The Rocky Mountain Over the Hill Gang section of the Denver Group of the Colorado Mountain Club was called to order by Chair Elaine Shirley at 2:00 PM Monday, January 9th, 2017 at the Golden Library. Members present were Buffy Berquist, Vern Bass, Diana Bliss, Joanie Broder, Lue Fratatuono, Jennifer May, Kirsten Tollefsen, Pete Spandau and Jane VanderKolk. Guests attending were Carole Adler, Ida Sacony, Harriet Scheib, and Ed Scutellaro.

Treasurer’s Report
Discussion related to the collection of the CMC of the annual $15.00 subscriptions allocated for RMOTHG. Further discussion on the topic was tabled for a future meeting. The 2017 budget was approved by the Board.

Membership
Jennifer May submitted the following, the current membership number is 847, 21 new members enrolled in December. Issues with members receiving the newsletter continue. It was decided to have information in the February RMOTHG newsletter and encourage members to notify Elaine Shirley or Jeff Flax if problems continue related to receipt of the newsletter.

New Business
Report from Social Committee
Ida Sacony is the chairperson for 2017 and has 4 additional members on the committee. More are always welcome. A letter of thanks was received from the Action Center for the generous RMOTHG Holiday donation. Review of the Annual Summer Picnic resulted in the suggestion to contact Pine Valley Ranch (a new venue) for the 2017 event.

Denver Group Report
Discussion centered on the Denver Safety Leadership (DSL) and a proposal to standardize and augment the requirements for trip leaders. This will be discussed by the Director of Safety and Operations, Phillip Swiny at a future DSL meeting.

Old Business
Joanie Broder reviewed the status of the RMOTHG bench in RMNP. The National Park Service (NPS) has received the funds for the bench and it will be placed in an area around Bear Lake. This was verified by a notice in the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Letter and is expected to be in place this summer. The policy of the NPS is to not put a name or plaque on a bench but RMOTHG will note the specific information and site of the bench in a future monthly newsletter.

A topic related to fund requests from various committees in RMOTHG was discussed with a focus on funds available for activities. Concerns were reviewed about requiring payment of activities prior to
having funds for the committee chairs to pay in advance of the event. A suggestions to have a RMOTHG credit card for the treasurer to provide payment and submit bills to CMC rather than further delay reimbursement to group leaders for their required/needed funds.

Further discussion led to a discussion about a form prepared by Kirsten Tollefsen which would more accurately allocate budget funds for the future. The event coordinators (Biking, Hiking, Snowshoeing, Social, X-country skiing) would receive the form in July and return it to the Treasurer by September for budget decisions and presentation at the November meeting.

The motion to adopt the form was approved.

A subcommittee composed of Lue Fratatuono, Diana Bliss, Kirsten Tollefeson and Joanie Broder will study and report back to the Board on allocation of funds to subsidize or not subsidize the various activities and events of RMOTHG.

There being no further business for the Board, Pete Spandau made the motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Diana Bliss and the meeting ended at 3:45 PM.

Next meeting is March 20, 2017