RMOTHG BOARD MINUTES — NOVEMBER 5, 2018

The Rocky Mountain Over The Hill Gang (RMOTHG) Section of the Denver Group of the Colorado Mountain Club was called to order by Section Chair Kirsten Tollefsen at 1:05 pm on Tuesday November 5, 2018 in Conference Room A at the American Mountaineering Center. Board members present were: Dennis Arndt, Diana Bliss, Janice Johnson, Lou Fratantuono, Scott Kramer, Martin Pfefer, Kirsten Tollefsen, Jane VanderKolk, and Carol Zurcher. Also present were: Jeff Flax, Elaine Shirley, Martha Mustard, Ida Sansoucy and Wayne Tomasello.

OLD BUSINESS

SECRETARY’S REPORT — JANE VANDERKOLK & CAROL ZURCHER

Dennis Arndt made motion to approve the September 13, 2018 minutes. Janice Johnson 2nd the motion — minutes approved

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR’S REPORT — LUE FRATANTUONO

Current regular members = 865
Lifetime members = 32
Social members = 7

Kirsten asked Lou whether Family Memberships were broken out as individuals or shown as one membership per family on our membership roles? Lou will look into it.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE COORDINATOR’S REPORT — IDA SANSOUCY

Annual Meeting and Brunch: 83 attended this year (low turn out). The speaker, Philipp Tedeschi, was well received. The same venue has been reserved for next year September 8, 2019. A $300 deposit was put down. Ida would like recommendations for next years speaker. Judy Kinger from Pikes Peak was suggested. Ida brought up the question — Do we continue to sponsor the Annual Brunch with such a low turnout? Do we keep the same price for everyone? It was decided we continue the Annual Meeting as planned for another year. It was further suggested that more promotion of the event be done to encourage participation.

Joint Health Presentation by Dr. Blackwood MD was well received. Twenty-two people Attended. Jeff Flax brought up concerns of liability issues when involving “professional/commercial entities and recommend that if we were to plan another such presentation that full CMC approval be obtained before booking and with no discounts for room reservations be afforded such professionals.
There is a new Social Committee member, Kathy Tandy.

Future social activities include Staunton Park as the venue for the Annual Picnic scheduled for June 8, 2019. Wayne Tomasello suggested scheduling the picnic in July as was done in past years. Ida will check into it. Other Social Committee suggestions for next year: Denver Art Museum, Railroad Museum, Miners Playhouse, and the Art of Making Cheese.

NEW BUSINESS

PROPOSAL TO ALLOW THE FUNDING OF MEAL ALLOWANCE FOR ANNUAL COORDINATOR PLANNING MEETINGS WITH TRIP LEADERS

At the September 13, 2018 Meeting Lue Frantantuono made a motion to provide a subsidy for group leaders to receive a $5.00 subsidy per Trip Leader in attendance at one scheduled Coordinator/Trip leader planning meeting per year. It was seconded by Janice Johnson, and approved by a vote of the Board. This was predicated by a request on August 19, 2018 from Jeff Flax.

Jeff Flax presented the Coordinator's proposal for a resumption of payment from RMOTHG budgeted funds for light food and drinks for two annual trip leader planning meetings. One for hiking and one for snowshoeing. These are planning meetings for a years worth of Hiking/Snowshoeing trips for RMOTHG members. Since the Subsidy Rule was put into place in March 2017 funds for these meetings from the RMOTHG Budget did not meet the qualifications for subsidy payments. Trip Leaders and Coordinators have been paying out-of-pocket for the meeting's food. Jeff conveyed the importance of Trip Leaders. “No leaders, no trips, no RMOTHG”. Jeff wanted a fixed amount. $5.00 per person was offered and accepted by Jeff Flax and the Coordinator’s in attendance. Dennis Arndt suggested the Coordinator cover the expense and then ask for a check request for reimbursement. Diana Bliss suggested sending a meeting notice to leaders with a mandatory RSVP so the Coordinator has a “count” for the meals and then they would know how much to order. Elaine Kallos will be reimbursed for her Snowshoe Trip Leader planning meeting that had already been held in October 2018. Kirsten Tollefsen further defined this allowance to state that the $5 per person subsidy would qualify under the existing Subsidy Rules as it “benefits” all members that these trip planning meetings take place and expanded the allowance to cover each activity coordinator's annual planning meeting (I.e. Biking, Hiking, Snowshoeing.)

OPEN DISCUSSION BETWEEN BOARD AND — COORDINATORS

Effective communication methods between the Board and Coordinators to the Trip Leaders was discussed. Kirsten has been emailing Board correspondence/information to Coordinators and requesting that the Coordinators then convey the information to their Trip Leaders. It was agreed that continuing to email information to Coordinators works, and then they will communicate to Trip Leaders.
Budget planning for special trips, such as Hut Trips and Camping Trips, was discussed. These activities had previously been included on the RMOTHG Budget, however they are really “Cash-in & Cash-out” items and are not funded by the RMOTHG income. It was agreed that these items will not show on our Budget beginning with the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

The written procedures for Trip Leaders to follow with regard to Special Trips/Events (i.e. participants pay all costs vs. RMOTHG) was presented to the Board. Dennis Arndt made motion to approve the procedures, which was seconded by Scott Kramer and then approved by a vote of the Board.

There was a discussion regarding whether a Trip Leader’s proposal to make name tags for all Trip Leaders and trip participants. While there was some merit in The Trip Leaders wearing name tags, most in attendance opposed the use of lanyards and ultimately it was felt that most people would not wear them and the expense could not be justified for all membership. The idea was tabled at this time. Diana Bliss suggested Board Members and the Social Committee Members have name tags.

Kirsten Tollefsen reminded the Coordinator’s that any requests for funds from the Activity Coordinator’s approved budget should come through the Coordinator for approval prior to the expenditure, and that the actual request for reimbursement is to go through the RMOTHG Treasurer who will approve and send to CMC Finance.

The attending Coordinators were dismissed at their option for the remainder of the meeting.

TREASURER’S REPORT — DENNIS ARNDT

Final Treasurer’s report was submitted as of September 30, 2018 was presented to the Board, showing RMOTHG position as of the end of 2017-2018 fiscal year.

Also presented was the RMOTHG Budget for 2018-2019 fiscal year. Lue Fratantuono made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Jane Vanderkolk, and the Board approved the 2018-2019 RMOTHG Budget. See copy of Budget attached.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARDS — KIRSTEN TOLLEFSEN

Chun Chang, the CMC Finance Director, discussed via email with Kirsten his financial concerns regarding the RMOTHG Recognition Awards and the total amount. He indicated that the state is looking for a more homogeneous way of recognition. Further, he had concerns that we spent funds beyond what was in our budget for 2017-2018, which was inaccurate as we spent less than planned.

Lastly, the “YEP” donation that was suppose to have been funded from the RMOTHG 2016-2017 Budget was actually taken from the 2017-2018 Budget per Chun. This resulted in RMOTHG funding the remaining 2016-2017 budget (amount equal to YEP donation) to the Denver Group as our normal roll-up of remaining year end funds and the YEP donation amount being funded to YEP in 2018. The Denver Council has agreed to
reimburse RMOTHG these funds to correct the double payment from our budget, thus making us “whole” again.

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY — SCOTT KRAMER

Discussion and ideas about how to proceed with the assessment of the data collected were tossed about.

Scott Kramer suggested setting up committees. Two sub-committees made up of a couple Board Members and perhaps select Coordinators who will look at general Hiking and Snowshoeing comments from the Survey. Diana Bliss and Marty Pfefer volunteered to work on this portion of the survey. Janice Johnson will focus on “communication” comments. The two sub-committees will bring back their assessments to the Board at our January meeting. Other new activities to look at for members include: Downhill Skiing, Single Track Biking. It was decided that these will be explored at a later date and in anticipation of next year.

Martha Mustard and Jeff Flax presented a new process associated with the sign-up for hiking and snowshoe trips, which spoke to the comments from members on our Survey. They have suggested a Thursday “preview” of the following Wednesday’s schedule of hikes/snowshoe trips be accomplished by posting the trips on the CMC website, but still restricting the actual sign-up by the participant until Friday as is the current practice. This would allow the interested members to learn about the trips in advance and determine which one they would like to participate in on the following Wednesday. Wayne Tomasello suggested doing hikes on other days besides Wednesday’s.

Meeting came to a close at 3:20PM.

Next Board Meeting is January 14, 2019

Respectfully Submitted

Carol Zurcher