

Olympia Branch Council

Meeting Minutes – 3/9/2022

Olympia Community Center

Attendees

Officers: Scott Carlson, Neal Kirby, Mike Kretzler, Dean Taylor, Virginia Haas, Maxine Dunkelman

Guests: Bob Keranen, Mike Riley

Agenda Items

Meeting called to order at 6:05pm

Approval of February 2022 minutes

- The February minutes, with two minor amendments, were approved by all.

Olympia Board Policy Manual amendments

- The board approved the addition of language to the Social Chair position to align with the club's mission statement to prioritize sustainability over financial savings during events that include food. This is done in an effort to lower our carbon footprint.
- The board approved the removal of language relating to the Social Chair position involving the duty of coordinating room reservations for all branch activities at Olympia Center.

Summer Picnic and/or Fall Banquet – Virginia Haas

- The Worthington Center is currently reserved for Saturday, October 15, 2022. The board agreed that we do want to hold some form of event in October to celebrate, now that we are able to get together without restrictions. We still want an outdoor summer picnic, but would like our guest speaker to have the audio/visual capabilities afforded by an indoor venue. A committee will be formed to help the incoming (as yet undetermined) social chair with the October event.

Banff Film Festival – Mike Riley

- The Banff Mountain Film Festival will take place at the Capitol Theater on April 30 and May 1. Each night will include a different pre-selected package of films.

Activity Reports

MOFA – Bob Keranen

- There has been a dropoff of instructors, largely due to lack of interest in delivering the content via Zoom. There is a substantial backlog of scrambling and climbing students that need the course. We will hold two 20-person Wilderness First Aid classes that will finish with in-person scenario days at Griffin Fire Department at the end of April. We have 3-4 WFR certified instructors that can deliver the content.

Navigation – Mike Kretzler

- Sign-ups exceeded the 60-person seat limit, which was expanded to 70. We have a good volunteer response. Field exercises will take place at Kennedy Creek, which required a permit from its new owner (DNR).

Treasurer's Report – Beth Peden (via email)

- Climbing is doing well, our expenses are below budget by \$1600.
- Snowshoeing and Skiing are on budget.
- Numbers for hiking, backpacking and kayaking are low. Hiking and backpacking may be due to a lull in registration from the Open House cancellation. Kayaking reduced their class size from 24 to 16 again this year in order to minimize the continuing risk of Covid.
- Banff is currently \$14,000 below the budget. Once we take that into consideration, our branch is pretty much right on track.

Branch Officer Reports

Director – Mike Kretzler

- There was a recent board Zoom retreat. Topics included a membership survey, which had a 13% response, indicating overall member satisfaction has dropped even though the percentage of members that “would recommend” The Mountaineers increased. Two-thirds of the members heard about The Mountaineers by word-of-mouth.
- The club continues to do well financially. The budget still looks good after the mid-flight. Our reserve fund grew during the pandemic.
- There is an upcoming fundraising gala on April 2.

Chair – Scott Carlson

- We will meet via Zoom in April. Our next in person meeting will be at the Olympia Community Center in May.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm