



Tacoma Branch Council Meeting

March 4, 2021 7:00-8:30 pm

Virtual Meeting

Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order by Chair Curtis Stock at 7:05 pm

Members Present: Carolyn Edmonds, Secretary; Lisa Hayek; Scott Schissel; Steve Knowles

II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- a. New Council Members and Guests - none today

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. January 28, 2021 - approved by Acclimation

IV. INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Division & Committee Chair Assignments – Curtis

- i. Hiking & Backpacking - Lisa Hayek stepping down as Chair. Leadership team will finalize roles. Marilyn Thomson will be primary contact. Others will keep same roles.
- ii. Stewardship & Conservation – Core team has gotten together. Met 2 weeks ago. The feedback Curtis received is the meeting was good. Goal is to define Leadership criteria to lead events.
- iii. Scrambles Chair, Mike Murphy, is looking for a replacement. Mike has moved to Olympia. No one has come forward yet.
- iv. Sailing Committee Co-Chairs also looking to pass on leadership. Let Curtis know if anyone comes to mind.
- v. Scrambles has a candidate for Leadership, Shaun Rabell.

- b. Bikepacking Open Forum (“Summit”) – Kudos to Scott and his team. Good meeting.

- c. 2021 Budget Mid-flights – Curtis reported on mid-year (Oct 1-Sept 30) budget review. Some corrections submitted to Mountaineers. Most missing data due to being a new committee. Mountaineers BOD meet on March 20 to review mid-year adjustments and begin the budgeting process for 2022. Scott commented on course leaders and a mechanic for Bikepacking paying out of pocket. Curtis encouraged him to submit reasonable expenses even though there is no budget as the committee is new.

- d. Governance

- i. Dashboard – Curtis reviewed the list of committees and which ones have governance documents. Most don't. We do have a template for governance documents. Recent issues have come up that have to do with governance. Without any guidelines it is difficult to resolve. Our By-Laws is silent on Committee governance.
- ii. Proposed Committee Governance Addendum to Redbook -- Curtis sent draft language for the Policies & Procedures Manual with the Agenda. Council discussion showed consensus with the proposal. Curtis would like a vote of the Council to adopt at the next meeting, April 8.

- e. Permitting Discussion -- Curtis reported on some recent issues. One was with Snowshoeing on Mt. Rainier and changing time slots not communicated. Another was with conditioning hikes for courses and appropriate “label” for the permit i.e. part of a paid course or free event. Each land manager (ie DNR, US Parks, BLM, etc) has different “rules” which can make it difficult. Suggestion from Curtis is to provide more visibility



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- on the process. Education of course leaders may help. Council discussion regarding conditioning events vs course events and definition of conditioning (ie easy; strenuous; etc); individual events posted as a committee event and the associated permits.
- f. Memorandum of Understanding with Park Service -- Curtis reported he talked to Jeff Laurence. The MOU is being reviewed by an attorney. Expect it to be done soon.
 - g. Tacoma Program Center Maintenance
 - i. Programmable Lock Replacement - Installation planned for next week.
 - h. Council Priorities/Goals –
 - i. Trip Leader Development - Curtis reported on discussion with Monica Fisk of the Leadership Committee. Discussion included safety, leadership seminar in late Spring, Climb Leader Legacy Program. Steve offered to contact Monica regarding the Safety Committee activities.
 - ii. Diversity, Equality & Inclusion - no report.
 - i. Calendar/Meeting Dates
 - i. Steve reported on the Safety Summit. Checklist idea well received. Other topics included contacting other outdoor groups for lessons learned; incidents reports and their use; likely more near misses that are not being reported and how the information can be used. Steve will provide a written summary to Council. Council discussion regarding leadership and safety and methods to improve the crossover of information and learning.
 - ii. Curtis provided a list of scheduled summits.
- V. CELEBRATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Lisa gave an update on courses. All courses are full with waitlists. A hike leader just became a snowshoe leader. Cross committee leadership is great for the Mountaineers.
- VI. ACTION ITEMS
- a. Form a sub-committee for Third Thursdays and general outreach – no report
 - b. Propose dinner with Tom Vogl -- no report
 - c. Develop a master calendar of branch courses – when they start and how long they run – no report
 - d. Climbing chair succession. -- no report
 - e. Follow up on possible activity chair assignments. – see Agenda item IV a.
 - f. *The Mountaineers Tree* signage in Point Defiance Park, Tacoma -- no report
- VII. GOOD OF THE ORDER
- VIII. NEXT MEETING DATES – April 8, May 20, June 24, August 5, September 16, October 28, December 2
Curtis has a conflict with May 20. A date change was suggested. .
- IX. CALL TO ADJOURN - The meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.