



2302 N. 30th
Tacoma, WA

www.tacomamountaineers.org

Mountaineers, Tacoma Branch Council Meeting
Minutes for 20 February 2020

- I. Call to order. The February 20, 2020, Tacoma Branch Mountaineers Council meeting was held at the Mountaineers Tacoma Program Center (MTPC) and virtually. The meeting was called to order by Curtis Stock at 7:20 PM and is presented in the order per the agenda. Board members present: Curtis Stock, Natalia Martinez-Paz, and Mark Kerr.
Absent: Harley Sandoval (treasurer) and Sarah Holt (Program Center administrator).
- II. Welcome and introductions. Harley was running late and was going to join when he could. (Note: Harley was not able to join the meeting at all.)
- III. Approval of Minutes. The minutes had been distributed after the previous meeting and there were no changes or corrections. The minutes were approved as distributed.
- IV. Information and discussion items.
 - a. Safety Chair. Before the meeting Curtis had sent out notes that Steve Knowles had submitted from the Safety Summit a couple weeks ago.
 - b. Kevin DeFields is assuming the chair of the Navigation Committee.
 - c. Vacant Council Seats. Curtis has put some articles in the branch newsletter for the past two editions and has received some inquiries but nothing definite yet. Would be best to reach out to potential members personally.
 - d. Outdoor Division Chair. We discussed this vacant position at length.
 - i. What would this position be/do? What would it look like?
 - ii. Tacoma is unique with respect to the position, so we need to think about what its purpose is as example for the entire organization
 - iii. Before we decide on a person to fill this position – we need to figure out the roles, responsibilities, and what objectives the position needs to accomplish.
 - iv. As a larger discussion from the Outdoor Division, few, if any, of our activity committees have charters. Do we need to develop?
 - v. Do we have in place all the appropriate administrative documentation at the branch level?
 - vi. Committee websites are very different across activities; do we need to bring our actives more into alignment or in some cases do we have the better answer for how things are organized?
 - e. Safety Summit Debrief
 - i. Meeting notes e-mailed
 - ii. Is there a culture of safety?
 - iii. Does there need to be an enforceable standard enforced across the organization?
 - iv. Ideas can be shared with Steve (he will be taking the lead on safety).



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- f. Board of Directors Meeting Debrief
 - i. Initiatives from the organization we need to be aware of
 - 1. Vision 2020
 - 2. Broader stakeholder engagements
 - 3. Formalizing governance
 - g. Branch Leadership Committee Retreat Debrief
 - i. There was a lot of discussion around budget.
 - ii. There will be some training available for treasurers.
- V. The council adjourned at 8:10 for executive session.
- VI. The council reconvened in regular session at 8:25
 - a. Meet the Mountaineers. The event held on January 16 was a big success. Feedback from the committees was that they did not think they could support a monthly Meet the Mountaineers event. Also, for several of the committees that were there (e.g. Snowshoeing) the current course has already begun and there was no activity the committee could direct potentially new members toward.
 - i. We need to more structurally align these events with the activities calendar. Natalia will pull together a calendar of when courses actually begin, so the MTM events can feed into them.
 - ii. Use this as an opportunity to highlight or support programs which need outreach?
 - 1. Get people more engaged?
 - 2. What is the deeper purpose of this event?
 - 3. Natalia is putting together a small team to work the issue.
 - b. Budget and Finance. Per Curtis, the Branch Leadership Committee meeting last night was entirely devoted to the FY2021 budgeting process. Curtis reported that he had a meeting with budget staff early in the month (2/3) to go over budget questions. Most of the council would like a better understanding of budget and where money goes. Curtis will provide an overview at our next council meeting.
 - c. Dinner with Tom Vogl. Tom has extended an invitation to host branch councils to dinner as a way to foster dialog.
 - i. Will coordinate dates (we all agree we need some time to fit dates in our busy schedules)
 - ii. April 18th works at this moment
 - d. Council Priorities/Goals.
 - i. Community building and resource sharing across committees – how can we achieve that goal?
 - ii. What are the norms across the organization and how do we affect positive change?
 - iii. How do we better align, as a branch with: Vision 2020, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) goals, and other strategic initiatives?
 - e. Calendar Planning.



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- i. Council Meetings. We agreed to future council meeting dates: March 26, May 7, June 18. Curtis will try to get a Zoom conference bridge but will also reserve the boardroom for future meetings.
 - ii. BOD Meeting. Next BOD meeting is March 7. Mark cannot attend – Natalia will see about representing Tacoma.
- f. Succession Planning. Be thinking about succession planning (identify those strong volunteers)
- VII. Celebrations and Announcements. Successful Meet the Mountaineers session on 1/16.
- VIII. Action items. We reviewed the action items from the last meeting.
- IX. Good of the Order. None
- X. Next meeting date: Thursday, March 26.
- XI. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20pm.

Submitted by:
Mark Kerr