

Solar Outdoors

Steering Committee Minutes

Date: 2/21/2023

Meeting called to order at: 7:04 pm

Note: Agenda is in regular font

Italic writing is additional information at the meeting



Quorum members present: Mike Hobig, Bob Tacy, Laura Miller, Krisanne Schmidt, Jon Swingle, Karen Haroutunian, Phil Crookshank, Stacie Kitchen

Others present: Jeff McWilliams

Absent: Carol McCrie, Dana Buxton,

Minutes approved for January minutes by all present.

President Mike Hobig

- I have confirmed Dave Oakley for guest speaker and presentation for membership meeting

Vice President David Warnecke

- Dana noticed that a few of our Lifetime members have been charged dues by Meetup, even though they were set to "waived". I went in and refunded their dues, documented the issue and sent it to Meetup. Other than an initial response from Meetup acknowledging the issue, I have heard nothing.
- We should discuss options about Meetup, especially in regards to the yearly dues. *David talked about the difficulty with Meetup dues for lifetime members and to locate them in Meetup. The 14 day free membership adds to the difficulty. What is happening between Meetup and our membership roster? This is a question for Dana. The process for paying dues and getting on Meetup with matching up names with Meetup names. To be added to unfinished business for March meeting.*

Secretary Laura Miller

- Call for reports with January minutes attached for review. Agenda sent out Tuesday afternoon.

Treasurer Jon Swingle

- Cash in the bank as of February 19, 2023 is \$13,206.96.
- The Statement of Activity through February 19, 2023 is attached.
- Reserved the Bluebird Shelter at Island Lake for June 10, 2023 for the summer picnic. *The rental is for all day. Need to decide what time to start and activities/food/etc.*

Activities Krisanne Schmidt

Past Activities:

- Day Hikes / Lantern Hike
- Beginner Friendly Ice Climbing (Feb 2023)-CANCELED due to weather (or lack of sufficient weather) *Jon processed the refunds for payments made on Meetup and Jeff shredded checks.*

Upcoming Activities:

- Day Hikes
- Ice Caves, Ice Climbing & X-Country Skiing Winter Weekend (Feb 2023)
- Pictured Rocks Thru Hike (June 2023)

Bylaws Open

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Education Carol McCrie

- I will not be at the meeting but can be reached by text if anyone has questions.
- Beginning Backpacking Workshop is on target for April with a final practical in May.
- In conjunction with the BP workshop, I have scheduled a backcountry cooking workshop for April 27 th . The church committee is meeting the same time as our SC meeting and should approve the date.
- Eric Braun, along with Jeff McWilliams are teaching a bike maintenance workshop on May 13 th , with a rain date of May 14 th . The workshop will be hosted at Eric's home and may include a post-instructional bike ride.
- I have reached out to Jeff McWilliams about the Basic Land Nav class. He and Tim Davis taught this in Spring 2022. With all of the above happening in the Spring, he is thinking of a fall class. Since the class lost \$\$ in 2022, I told him I wanted to see a budget before pricing the class.
- Dave Warnecke and Bob Tacy taught the Intermediate BP Workshop last year in the Spring. Since the beginning workshop is this Spring, Dave is going to gauge interest from the upcoming beginning workshop and the Pictured Rocks backpacking trip.

Equipment Chair Phil Crookshank

- All equipment is back in storage room, ready for use. There was a flurry of excitement for a backpack trip in March to the Grand Canyon, Mary Donahue wanted a lot of information, I sent that, then sent assembly pictures of the tents she asked about, lots of back and forth, FINALLY she admitted that she had backed away from the trip. SO - all is ready for the Beginning Backpack Workshop in April.
- *Discussion about the long HDMI cord not working at the last two meeting. Phil is going to check on it or purchase it another cord. Discussed about purchasing a phone stand for recording for Facebook. Bob reported that the when the speaker was speaking without the microphone hearing on the streamed presentation. Difficulty with remote slide advancing system. Jeff McWilliams is going to make up a list of suggestions for equipment for presentation and for PowerPoint license. Laura has a computer to donate without Microsoft suite on it.*

Historian Karen Haroutunian

- No report

Membership Dana Buxton

- Nothing has really changed in the membership area. I'm guessing we had 3 new members. I will not be joining Tuesday's meeting, although I will be at the general meeting a week from now.
- Laura will add information from the new members who paid at the Jan. general meeting.

Programs Open Position

Bob provided report:

- Since she had Mike's old email address, I confirmed Liane Hufchock's presentation for next month and offered to help her create a Powerpoint presentation.
- Leslie's AT Presentation in PowerPoint but need to discuss if we will have time for her to speak in April with elections. *Bob shared he feels we can have this along with elections. Dave shared that Leslie is feeling more confident with about presenting in April with the elections. Bob offered his serves to put the photos into the slide presentation then the presenter can edit it. Bob offered this to Liane for her March presentation where she has put her photos with the name of the photo as the title for the slide on a thumb drive to Bob.*
- We have no presentations scheduled after April. *New board in May so it would be good to find some presenter to help with the transition of the new board.*

Public Relations Bob Tacy

- Reserved a booth L10 at The Quiet Adventure Symposium lives on Saturday, March 4, 2023 at the MSU Pavilion. www.quietwatersociety.org
- The booth comes with free entrance for two members. Those will be for Dave and me. Thanks to others for volunteering, but you will need to pay the \$15 fee for entrance. The schedule is as follows:
 - Bob 7:30a - 7:00p
 - Mike 7:30a - 1:00p
 - Dave 7:30a - 1:00p
 - Carol 1:00p - 7:00p
 - Laura: 1:00p – 7:00p
- Need banner for QAS Booth - I think Karen said she had it/them. *Karen to bring the two banners she has to the general meeting next week.*
- Updating the photos on the welcome board to show member benefits, activities and workshops.
 - Need to make sure we have budget allocated for photos, foam core, glue, etc. *Bob is working on the welcome board that he plans to bring to the meeting for review. Discussion about getting a table covering and/or a table covering with logo on it.*
 - *Bob will put his expenses together for reimbursement.*

Communications Chair Open

Bob provided report:

- Created Facebook post for Dave Oakley's and set up a Facebook ad targeting members and people like them.
- Sent email to Solar Members
- Still to do, create Instagram post and set up Facebook Live.
- Materials for presenters (3 photos and professionally written paragraph) need to be sent by the 12th of the month to allow for two weeks of advertising by the person responsible for coordinating with the speaker.
- *Text Magic has \$4 per month fee, then about \$10 for each message to \$19. Do we want to continue this for the cost? Additional fee when a member responds to texts. Bob asked Jennifer Tislerics about how many phone numbers the texts are sent to but we don't have this information yet. Jon reported \$97.20 balance from last year and no additional funds budgeted for 2023. Motion made to use the Text Magic until we use up the balance then cancel the account. It was seconded and approved by all present. Bob will email Jennifer to about using up the funds and then to close the account.*

Webmaster Stacie Kitchen

- Updated membership form and put new one on website
- Question: do we need to change the information as in payment on the equipment form?

- Been trying to add old blog posts to new website. Many I found that I could and others I couldn't add.

Bob provided report:

- Sent Stacey credentials for PayPal *for a person to pay for more than one person at a time for couples which Bob will work on after*
- Will not be able to try and allow more than one member to pay annual dues at a time until after the QAS.
- *New membership form has the equipment rental fee on the website.*

Unfinished Business

- *For March, Dana noticed that a few of our Lifetime members have been charged dues by Meetup, even though they were set to "waived". I went in and refunded their dues, documented the issue and sent it to Meetup. Other than an initial response from Meetup acknowledging the issue, I have heard nothing.*
- *We should discuss options about Meetup, especially in regards to the yearly dues. David talked about the difficulty with Meetup dues for lifetime members and to locate them in Meetup. The 14 day free membership adds to the difficulty. What is happening between Meetup and our membership roster? This is a question for Dana. The process for paying dues and getting on Meetup with matching up names with Meetup names. To be added to unfinished business for March meeting.*
- *Krisanne asked if the Bylaws needed to be updated because we changed membership fees from \$5 to \$5.*

New Business

- *Sending email to members explaining new website payment and donation functions. Have we shared this new features on the website with the general membership?*
- *Sending email to members with descriptions of positions so they can think about running for a position in April. Dave shared the steering committee chairpersons descriptions and where shared at the Jan. general meeting but have we done anything else with this? Do we want to combine some of the positions or wait? Discussion, decided to wait as it will require the bylaws to be changed. Dave to send out the steering committee descriptions for current steering committee members to review again, then send out the general membership.*
- *Call to general membership for help with presenters for the general membership meetings.*

Next meeting March 21 at 7 pm virtually.

Meeting Adjourned at:??? pm.

Meeting minutes notes taken by Laura Miller.