**From the Chairman –**

We’re deep into budgets, summits, minimum Clubwide standards, and wrapping up classes. Outings beckon! See you Thursday @ 6:30, pizza provided—regrets only.

**Seattle Branch Council meets 2rd Thursday each odd month, 6:30 pm.**

**-- May 12 – Jul 14** – **Sep 08** – **Nov 10**

**Minutes – May 12th, 2016, 6:30 p.m., Program Center**

Present: Stan Terada (Scrambling), Anne Smart (Photography), Heidi Walker (Hiking), Chris Williams (Staff), Peter Hendrickson (Chair), Bill Ashby (Sailing), Helen Arntson (Safety), Stef Schiller (Climbing), George Swapp (Sea Kayaking), Dave Shema (Secretary), Aaron Molskness (Leadership), Brian Starlin (Navigation)

Approval of Minutes March 10, 2016 (Anne, Stef, passed)

Chair Briefing – Peter Hendrickson

* eLearning Wilderness Navigation student workshop pilot complete
	+ Wrapped up. 15 students at Field trip.
	+ Students did really well. Better prepared. Spent more time on exercises (6 hours?) than regular workshop folks (2 hours)
	+ Software was very good. Brian Starlin went thru as both student and instructor.
	+ Doug Canfield can authorize access. Can also sign up as student.
	+ Interest from other committees in running similar on-line courses.
	+ Can it be duplicated in Survey Gizmo?
* New volunteers search
	+ Chris Williams – lots of volunteer interest in simple tasks.
	+ 4 volunteers is available to help create courses – just ask member services. You will fill out a form with the pertinent information and these someone will build the course for you.
* Calendar revision 2016,
	+ Now open for external reservations.
* Branch Leadership (formerly Managing) Committee—Agenda 18 May
	+ Any items to bring forward?
	+ Intense Sea Kayaking needs some changes in minimum standards.
* Sea Kayaking, Navigation committee meetings
	+ Peter attended these committee meetings.
* Committees’ program goals, ambitions, needs 2016-17
	+ Asked to provide a revenue forecast for all Seattle courses, and what do you thing about course fees?
	+ Expenses YTD were provided. Committees needs monthly expense reporting.
	+ Leann and Allison have moved to new jobs. A Temp was hired to help with reimbursements
* Mountaineers Fund Raiser Breakfast 11 May
	+ 300 folks, $110k pledged.

Safety Officer Briefing – Helen Arntson

* Trends, observations, requests
	+ Same old, same old.
	+ Most exciting was the Mount Rainier, Gibraltar Ridge rescue assist. Well written report.
	+ What to do with Safety Reports (participants)? Participants offered chance to complete Leader Incident report. Currently no chance to report a concern.

Board of Directors Rep Briefing – Patrick Mullaney

* Risk audit
	+ Outdoor Safety Institute – contract in works.
	+ Wait to next cycle of courses, will work on trips.

Program Staff Rep Briefing –

* New financial staff should be added by end of May
* Mary hired Ada.
* Kristina hired Peter D.
* Will help with matching volunteers.
* Website shows equivalency persons on Committee
* Applying for grants for improving website.

Treasurer Briefing – John Jecker

* No Report
* Peter noted (above) that Leann Arend and Allison Swanson have moved on to new jobs

Secretary Briefing – Dave Shema

* No Report

Old Business –

* Friction Slabs status—Information
	+ 2 construction companies were approached. Updated report expected in next week or so.
* Seattle Branch Charter Proposed Amendments—Action
	+ Motion made to incorporate Carey Porter’s first 2 recommendations. (See Below.) Encourage Chair to revise and amend here section 3. (Bill Ashby, Anne Smart) **PASSED**.
* Singles Committee – Dissolve? –Action
	+ Currently chair-less.
	+ Singles leaders requesting transfer to Hiking committee.
	+ Motion: Dissolve the Singles Committee (Dave Shema, Stef) **PASSED**
* Concussion seminar – Schedule? --Action
	+ Table
* Reach out to underserved communities in Greater Seattle – Information
	+ Topic at yesterday’s breakfast.
* Branch Operating Manual – project lead?
	+ No need. “Branch Charter” same as “Branch Operating Manual”.

New Business –

* No Report

Committee Reports – Peter Hendrickson. Kindly include efforts towards:

* Nurture healthy branch/staff/board relationships [Esp. Summits]
* Reach out to underserved communities in Greater Seattle
* Provide professional development for volunteers
* Advance renewed, improved curricula, instruction & assessment/evaluation

**Alpine Scrambling** – Stan Terada

* Loose rock seminar planned.
* Looking at adding optional Crampon Use module to align with Basic Climbing course modularization.
	+ Chris Williams: Skill badges (e.g. crampon skills) can be added. Just need to add the content to a skill.
	+ Some Scramble leaders want to request crampons for specific trips.
	+ Stef: Basic students just need to put on crampons and not stumble.
* Scramble summit planned for November timeframe.

**Avalanche** – Loren McWethy –

* No Report

**Backpacking** – Todd Mitchell –

* No Report

**Climbing** – Stef Schiller

* Summit in January on AMGA guides and courses
* 2017 Priority climb lists – “no traction”, climbing chairs unable to reach consensus.
* 2017 Permit agreements – “no traction”, climbing chairs unable to reach consensus.
* 10 PLBs (Personal Locator Beacon) were purchased. Ready to distribute to climb leaders. Leaders go to a document to check out/in a beacon.
	+ Goal: near 100% PLB coverage on climbs.
	+ Peter: any evaluation planned? Stef: Survey of leaders at the end of the climbing season
* Effort underway to recruit additional leaders, with an Instructor/Leader Update to be held in June.

**Family Activities** – Becca Polglase (Staff)

* No Report

**First Aid** - Mary Panza

* No Report

**Folk Dance -** Johnny Jeans

* No Report

**Hiking** – Heidi Walker

* Hiking leader seminars are listed. Need admin help

**Leadership** – Aaron Molskness

* Leadership committee restart.
* Scramble has 28 leaders waiting for Outdoor Leadership seminar.
* Climbing has temporarily waived seminar requirement.
* Hoping to have one seminar by early summer and a second seminar in November.

**Midweek Hikes** – Edmunde Lewin

* No Report

**Naturalists** – Gordie Swartzman

* No Report

**Navigation** – Brian Starlin & Jeff Panza

* Summit June 17 & 18 at Meany Lodge
	+ May not be a lot of folks (12) based on current signup.
* Next issue of Navigation NW – focus on GPS tracks.

**Photography** – Anne Smart

* Basic class held last weekend – 12 students.
* Creative Photography class cancelled due to lack of students (7 cancelled). Lead instructor moved out of area.
* Next Basic class scheduled for September.

**Retired Rovers** – Storm Yanicks –

* No Report

**Sailing** – Alan Vogt (Bill Ashby)

* Students now on sails. 4 spots in course offered to super Vo
* Consider offering empty course spots to super volunteers.
* Alan sailing in Lukemia Cup in June. How would branch feel about placing Mountaineer Banner on the sails?

**Singles Activities –** *No chair*

* *Committee Dissolved by Seattle Branch Council (see above)*

**Nordic Skiing** – Carry Porter

* No Report

**Sea Kayaking –** George Swapp

* 48 students – just finished Basic Class.
* Offering a Fast Track Equivalency class. 6 students and offered in one weekend. Students must have some experience but not enough for equivalency. Taking place in June
* Intermediate class subcommittee being developed. Gives Basic grads something more to do and stay involved.
* Paddler Development weekend in September. 40-50 folks typically attend. Multiple half-day seminars. Sept 23-25

**Snowshoeing –** Jimmy Jett Klansnic (submitted in advance)

* Formed Executive Committee- chair + sub-committee chairs
* Course Review done Objectives set for next season.
* Basic Equivalency process improvements- online app in process with help from Chris W.  Add recruit to instruct as an expectation.
* Trip Leader -Development, recruitment, transparency, support focus.
* Trips- Routes, evaluate for avalanche terrain, new routes to lead. Season expectations for diversity number and timing of trips.
* Snowshoe Summit- look to fall "shoulder season"

**20-30 Somethings** - Brian Seater

* No Report

**Youth Outreach** – Josh Gannis (Staff) –

* No Report

**Good of the Order** –

* No Report

**Adjourned** - 8:40pm

**The Seattle Branch meeting occurs on the 2rd Thursday of every odd month, 6:30 p.m. For 2016 –**

**Next Meetings: Jul 14** – **Sep 08** – **Nov 10**

**Charter Amendments**

**Carry Porter** recommendations as of 12 May 2016

*From an organizational perspective the following text, describing the powers of the executive committee at a special meeting (currently in section 5.1), should really be in section 12:*

At the discretion of the Chairperson, or upon written request of any three other members of the Executive Committee, the Chairperson shall call a meeting of the Executive Committee.

At such meetings the Executive Committee may act in the stead of the full Branch Council when emergency, timeliness, or other circumstances require such action to protect the best interests of the Branch. Any appointments made or actions taken by the Executive Committee shall be the action of the Council unless reversed by a vote of the Council at the next regularly-scheduled meeting. Such meetings of the Executive Committee may be in-person; or via telephone or video conference, following due notice to all Committee members.

*2. I recommend revising the second paragraph as follows (green = insertions,* ***bold****; red = ~~language to be stricke~~n):*

At such meetings the Executive Committee may act in the stead of the full Branch Council when emergency, timeliness, or other circumstances require such action to protect the best interests of the Branch. **The Executive Committee shall notify the Council of any appointments made or actions taken by the Executive Committee on or before the next regularly-scheduled Council meeting.** Any appointments made or actions taken by the Executive Committee shall be the action of the Council unless reversed by a vote of the Council at the next regularly-scheduled meeting. Such meetings of the Executive Committee may be in-person; or via telephone or video conference. ~~following due notice to all Committee members~~.

*3. I am really uncomfortable with the undefined "due notice" in the third paragraph of section 12. I recommend amending this paragraph as follows to bring the notice requirements in line with the notice requirements for a special meeting of the council:*

The Chair or any three other members of the Executive Committee may call for a meeting of that committee with 10 days notice to its remaining members.