

MINUTES
ABSF Board of Directors Meeting
December 4, 2017
3:00 PM ABSF Office

Board Members present: Paul Eckerline, Joe Timmerman, Jeff Tumbleson, , Tom Duffy, Brett Rondeau, Sue Scheer, John Kotar, Kathie Pautsch, Jan Guenther, Dennis Kruse

Board Members Digitally Present, Charlie Dee, Yuriy Gusev,

Absent: Mike Mandli

Staff Present: Ben Popp,

Call to order, 3:05 PM

Approval of amended Agenda: Duffy moved, Pautsch second. **Approved**

Approval of Minutes from October 16, 2017 Board Meeting: Duffy moved, Rondeau second. **Approved**

President's Comments: Paul Eckerline

- Thanks for great year.
- Ben and staff have done a wonderful job.
- Holiday Party after meeting at Old Chicago Club. Board members are encouraged to bring their families.

Dan Hirsher, new owner of Birchwood Resort, was introduced by Ben Popp to explain the Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL) and ask for support from the ABSF. Dan is local Chairperson of Citizens Climate Lobby, and he praised the ABSF for its green initiatives: re-usable cups, daypacks replacing plastic bags, and efforts to cut down on waste. He explained that CCL is a bi-partisan initiative to reverse climate change and does not endorse candidates.

Motion: Guenther moved that the ABSF endorses the Citizens Climate Lobby and it's points 2, 3 and 4. Pautsch second. Rondeau moved friendly amendment to table until January meeting. Guenther accepted. **Approved**

Executive Director's Report

- Memorabilia received from Jan Guenther for ABSF Museum.
- Lumberjack World Championship agreements will be publicly rolled out in the next couple of weeks as we continue due diligence.
- Bopp alerted Board that ABSF has an agreement to groom a trail for access specifically for residents of the Telemark and Valhalla Condominiums. The Condo Association pays ABSF to do that. No one is supposed to ski on the

access trail other than guests staying in those condos.

- Three new grant requests have been made to the Brewers, Bucks and Packers to support our snow making efforts. The requests range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.
- New snow guns have arrived. We will probably not be able to make snow this year because we still have not secured approval for our high capacity wells from the DNR. Hopefully we will have the approval early in 2018.
- Popp announced he been appointed as the Nordic Ski Representative to the Wisconsin Trails Council.
- The deal with the Minneapolis Super Bowl Committee for the Birkie Bridge to be used during Super Bowl Festivities has been agreed to and will be signed shortly. This will include appropriate signage for the ABSF.
- Telemark Update
 - Developers are likely to get the TIF approved by legislators, but it is being refined so that state is held harmless. So no vote yet, but there is a block of support for this. Senate hearing will be in December.
- Development Update
 - We've raised 92% of our goal for the Capital Campaign Phase II.
 - Discussion of need for better marketing of fundraising events like the recent ones in Milwaukee and Twin Cities.
 - Endowment: We now have seven Forerunners who have pledged \$25,000. This is 75% of our goal.

Committee reports

Finance: Timmerman

- Preliminary Audit received. Final copy will come through in January.
- Right now, our income is down from last year due to registrations falling behind last year's pace.
- Younger people and folks who have skied fewer than three races are not registering in the same numbers.
- Budget is behind because many grants will not come in this year, so can't go on books as income until next year.

Documentation: Dee

No report.

Skier Development: Guenther

No report

Competition: Kruse

No Report

Trail Committee: Mandli

- Finishing lights today at Korteloppet start, lighting the corner that was dark before.
- Trail projects not all completed.

Adjournment: Duffy moved. **Acclimation.**