



2302 N. 30th
Tacoma, WA

www.tacomamountaineers.org

Mountaineers, Tacoma Branch Council Meeting
Minutes for 18 December 2019

- I. Call to order. The December 18, 2019, Tacoma Branch Mountaineers Council meeting was held at the Mountaineers Tacoma Program Center (MTPC) and called to order by Curtis Stock at 7:00 PM and is presented in the order per the agenda. Board members present: Curtis Stock, Natalia Martinez-Paz, Harley Sandoval, and Mark Kerr.
Absent: Sarah Holt (Program Center administrator).
- II. Welcome and introduction. We welcomed all new council members. We spent some time getting to know how the members came to the Mountaineers organization, what motivated them to join the council, and learned about career and family situations.
- III. Information and discussion items.
 - a. Vacant Council Seats. Currently do not have a secretary on the council. Would also prefer 3-5 at-large positions to represent more activities of the branch. Curtis will reach out to the Climbing and Outdoor divisions and discuss option of having them be at-large members.
Budget. Where does our budget come from? Curtis offered his view, based on the limited info received on the budget during transition. Budget was determined prior to the start of the fiscal year (October). Curtis will pass along the few documents he has regarding the state of the budget and will also inquire when he meets with the branch liaison in January.
 - b. Third Thursdays. Troy Mason had been planning these. Red Book states that this is a Vice-chair role. Kristina (HQ) is supposed to be putting together program for January 16. Natalia will look into forming a small sub-committee to plan these and to support outreach generally
 - c. Division & Committee Chair Assignments. Currently Outdoor Division chair is vacant. Curtis can appoint this but might be worthwhile to first touch base with some of the other larger activity committees, such as sailing and kayaking. Admin Division chair is also vacant, but functionally work has been done by Sarah.
Awards/peak pins. Has this been handled by the Admin Division, Climbing Division, or ?? Has it been handled well in the recent past?
Irish Cabin Property. Unclear on the amount of active management or responsibilities the branch council has for this. Curtis will reach out to the Irish Cabin team for details.
 - d. Invoice Payments. Curtis and Harley discussed how they will manage invoices and requests for bill payment from the Mountaineers Finance team.
 - e. Succession Plan. Curtis related that many (most?) branches are moving toward a 3-year plan, with a chair-elect, chair, immediate-past-chair arrangement. This is not consistent with the current Red Book (or by-laws).



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- f. Branch Leadership Committee (BLC). Curtis related that he has met with the BLC, which meets monthly and is comprised of all branch chairs, plus some HQ staff.
 - g. Policy & Procedures Manual. Current manual (Red Book) does not match the way we are currently operating. Curtis would like to revise, just so the manual matches practice. Red Book can be changed by council action but by-laws require a vote of the membership. Last changes to by-laws were in 2015.
 - h. BOD Meetings and coverage. Mark is able to attend all BOD meeting except on January 16. Curtis might be able to attend but that is a Third Thursday and his presence might be preferred there. Natalia is willing to attend, if vice-chair is allowed to stand in for the chair.
 - i. Council Priorities/Goals. Curtis introduced the top priorities from the council's 2015-2017 Action Plan. Curtis would like the council members to review and either confirm that the items remain priorities or that they have been largely accomplished and should be refreshed with new priorities.
Dashboards. Curtis shared some of the recent Tacoma Branch dashboards that are available on the Mountaineers web site. The team would like to digest them a little further. Curtis will provide source information about where the dashboards can be located.
Basecamp. Natalia offered to set up a Basecamp site for the council to use for information sharing.
- IV. Celebrations and announcements. Natalia reports that the basic climbing course is shaping up nicely.
- V. Action item.
- a. Reach out to the Climbing and Outdoor divisions regarding at-large council members – Curtis
 - b. Pass along budget documents to council members – Curtis
 - c. Discuss budget issues with branch liaison during January meeting – Curtis
 - d. Form a sub-committee for Third Thursdays and general outreach – Natalia
 - e. Touch base with sailing and kayak committees regarding Outdoor Division – Curtis
 - f. Inquire about the Peak Pins and other recognition programs – Curtis
 - g. What are branch responsibilities and roles for managing Irish Cabin properties? – Curtis
 - h. Can vice-chair represent the branch at BOD meetings? – Curtis
 - i. Provide source/links for branch dashboards – Curtis
 - j. Set up Basecamp account for branch council – Natalia
- VI. Good of the order. None identified.
- VII. Next meeting date. The council agreed to meet on February 6 at 7pm, probably as a virtual meeting via ZOOM.
- VIII. Call to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:10pm

Submitted by:
Mark Kerr