The Rocky Mountain Over The Hill Gang (RMOTHG) Section of the Colorado Mountain Club was called to order at 1:15 pm by Scott Kramer on Monday January 14, 2019 in the Drumwright Room at the American Mountaineering Center. Board members present were: Dennis Arndt, Diana Bliss, Janice Johnson, Lou Fratantuono, Marty Pfefer, Scott Kramer, Kirsten Tollefsen, and Carol Zurcher. Also present: Ida Sansoucy - Social Events, and Kathy Kurtz CMC Denver Council Liaison.

OLD BUSINESS

SECRETARY’S REPORT — Carol Zurcher

There were no changes or corrections to the meeting minutes of 11/5/2018. Carol asked if it will be acceptable to use a tape recorder at the meeting. No objections were expressed.

Scott Kramer made a motion to accept the minutes. Janice Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor yes.

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATORS REPORT — Lue Fratantuono

Current regular members = 877*
Lifetime members = 56
Social Members = 7

Total =940

*Needs further looking at. On 12/26/2019, show 901 regular members. Then it was run again and showed 877 regular members.

Also, on 12/31/2018 numbers showed 41 memberships expiring with 20 renewals.

Family memberships vs. individual memberships is still being looked at. Hard to determine for RMOTHG vs. CMC memberships. Two members have moved and will be deleted.

Kirsten Jensen dues expired the end of November. Lou will check with her about a social membership or some temporary time off.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE COORDINATORS REPORT — Ida Sansoucy

The Dim Sum dinner is canceled as the restaurant has closed. A new event will be determined soon. Dennis will initiate refunds to members. The Holiday party went well. 125 people attended. Many gifts for the children were contributed as well as $49 in cash. Ida said that only $292 was spent on supplies because old supplies were used. She recommended leaving the “supplies” Budget as is ($1,200), in addition $600 was paid for the use of the room. The Annual Meeting Brunch is reserved and the deposit was paid by Dennis. Brunch date is scheduled for 9/8/2019 at Mt. Vernon.

Future Events: Kathy Tandy is looking at something for St. Patrick's Day. Ginny is looking into Lawn Bowling for 5/18/2019. The Annual Picnic is scheduled for 6/15/19 at Staunton Park, and deposit paid. Mary Bradley, a docent at the State Capital, will be communicating with Ida about a tour there as a social event.
TREASURERS REPORT — Dennis Arndt

The 2018-2019 RMOTHG Budget to date had been distributed to Board for review prior to meeting.

- No final report from CMC on the 2018 Budget.
- Dues are not all collected yet.
- No other transaction reports reported from Chun Chiang (Financial Officer CMC) yet.
- Dennis will monitor advances

DENVER GROUP LIAISON REPORT — Kathy Kurtz

Keegan Young, CMC Executive Director, is holding Strategic Planning Sessions around the state to determine what CMC should focus on over the next 5 years. He has commissioned a professional agency in Golden that specializes in helping conservation groups and outdoor nonprofits focus on strategic insights determined in part through facilitating in-person sessions from a cross section of members with a variety of experience, roles and backgrounds. Kathy suggested that perhaps RMOTHG can ask Keegan for candidates from our group to participate and add our input.

Mountain Fest will undergo some major changes. Including holding it in the fall and 2 weekend days, marketing to a much broader audience, involving more outdoor companies. This would give more exposure for the Club going from March to Fall. Of course, more members means the need for more volunteers.

Robbie and Durrie Monsma recently went through all Denver Group Bylaws, DG Council Handbook, Manuals and Meeting Minutes in order to sort out, re-organize, update and correct discrepancies. This was a HUGE undertaking! It is almost complete.

The Council discussed topics and issues to focus on for the 2019 year. Some on-going action items include:

1. We may need editorial help for the Mile-Hi Mountaineer.
2. DG Conservation Committee is undergoing changes. Claude recently resigned and Steve Bonomo has agreed to chair it and plans to re-vitalize it. They are also losing Holly Barass.
3. The Ascending Hikes, New Member Hikes and Snowshoe Hikes continue to be in demand.

SPECIAL TRIPS/EVENTS PROCEDURES — Kirsten, Dennis, Scott

There was much discussion on this portion of meeting. All board members received an email from Kirsten prior to the 1/14/2019 board meeting in PDF format containing two documents: 1) "Special Trips & Activities Procedures"; and 2) "Cancellation Policy"

These documents were adopted and approved by the board at the January 14, 2019 Board Meeting. We will leave the cancellation and refund policy the way it is now recited in the documents and see how it works as we follow those procedures. We decided not to allow the use of the CMC credit card at this time.

- All social events, trips and special trips will be posted to the CMC Website
- All monies will flow through and be monitored by our Treasurer, Dennis Arndt
- The Annual Camping Trip’s participants will be determined via a lottery due to it’s popularity and will have a monetary risk assessment evaluation completed by Scott (chair of Camping Trip Event) and given to our Treasurer.
Special Note: Since the January Board meeting there have been amendments made to the above two documents. These have also been emailed to the Board from Kirsten requesting Board member approval. The amendments made changes to the refund policy contained in both documents. Kirsten received approval from 7 of the 8 voting Board Members, with 1 Member not responding. The two documents have been approved as amended and will be posted on the RMOTHG page of CMCDenver.org.

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY — Scott Kramer

Main take aways from survey:

- Improvement of Trip communications and easier trip sign-up
- More hikes/Snowshoeing trips
- More leaders
- Easier access to information on how to become a Trip Leader
- Why some members can never get on a hike/snowshoe (the Friday 5:00 PM dilemma)

Lots of discussion on this part of agenda. So far, there are 2 committees formed to address specific sections of the Survey results:

1) Janice Johnson is working on better ways to communicate to our membership. It is felt that some survey comments could be addressed by clarifying misconceptions, describing our current processes, and providing positive feedback on the results/solutions that come out of work done from the Survey project.

2) The other committee is headed by Marty and Diana who will deal with the hiking comments of the Survey. One change resulting from the hiking related issues has been addressed by a change to the hike/snowshoe sign-up process as previously described by Martha Mustard and Jeff Flax (Coordinators) at our November Board Meeting.

Things to look at and consider:

- Janice suggested to layout a schedule and have it on the CMC schedule
- Have a frequently asked questions site
- Email blasts via MyEmma. Could we give access to Trip Leaders?
- Kirsten suggested reviving the Trip Leader Initiative
- Scott is wondering if there is anyway to make it easier to become a Trip Leader
- How can we be more inclusive, ie: other day hikes, weekend hikes, posting trips @ 7PM instead of 5PM, waitlists split into 2 or more hikes?
- Sign-up on Saturday instead of Friday
- Should the CMC website be in our Newsletter
- Lou suggested more information be on the New Member Letter with Q and A
- Encourage Trip Leaders to offer more “special trips” to the membership (i.e. bike and hiking trips out of town/state) addresses the survey comment on hiking trips to Wyoming.

Scott asked that the two committees will meet bringing back their analysis points and possible recommendations to the board at our March meeting.

Meeting Ended at 3:20 PM. Respectfully Submitted
Next Meeting March 11, 2019. Carol Zurcher