

MINUTES  
ABSF Board of Directors Meeting  
October 17, 2016  
5:00 PM ABSF Office  
Hayward, WI

Board Members present: Paul Eckerline, Dennis Kruse, Joe Timmerman, Charlie Dee, Tom Duffy, Brett Rondeau, Sue Scheer, Mike Mandli, John Garrett, Jeff Tumbleson, Yuriy Gusev.

Digitally Present: Jan Guenther

Board Members Absent: John Kotar

Staff Present: Ben Popp

Call to order, 5:02 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Duffy moved, Mandli second, approved unanimously.

Approval of minutes from September 19, 2016 Board Meeting: Mandli moved, Duffy second, approved unanimously.

President's Comments, Paul Eckerline

Congratulations to staff and board for financial health of the ABSF as indicated by our financial report.

ED Comments, Ben Popp

- Registration for Birkie/Korte going well. Waves have filled pretty uniformly.
- Brief discussion of possible growth in each. Our ability to handle logistics of people in downtown limits the number of people in Birkie, so there is more room for growth in Korte.
- More and more Korte skiers volunteering for Birkie duty.
- Trail Run: financial report positive, was profitable. Awards are a big expense, but we get reimbursed for shoes by Salomon. Expo was positive, good sales by our vendors. Talk of moving to start line next year. Suggestion for vendors in mini-tents rather than all in one big tent. Ultra was a highly successful element of race with 15 out of 17 runners completing the race.
- OO work turning out well. Trail signs going up.
- Nancy put in for Birkie to be anointed as an official day of recognition on both state and federal levels.
- *Birch Scroll* at printers. It has Trail Run results, variety of content.
- Tomorrow night in Hayward and next Tuesday in Cable we will host open houses for local business owners.
- Rhinelander trying to build a club and trail infrastructure. Chris, Nancy and Ben helping with advocacy to add credibility and higher profile.

- We've made a FEMA request for trail repair from heavy storm damage.
- Discussion of Trail damage from Chequamegon Fat Tire race.
- Development Update: Petoskey and Traverse City outreach events next week. Mike and Jane Mandli have made large and significant donation. Phase 2 totals over \$400,000. We've made a stewardship grant request to DNR. We did not receive funds for tunnel under 77 but will try again this year. Also have GEM grant with state for marketing cooperation.

#### Election of Officers: Judge Jerry Wright

President: Rondeau nominated Eckerline. Scheer nominated Garrett. Rondeau moved, Duffy second that nominations close. Passed.

Eckerline 7, Garrett 5.

Vice President: Rondeau nominated Kruse. Duffy moved, Scheer second for unanimous consent.

Treasurer: Mandli nominated Timmerman. Duffy moved, Dee second for unanimous consent.

Secretary: Rondeau nominated Dee. Mandli moved, Kruse second for unanimous consent.

#### Committee Reports

Finance: Joe Timmerman

- Assets up 12%.
- Trail expense: big expenditure this month on equipment maintenance and repairs. We're close to our max for the budget year. Still big bill coming for overhaul on Piston Bully.
- Kruse suggested sending someone for training on maintenance for PB and other equipment.

Trail: Mike Mandli No report.

Documentation: Charlie Dee

- We need a Bylaw revision to be consistent with Procedures Manual on new nomination process for directors' election.
- Brief discussion of having fewer details in Bylaws and moving those to Procedures Manual.
- Suggestion to change wording on website regarding no meetings in November and February to be qualified by

“normally.”

- Discussion of October versus September for electing officers of Board.

#### Skier Development: Jan Guenther

Guenther had been disconnected. Dee gave brief report on excellent grant development process in evaluating 45 grants and issuing 36 worth \$34,000.

#### Competition: Dennis Kruse

- Nordic combined champion Bill Demong coming to Birkie this year.
- We still need housing for international skiers.
- World Loppet Report Meeting: Big discussion was FIS rule of 83% pole vs. height for classic races. FIS also looking mandating zones where skiers have to kick given proliferation of double pole only.
- Every World Loppet race offers free lodging to a board member from the other races plus one guest. We need a process for resolving occasions when more than one board member wishes to go to the same race in the same year.

#### New Business: Gusev

Discussion of considering Market Development program in which we would assist local projects to create better coordination between local fundraising and our capital campaign. Chris and Ben will come back with a proposal that we can consider.

Adjournment: Kruse moved, Scheer second. Approved by acclimation at 6:50.