



# Tacoma Branch Council Meeting

August 6, 2020 7:00-8:30 pm

Virtual Meeting

## MEETING NOTES

- I. **Call To Order:** The virtual meeting was called to order by Chair Curtis Stock at 7:05 pm via Zoom.  
**Members Present:** Chris Stock, Chair; Natalia Matinez-Paz, Vice Chair; Carolyn Edmonds, Secretary; Mark Kerr; Scott Schissel.  
**Members Absent Without Notice:** Harley Sandoval, Treasurer; Lisa Hayek, At-Large; Sarah Holt, Program Center Administration.
- II. **Welcome and Introductions:** Carolyn Edmonds, newly appointed Council Secretary, introduced herself followed by each member present introducing his/herself.
- III. **Approval of Minutes:** The June 18, 2020, Meeting Minutes was approved as submitted by Acclamation.
- IV. **INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**
  - a. **COVID-19 – Phase 2 Reopening Trip Guidelines:** Curtis provided an update. Recently revised guidelines for different types of trips still in effect. Many trips are not posted because they don't fall within the guidelines. Navigation is expected to cancel Sept class. Natalia reported Intensive Basic cancelled.  
Discussion followed regarding suggestions for holding classes. Ideas: 2 Basic & 1 Intensive or 1 Basic & 2 Intensive. Volunteers will be rested. Budget can use the income. Cap basic at 45. Talk to Hiking re "batching into smaller bits".  
Curtis stressed that planning can be done but actual scheduling is premature. The demand from students is there if we have volunteers. Will send an email to Committee Chairs to begin planning.
  - b. **Bikepacking Activity Committee Ratification**  
Scott reported there is a disagreement regarding the purpose. Is it a Backpacking-On-a-Bike standard or a Professional Bike Touring standard? Folks seem to be stuck in minutia. The next meeting is Aug 19th. Scott will review notes and draft committee charter and provide Curtis with feedback. Scott pointed out this is a COVID-19 compliant class/activity. Online instruction. Socially Distant activity. There is a high demand during COVID-19.
  - c. **Division & Committee Chair Assignments:** Curtis provided updates:
    - i. **Climbing Division Chair** - Position remains vacant. Over the past 6 weeks Curtis has talked with several people. One considering. Others declined.
    - ii. **First Aid** – Position remains vacant. Haven't talked about a "hand-off"
    - iii. **Stewardship & Conservation** – Talked to Nathalie op de Beeck. She is interested but cautions regarding time demands. She may plan a program with Margot Tsakonas for Sept.
    - iv. **Navigation** - Co-Chair Derrick Lind willing to take on Chair although he is concerned about time commitment.
    - v. **Snowshoe Committee:** Curtis received a draft of the charter.  
Looks Good.



**THE  
MOUNTAINEERS**

## Tacoma Branch Council Meeting

August 6, 2020 7:00-8:30 pm

Virtual Meeting

- d. **Branch Activity Committee Governance**  
**Branch Awards Dinner/Volunteer Recognition/Graduation Recognition** – Curtis stated a decision needs to be made given most courses have been cancelled. Discussion followed. Board Consensus is to wait until we can have an in-person event. A virtual event does not work well. Curtis will survey committee chairs.
- V. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The Council adjourned the regular meeting at 8:00 pm.
- VI. **RESUME REGULAR SESSION** at 8:05 pm.
  - a. **2021 Budget Development** – Curtis put together revised 2021 budget. The biggest change is Volunteer Recognition is significantly reduced. One request sent to BOD regarding maintenance periodic (5-6 yr cycle). No answer as yet. Mark will follow up.
    - i. Submitted to staff July 6 - questions came up and were answered.
    - ii. TPC maintenance item for BOD Finance consent agenda 8/24/20
  - b. **Council Priorities/Goals – Curtis**
    - i. **Trip Leader Development** - Little progress. Goals remain: (1) Leader Development (diversity & number); (2) formalized mentoring program. Discussion followed. Suggestions: Leaders need to do personal outreach and encourage members to become Leaders; Build Leader training into a course; Host a Leader Forum in the Fall. Not a course, more of a seminar/discussion; Develop case studies related to E&I work
    - ii. **Intra-Branch Communications** - Curtis is continuing to look for ways to increase communication within the branch.
    - iii. **Diversity, Equality & Inclusion** - Natalia reported that many people are interested in participating. The BOD subgroup will publish priorities for development of DE&I within branches in the next 4-6 weeks.
  - c. **Succession Planning: Curtis reported:**
    - i. **Council Membership** -- Scott will sit for another 2 year term.
    - ii. **Nominations** - There is a notice in the newsletter. See if anyone comes forward. If not, we may have to have a team of 2-3. Looking for a couple at-large positions. No officer vacancies.
    - iii. **By-laws modifications** - Curtis planning to propose 2 Amendments to the By-Laws for a vote of the Membership. Quorum requirements and a new provision for electronic council meetings. Let Curtis know if any other updates are needed.
    - iv. **Procedures modifications** - Changes to Procedures can be made by a vote of the Council. Some areas conflict with the By--Laws. Curtis will review.
  - d. **Calendar/Meeting Dates** - Members reviewed the meeting schedule for the rest of the year. No objections.
- VII. **CELEBRATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** - Curtis climbed Rainier.



**THE  
MOUNTAINEERS**

## Tacoma Branch Council Meeting

August 6, 2020 7:00-8:30 pm

Virtual Meeting

### VIII. ACTION ITEMS

- a. **Form a sub-committee for Third Thursdays and general outreach** – Natalia: may have to move to virtual meetings in the fall. Hard with COVID. Will continue outreach.
- b. **Provide an overview on funding flows and budget** – Curtis: received input from accounting. work in progress.
- c. **Propose dinner with Tom Vogl** on or after April 18 -- Curtis - postponed indefinitely.
- d. **Develop a master calendar of branch courses** – when they start and how long they run – Natalia - no progress due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- e. **Backcountry Skiing Course development.** – Scott - handing off to Karl. Draft completed. Pending COVID-19 restrictions it may happen. Discussion regarding classes and gear; hands-on aspect; Goal is Dec. ski trips.
- f. **Climbing Chair Succession.** -- Curtis: see minutes
- g. **Rework BIKEPACKING committee charter** and distribute for review prior to August 6 meeting. -- Curtis - see minutes
- h. **Follow up on possible activity chair assignments.** -- Curtis in progress
- i. **Draft a communique to committee chairs about a possible awards dinner for November.** -- Curtis to do
- j. **Find out about Sarah furlough dates.** -- Curtis. None scheduled as of now.
- k. **Send out budget inputs to committee chairs.** -- Curtis - replies received.
- l. **Send out a succession planning spreadsheet.** -- Curtis: done
- m. **Form nominations committee.** -- Curtis: see results of newsletter
- n. **Send Google account details to Steve.** -- Curtis - done
- o. **Send Zoom account details to council members.** -- Curtis - done

**Additions:** No new action items from tonight's meeting.

IX. **GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Nothing reported.

X. **NEXT MEETING DATES** – September 17, November 5, December 17 (tent.)

XI. **CALL TO ADJOURN** - 8:40 pm

Submitted by:

Carolyn Edmonds  
Branch Secretary