

April 2013 Minutes Bellingham Mountaineers Committee

Date/Time: April 23, 2013 7:00 pm

Location: Whatcom YMCA

Attendees:

Chuck Gustafson (Seattle)

Rich Sanders

Steve Glenn

Sue Bennett

Nathan Reed

James Pierson

Ken Small

Robert Bristol

Don Weldon

David Rangel

Bryan Sehmel

Tracy Sehmel

Andrew Hollon

Minda Paul

Chris Keefe

Pred Vadjic

Topics:

Climbing/Scrambling

- Equipment
 - Partial inventory from Sam and Pred
 - Develop rope log and system for equipment checkout (James)
 - Tagging ropes (SMC has metal markers for ends of ropes)
 - Buy two ropes from Nathan, purchases approved
- Climbing applications from Aaron and Bryan
 - Only Intermediate Rock I, II, and Accident Management
 - Pay half the price of the Intermediate Course
 - Applications approved
- Basic Rock II Field Trip
 - Second day canceled because of snow
 - Optimal ratio 3 instructors to 2 students
- Student Status
 - Sam did not attend Rock II Field Trip, Penny left due to health issues, down to 15 students
- Off-Trail Travel Seminar
 - Build confidence traveling on interesting terrain/bushwhacking (similar to scrambling)
 - Schedule Mid July

- Off-Trail Travel Seminar approved by the committee
- Cat's Cradle Rappel
 - Co-developed
 - Also called South African Rappel
 - Also called Diaper Rappel
 - We'll call it whatever we want
- Freedom 9
 - Visit website to give input about what was added to and removed from last edition
 - Forum for format – e-book, hard copy, combo
 - Soliciting input from English speaking world
 - Broaden Audience
 - International text
 - Not just mountaineers
- Accident Management and Fall Rendezvous
 - Dan agreed to both
 - Fall Rendezvous will be first weekend in September (7th and 8th)
 - The rendezvous are sponsored gatherings that promote community, not official activities because that's a logistic nightmare
- Spring Rendezvous
 - Spring Rendezvous will be second weekend in June (after Snow I, June 8th and 9th). June 8th is also Intermediate Accident Management.
- Winter Mountaineering Outline
 - Minda will send to committee
- "Guiding" in Canada
 - Ok if we don't take Canadian citizens or advertise
- AAFA
 - Potential course in fall
 - More interested in returning students helping with Basic Course AAFA
 - Need at least 9 paying students
- Winter Activities
 - Will we have a Ski Mountaineering Course?
 - Would include AIRE 1 and 2 and ski climbs
 - Minda and Bryan will send out a survey regarding possible interest
 - Ken would like to hand down the snowshoe chair to a basic graduate or equivalent. Bryan will solicit through e-mail and Andrew will put on the website.
- Stewardship
 - 1 student done and 3 half done
 - Would Bellingham be interested in having Seattle administer stewardship?
 - If we register our trips, Seattle can look at ours
- Hiking
 - 4 active hike leaders right now
 - Chuck is also a hike leader and wants to become a leader for Bellingham

- Publicity
 - Summer Picnics
 - Vital Climbing Gym – Chris Keefe also interested in meeting and expanding this relationship
 - How many people e-mailing vs. flat fee? Chris Keefe has ideas on this.
- Treasurer
 - Don provided a “bottoms up” list of our costs broken down into categories
 - Perhaps could subsidize AIRE etc. – leader development
 - Send comments to Don
 - Don will send as attachment to e-mail
- Board of Directors
 - Safety committee – this is the first year that incident reports were not sent out
 - We have to have a branch safety officer. Steve will be this.
 - Every field trip should have a well selected first aid leader
 - Ask in course application about any special medical background
- Managing Committee
 - Replace revenue sharing with priced to market
 - Continuous education for leader development/retention
 - Broader leader base
 - Send bullet points to Minda
 - Register all field trips and instructors. Can amend register afterwards.
- New Business
 - Dan Lauren (president elect) would like to visit to see how he can help
 - Goals for upcoming year. Minda requested ideas for improving the branch. She read e-mail responses, meeting attendees offered suggestions, the committee brainstormed and narrowed down items to the following list:
 - Retention
 - Youth program
 - Leadership Development
 - Publicity/outreach