.mountaineers.org/locations-lodges/foothills-branch/events/foothills-branch-council-meeting-sep-15-2020-2020-11-10-2021-01-05>
  + March 2, 2021 - <https://www.mountaineers.org/locations-lodges/foothills-branch/events/foothills-branch-council-meeting-sep-15-2020-2020-11-10-2021-01-05-2021-03-02>
  + April 6, 2021 - <https://www.mountaineers.org/locations-lodges/foothills-branch/events/foothills-branch-council-meeting-sep-15-2020-2020-11-10-2021-01-05-2021-03-02-2021-04-06>
  + June 8, 2021 - <https://www.mountaineers.org/locations-lodges/foothills-branch/events/foothills-branch-council-meeting-sep-15-2020-2020-11-10-2021-01-05-2021-03-02-2021-04-06-2021-06-08>
  + September 7, 2021 - <https://www.mountaineers.org/locations-lodges/foothills-branch/events/foothills-branch-council-meeting-5>