

COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB
STATE COUNCIL
October 27, 2007
Boulder REI Store

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 am by David Hite, Secretary to the Board. The following members, staff and guests were in attendance: Rick Casey, Earl Hughes, Ed Seely, Sherry Richardson, Tom Wilson, Cindy Gagnon, Steve Bonowski, Nancie Biery, Lisa Heckel, Art Leissa, Paul Weber, Ray Shem, Nickie Kelly, Bill Brown, Clare Bastable, Doug Skiba, Bryan Martin, Peter Gowen, Bill Smith, Julie and Tom Beckwith, and Linda Mojer. Three were in attendance electronically: Carol Kurt, Heather Morse, and Julie McCahan.

Wynne Wyman explained the technology that would allow virtual attendance and participation in the Council meeting through the GoToMeeing website.

Additions to the Agenda

Conservation

Clare Bastabel introduced Bryan Martin, assistance Director of Conservation. He will work out of the American Mountaineering Center in Golden. Clare shared with the Board her history with the CMC. She said that her focus will be two-fold: to reach out to all groups in the State to see what challenges they are facing; secondly, the department will place a new emphasis on stewardship by providing service to the NFS and other land managers. She believes that a partnership will improve our relationship with these agencies. She also advised that we had just entered into a partnership agreement with the BLM.

Bryan said he will take the lead in coordinating local stewardship opportunities, i.e., trail work, with the FS, the NPS, and the BLM. His goal is to work with the CMC groups to put together 50 trail projects in 2008, which is three to four projects per group. So that the department can track projects, Clare is asking that the Groups inform the Department of their stewardship projects.

Strategic Plan

Peter Gowen asked that the Council discuss acceptance of the Strategic Plan.

Adoption of Spring Council Minutes

The minutes of the April 2007 Council meeting were adopted.

Mountaineering Museum update

Sherry Richardson gave a brief update, calling attention to the Museum blog which provides an excellent opportunity to view progress in the Museum's construction. The Museum is on target to open in mid-February, 2008.

Election of Board Members

David Hite introduced members of the State Board Nominating Committee: Bill Brown, Nanci Beiry, Nickie Kelly, and Ray Shem. David explained the procedure followed by the Committee in seeking candidates to present for consideration to the State Council. This year there are six seats opening on the State Board. Five seats are for three year terms and one is for a one year term. Nine members of the Club expressed interest in serving on the Board. After a process which including asking candidates to respond to written questions and telephone conference interviews, the Nominating Committee recommended a slate of six of the nine candidates for the Council's consideration.

Peter Gowen moved that the three other candidates (Gavin Maurer, Kent Crites, and John Ross) be placed on the slate of candidates. The motion was seconded and adopted. David Hite informed the Council that Kent Crites had more interest in working with the Boulder Group and was not interested in serving on the Board; accordingly, his name was removed from consideration.

David Hite reviewed the process for voting and those eligible to vote. The five state committees on the State Council are Conservation, Finance, Membership Services, Safety and Leadership, and Website. All but the State Membership Services Committee had representatives in attendance. Peter Gowen held the proxy for the Finance Committee. The following Groups were represented: Aspen, Boulder, Denver, El Pueblo, Fort Collins, Gore Range, Pikes Peak, Sneffels, and Weld County. A total of thirteen Council members were eligible to vote.

It was decided to vote for five candidates to fill the three year terms on the Board. That vote resulted in the election of Wynne Wyman, Jim Riddell, John Riech, Carol Kurt, and Ed Seely. The result of the vote for one candidate for a one year term was the election of Steve Bonowski.

Following the election, Steve Bonowski requested that the Executive Director and the President review the nominating process and make a recommendation on how future nominating committees should do their job. He further asked that they come up with a clearly defined voting and nominating procedure and present it to the State Council for review and approval at the spring '08 meeting.

Update on Group and State Committee Work Plans for Strategic Plan

Lisa Heckel gave an overview of the Pikes Peak Group's development of a work plan. Ed Seely and Earl Hughes voiced the need for external support for the Groups in the development of work plans, including groups sharing information with each other and assistance from CMC staff. Boulder is working to a degree with Denver. Wynne Wyman emphasized that it may take one or two years to fully develop a work plan. Establishing priorities is an important first step.

Peter Gowen suggested that work plan progress for each Group and the State Committees be posted on the webpage.

Nancie Biery reported that the El Pueblo Group has a two year work plan with enhancing membership value their top priority. The Group has no budget to

focus on their need to conduct effective safety and leadership training.

Paul Weber reported the Fort Collins Group has reviewed the State Strategic Plan but has taken no formal action. The Group needs resources to address implementation.

Kristy Judd reported on her staff's plan of work. One half of a position has been funded to meet membership services needs with an objective of assisting local groups. Education is a focus on the State website, with the sharing of "best practices" among Groups a high objective.

E-newsletter Training Session

Linda Mojer of SEVISTA provided the Council with ideas for design and content of e-mails and e-newsletters and their application. The Club's objective is to assist Groups in the use of SEVISTA to meet communication needs through e-technology.

Group and State Committee Reports

A number of Groups and State Committees gave reports. Peter Gowen noted that the Groups were given the Strategic Plan with little direction. He suggested that there be a discussion of the "buy in" to the Strategic Plan by the Groups.

Ed Seely suggested that endorsement of the Strategic Plan may be premature. He suggested the Board has not discussed the need for collaboration among the Groups. Wynne Whyman reported that there is no present desire to encourage approval of the Strategic Plan by the Groups. She noted that the object has always been to be inclusive --conduct surveys and request and receive input from throughout the state.

Wynne Wyman suggested that the role of the Groups is to determine their priorities and communicate them to the State.

Code of Conduct Discussion

David Hite reviewed the need and the development of the draft Code of Conduct. The need resulted from a note in the annual Auditor Report expressing the need to have a code. Increasing numbers of nonprofit organizations are including a code in their documents. The Nominating Committee discussed the content of a code and recommended language to the State Board. The Board discussed the matter at two meetings and it was decided to seek input from the State Risk Management Committee and also present the concept to the State Council. The Board hopes to have a response from Risk Management by the Board's next meeting in January.

Evaluation of Today's Meeting

There was general consensus that the technology used for the election was a worthy first step in virtual linking of Council members but that improvements should be made before the procedure is tried again. Secondly, there was consensus that the voting procedure should be better organized.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.