**Final Version**

**Kitsap Mountaineers Executive Committee Meeting June 18, 2013**

Executive Committee Members Present:

Jimmy James, Jeff Schrepple, Dave Burton, Sue Labrie, Mike Raymond, Jon DeArman, Tom Thrasher, John Davis, Rick Gillatt, Greg Thies, Doug Terry, and Vern Brown.

New Member: John Krawczyk

Meeting commenced at 5:30 pm

BRANCH CHAIR REPORT : Jimmy addressed the following issues:

Nominating Committee: Jimmy asked for a nominating committee to find willing candidates for the 9 EXCOM positions required by our bylaws (Chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer, past chair, representatives at large (2), representative to the Board of Trustees, and representative to the Managing Committee) for presentation to the general membership at our October meeting. The decision was made to have the EXCOM members act as the nominating committee. Jeff offered to serve as secretary in the upcoming year.

Managing Committee Representative: Jeff said he would try to fill this position through September subject to his learning more about the requirements. (Subsequently he found that meetings are held the second Monday of each month and he has out of state commitments for both August and September. No meeting will be held in July.) Sue has volunteered to attend the August meeting in his place.

Potluck Gatherings: After a short discussion of issues and concerns about the conduct of such gatherings, it was decided that a coordinator was needed to pull this together. Vern offered that he knew of someone who might take on this role, but he did not release the individual’s name as no firm commitment had been agreed to.

Interim Vice Chair: Dave Burton agreed to fill this role through September but insisted he did not wish to be nominated for the chairman’s position at the October elections.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of the Altwein bequest and our Planning: John Davis started by saying that Jimmy had tasked him with facilitating discussions with the Players, planning for use of the Kitsap Players and Foundation properties, and planning expenditure of the Altwein funds. As he noted last month, the Kitsap branch of the Mountaineers would be in a stronger position to negotiate with the Players and the Foundation if we had a solid strategic plan, which would include spending priorities. He then queried each activity chair for their inputs. The results of those discussions are as follows:

 Kayaking: Vern stated that the primary emphasis for his activity should be outside trips and for those trips he needs leaders and instructors. He feels that the fees for his classes should be less than those of non-Mountaineer instruction and this should be the incentive necessary to draw new members. As an incentive for current members to become leaders and instructors he proposes that the branch reimburse leaders for any American Canoe Association certifications they earn, but only after they have been a leader for one year and have led 4 trips. He also proposed that some Altwein funds be allocated to paying $800 to $1,000 to selected kayaking gurus to teach classes of up to 6 people – but this benefit would be only available to leaders. His goal is to get 20 new members this year and to get more involved in conservation activities. He plans no use of the Players or Foundation property.

 Education and Conservation: Rick proposes to create an environmental learning center. Vern suggested that we might also form a Naturalist Committee and offered help on the conservation efforts. Since most of the educational materials were stolen last year, Rick needs replacement items such as pelts, skins, etc. Jon suggested he might try the warehouses at the National Parks. He would like to see some of the Altwein funds used for a secure storage unit for these teaching materials on or near the Kitsap Cabin property. Rick does plan to use the Cabin, the parking lot and driveway, and the restrooms extensively from mid-October to early December and would like to do some joint efforts with the Foundation in the long term. His target communities for his efforts are currently schools and later families, but he needs advertising to get the word out. He has not set a new membership goal for the coming year.

 Climbing: Mike had to leave the meeting early but had provided John with the desired information in earlier emails.

 Hiking: Greg will now teach the navigation classes (limited to max of 10 students) with offerings in October and March. Doug will teach snowshoe “light” classes in August and October. Doug does not intend to use the Players or Foundation properties, but Greg would like to use the cabin, the parking lot and driveway, and the restrooms for his classroom instruction. Navigation course field sessions will continue to be held on Gold Mountain. Dave has 16 hike leaders now and has 4 new ones in training. His target group for these activities is adults only with no current plans to expand to youths and families yet defined. However, hike leaders who want to lead youth or family hikes are free to do so provided they have obtained the required certification to lead youth activities and the parents of the youth accompany the trip as well.

 Painting: Dave and Sue will start with a Basic Watercolor class in the September/October timeframe. Once completed, they will follow the climbing paradigm and conduct intermediate and advanced classes. For the advanced classes, Dave would like to engage expert presenters hopefully paid from the Altwein funds, however, advanced classes are still a goal at this time and not yet scheduled. Painting would be done at the cabin, which would also require use of the parking lot and driveways and the restrooms. Field portions of the class will utilize the Foundation Preserve. The short term goal for the basic class is to draw 6 current members and 6 new members. Teresa has prepared a vision for this activity.

 Photography: Jon noted that he intends to conduct workshops rather than classes and that our branch activity must either compete with or complement the 5 photography clubs already operating in Kitsap County. He sees the biggest draws as fun and camaraderie and plans to have one field trip per month. To get the word out he asked for help with access to the Mountaineers website and Vern offered assistance in that area. He would like to use the cabin for workshops, plus the parking lot and driveway, the restrooms, and also the Foundation property. His initial target group is Kitsap Mountaineers branch members and he has a goal of bringing in 5 to 10 new members a year.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Nominating Committee: See Branch Chair Report above.

The agenda noted that chairpersons were needed for youth activities and potluck – in addition to a vice chairman.

Closing Remarks: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.