

**MINUTES**  
ABSF Board of Directors Meeting  
Monday February 8, 2021  
9:00 AM  
Online via Teams Meetings

**Board Members Present:** Mike Mandli, Jeff Tumbleson, Kathie Pautsch, Mike Brown, Paul Eckerline, Jan Guenther, Charlie Dee, Bill Brown, Sue Scheer, Karen Manske, Yuri Gusev

**Absent:** Tom Duffy, Brett Rondeau

**Staff Present:** Ben Popp

**President's Comments:** Mike Mandli

- We will have a board meeting February 15, 2021 at 3:00 PM on-line via Teams Meetings. Agenda will be sent out later this week.
- This meeting is called to discuss ABSF Birkie events during Covid-19.

**Motion:** Move that ABSF escalate our communication to participants strongly encouraging virtual participation for 2021 Birkie events, and clearly emphasizing local health official recommendations regarding the events, as well as the safety protocols that will be in place for participants who choose to ski their virtual event on the Birkie Trail from February 24-28, 2021.

Dee move. Pautsch second.

It is acknowledged that the staff are doing an excellent job encouraging virtual participation through communications to participants (emails, Q&A sessions, etc.), as well as providing creative options for virtual participation throughout the United States. Staff have also developed excellent safety protocols for skiers who choose to ski their virtual race on the Birkie Trail. (The safety protocols are outlined on the ABSF website.)

We have received concern from local health officials regarding the influx of skiers into the local communities. We understand these concerns; we strongly encourage skiers to ski in their local community. We also understand that there will still be skiers who will ski their virtual Birkie event on the Birkie Trail. Thus, we will enforce the safety protocols that have been developed for this group of skiers.

We strongly recommend securing a negative Covid test within 4 days of travel and self-quarantine for 10 days prior to travel. Providing links on the ABSF website regarding how to obtain local Covid-19 tests will be helpful. Volunteers should follow the same guidelines.

Local community officials have expressed that they do support our event with our current safety plans, but do not endorse it. It is imperative that any person coming into the community for any Birkie event follow Public Health guidelines (masking, social distancing, staying within their household of people).

We will communicate all of this via clear messaging on the ABSF website as well as our local newspaper, making it clear that the board has given all of this thoughtful consideration and feels this is the safest option for our participants as well as our community.

Motion as written above called to a vote. **Passed** unanimously.

**Motion** to adjourn. Scheer move. Dee second. **Adjournment** at 10:02 am.