



RMOTHG 4Mar2024 Board Meeting Final Approved Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 pm by Kathy Crawford (Chair).

Attendees: Dennis Baumfalk (Vice-Chair); Bob Barday (Treasurer); Ginny Kier (Communications & Membership), Linda Dermyer (Newsletter), Andrew MacGregor (Secretary);

Members-at-large: LeeAnn Donovan (Treasurer-in-Training), Elaine Shirley.

Guests: Gina Bischofs (Social events), Martha Mustard (Hiking Coordinator), Jim Guerra (CMC Denver Council Liaison)

Absent: Laurine Rowe

Note: 'Post' and 'Posted' mean put to the RMOTHG Board folder link: [RMOTHG Google Drive](#)

Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes from 8 Jan 2024, as amended by minor attendance corrections, was made by Linda D and seconded by Bob B. Unanimously approved. Posted and cc'd to Jeff F.

Treasurer's Report: Bob B. Amended previous report by adding the Carryover from 2022 on the income side. Other minor changes. Now up to date.

Dennis B moved to approve, Linda D Seconded. Unanimously approved.

Note: 'Inherited' Amount remaining column is actually, not required. We could get rid of this variance column.

Membership Report as posted. Ginny K and Kathy C.

Don't have fully updated members numbers for February 1-29. Sending out renewal notification is done by CMC, ~ 6 week grace period. Closer to sending out New Members Welcome letter once we have good data on new versus renewing. For now, the currently approved version from the RMOTHG Google drive is given out at New Members night.

Communications Report Andrew M. No cards send out. Well attended New Members night on Feb 27. Andrew showed Board what gets set up on the table. One new member is a guy interested in the Social committee. Handed his name and mobile # on to Gina B.

Denver Group Liaison. Jim G. Put report in folder: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1a3ujbVoPP995RQU7krpo_RsJVOQ7nBha/edit
New CEO will be meeting with the Denver group to discuss things of concern: Money, legal issues, priorities, badges, staff overload, website etc. Scott K.'s input and work on website has been essential. WFA decision much discussed but will still be every two years. Winter travel policy means ATA to be taken every 5 years for leading winter trips. Some people will not be renewing WFA and/or ATA due to cost or time or whatever. Bob B says when log in can see when such qualifications expiring and reminders are automatically sent out. Have grace period until June 30 to ensure that Trip Leaders are up to date with their required qualifications.

Action: Linda D. to add to note on all this to Newsletter.

Kathy C. Currently only one person in a CMC Family membership can sign up for RMOTHG; the 'work' has been done but not yet finalized in the online software. For now, individuals can use the 'Event' detailed in the Newsletter to add a family member.

RMOTHG now has a new electronic 'badge' image. When Salesforce 'reconciles' it should attach this badge to all members' online records - in progress. (Badge designs are done internally or contracted out at low cost.)

Social Committee. Gina B.

Summer Picnic: July 13th. Saunton Picnic area is reserved 11 am to 2 pm. Hikes and Bikes to be set up by Trip Leaders. Costco wraps a possible option. Must also cater for allergy issues/dietary restrictions.

Annual Meeting: Saturday Sept 14. Called Mt Vernon events coordinator, \$3985 for 65 people for buffet meal. Previously subsidy was \$20. At \$50 cost, with cash bar on top, people will find it too much. (In 2021 Golden hotel was \$4574, \$35 subsidy.) Discussion: people liked the 2023 Annual meeting at the CMC - seemed to work fine. We have Rooms A thru D. \$2378 budgeted. Decision to have it catered. Could use extra money to

get, e.g., a speaker or a musician. Will need to warn people that parking in the lot to the east of the CMC building is now paid rather than free.

Colorado Tap House, Arvada Jan 29 social was well attended and enjoyed with plenty of new faces.

Holiday party. Dec 8. Do not have Room A, so we do not have access to the kitchen.

State Capitol tour March 12 has waiting list.

NCAR trip on April 25. 6 places left.

Rockies game trip: Wayne Tomasello has offered to lead.

Stanley Marketplace is a suggestion for a social meeting place on the Denver/Aurora border.

Ken Caryl area: Lou Ann D. is looking at a social in that area.

CCC Camp near Red Rocks - possible trip

Old Business.

Bylaws Denis B. Had circulated changes from previous meetings. Went through briefly. Read through the new remote meetings section. No more changes added. Will add a date.

Andrew M. proposed accepting the bylaws as amended, Ginny K. seconded, unanimously approved.

New Business

RMOTHG Special Trips & Activities Procedures. Dennis B

Not yet finalized. Will add date to final version. Dennis talked re hut trips to Frank Burzynski who said Daniel Schweissing is taking these over now.

Deleting 'will' after 'ultimately' in first sentence was agreed.

Section 3. 'Register the event on the website' is adequate. Leaders should know what to do. Kathy C.'s proposed comments on the presented draft starting 'The Leader' and ending 'previously paid.' to be added. CMC cancellation and refund policy now includes reference to RMOTHG so we should abide by that. Specifies a refund not to exceed 35% or \$35. Trip cancellations now allowed up to 7 days prior to the start date. Hut trips had cut-off date for getting refunds. Hut trips sometimes do conditioning pretrips and plan meals etc in advance. Must follow up proposed **STAP** language with Daniel. Does he have any problem with the proposed policy. He will call Dennis on March 14th.

People generally will not wait until the last minute to cancel. On TQ Lake trip did not refund money since only \$30. Kathy's TQLake trip article in Newsletter had a link which took you to Survey Monkey to fill in which was in effect a lottery. Hut trips did Name Registration collection and then an email Decide not to document exactly how in the procedure. Let the trip leader decide how to do sign-up and to ensure that the sign-up is equitable. Martha M. Hut trips may need to screen people because such trips involve competency.

Dennis B. suggests could post any exception to CMC's Cancellation and Refund policy In the Leaders notes. Trying to avoid two separate policies.

Delete all of 5.2. Expect 2 to 3 weeks for refunds. Dennis will make all the changes in the draft. Will send out as pdf and Word so that Comments can be seen.

Will talk final revisions and approval at the May Board meeting.

Dennis verified with Scott that the CMC Financial Officer must approve the final version of this **STAM**.

Trip Statistics. Martha M. presented a trip analysis for May thru november 2023. Jim G also has some deeper analysis on types of trips, day of the week, graphs ... for Bobcats and RMOTHG, because he is Denver Group liaison for both groups.

Kathy C. the question is: 'Are we meeting the needs of our members with the trips that we are providing?' Do we need more leaders?

Martha M. does not like the revised trip rating classification as it is used by leaders, so looked at distance and elevation to determine actual classification. If people cancel off the waitlist, it is hard to do meaningful statistics. Summary: seems no need to have a big push to get more leaders.

'Octohikes' came up again this week, but Martha says Linda will still cover. Do we need a new term such as 'Relaxed' or 'Relaxed Easy' and have more hikes that encourage this concept. Leaders meeting and/or Newsletter could talk to this issue. Pace can be not just 'Casual' but 'Slow' Doris Rice may be interested in

leading such trips, also Barbara Day and Karen.

Wildfire (?) hikes could be posted as 'Relaxed'

Will talk to leaders in May and then may put something in the Newsletter.

Talking to new people at the Happy hour, people are reluctant to sign up for hikes -don't know anyone, don't know the pace.. Should we also do 'Intro' hikes. Was tried in the past, but told not to repeat it. New people join for Social Reasons and may not go on hikes.

Let's try posting some 'Relaxed / New Member' hikes and see what response we get.. The social lunch/coffee after the hike is now coming back after Covid.

Kathy does 'Restorative' and 'Silent' hikes.

Some leaders move around the hike line and start conversations.

Great if parking at start and end of hikes is near a coffee/lunch place option, and the intention announced in the trip description.

Bike hikes generally say what may happen after the ride. Take count at start of ride to determine numbers for lunch and pre-warn the restaurant.

Do we track the number of people who actually go on hikes?

Jim G. Will post his data analysis. Pikes Peak Group tracks the number of people who go on the hikes and partially rates leaders this way and can tune 'recognition' this way. Participation is a measure of how well we are serving our members. Most trips specify maximum number of participants.

XC Skiing Participation Survey Andrew M. Draft shown. Would apply to winter 2024-25. Should we be doing anything, is there a demand? Dennis B. Would like ungroomed trails with more slope as an additional category. Denver group considers this type of trip as a Speciality trip.

Action: Andrew draft an article for the Newsletter with a link to a survey.

Tom W. took Andrew M round his portfolio of trail heads. For (e.g.) Andrew to lead Speciality trips, he must first do enough hiking LIT trips. Website has a list of 'mentor' leaders for skiing.

Hut Trips Daniel S. Nothing new yet agreed for 2025. Put in requests for hut trips but has yet to hear anything back.

Kathy C.: TQ Lake secured 7 or 8 campsites, half of last year.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 pm. Proposed by Ginny K, seconded by Lee Ann D, approved unanimously.

Andrew MacGregor Secretary

Meetings schedule for 2024

May 13

July 1

September 9