

Olympia Branch Council

Meeting Minutes – 11/14/2023

Olympia Center, room 200

Attendees

Officers: Mandi Maycumber, Janette Zumbo, Mike Riley, Dean Taylor, Jeremy Hogan

Guests: Donna Kreuger

Agenda Items

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

- Norms Review – Mandi Maycumber
 - Stick to the agenda
 - Be open to ideas
 - Address ideas not people
 - One speaker at a time
 - No side chatter
 - Okay to disagree, not okay to be disagreeable
 - Respect each other's time
- Approval of October 2023 minutes
 - The October 2023 minutes were approved by all.
- How to Disburse \$25 REI Gift Cards – Mandi Maycumber
 - We have thirteen \$25 gift cards that are the result of “use it or lose it” year end spending. The board will give one gift card to the chair of each of the following committees to distribute at their discretion: Climbing, Communities (i.e. Adventure Speaker Series), Cross-country Skiing, First Aid, Hiking & Backpacking, Naturalist, Navigation, Scrambling, Sea Kayaking, Snowshoeing, Stewardship, Wilderness Skills, Youth & Family.
 - The Olympia branch also has \$3000 that will be dedicated to volunteer appreciation. The board will research local vendor options who can provide bulk gear/equipment with the Olympia branch logo.

- Hybrid Zoom option for Olympia Center meeting months: pros and cons
 - Branch council meetings will alternate between fully Zoom and fully In Person for the remainder of the 2023-24 fiscal year. We do not plan to offer a Zoom option during In Person meetings.
- Director's Report – Mike Riley
 - At the director's retreat the club board agreed with Tom Vogl that the 2024 budget would not be a “break-even budget.” The justification was that there were two new staff positions: one to handle the decline in volunteers in recent years and another to handle land policy and permitting issues.
 - With respect to permitting, The Mountaineers is currently designated the same as a guide service by the Forest Service and DNR. Mike wants to work with Mountaineers staff who work with the land agencies to remove this designation since we are a non-profit entity with a primary emphasis on education and training.
- Hiking/Backpacking/Conditioning Hiking – Donna Kreuger
 - The committee is searching for a new Conditioning Hiking chair after the current chair stepped down.
 - Donna and Carla plan to step down as co-chairs of the Hiking & Backpacking committee at the end of 2024.
- Snowshoeing
 - Ruth Russell has stepped down as Showshoeing chair. Mike Forsyth has taken on the role and has already listed the 2024 course on the club website.
- Secretary – Dean Taylor
 - Our next meeting will be held on Zoom on December 12 @ 6pm.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 6:59pm