The Rocky Mountain Over The Hill Gang (RMOTHG) section of the Colorado Mountain Club (CMC) was called to order at 1:04 pm by Scott Kramer on Monday January 13, 2020 in the Drumwright Room the American Mountaineering Center. Board Members present were: Dennis Arndt, Janice Johnson, Marty Pfefer, Carol Weir, Lue Fratantuono, Ronnie Knueven, Kathy Kurtz, Debra Richardt, Scott Kramer, Kirsten Tollefsen and Carol Zurcher.

GENERAL BUSINESS

SECRETARY REPORT — CAROL ZURCHER

Brought up the fact that we were out of greeting cards that are sent to members or their families when there is a illness, accident or death. Carol will check in with Mary Bradley about steps to be taken to acquire new cards.

November Minutes were approved and accepted.

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATORS REPORT — LUE FRATANTUONO

891  Regular Members
55  Lifetime Members
5  Social Members

951  Total Members

Membership remains pretty consistent. There are a number of memberships expiring on January 31, 2020. Lue will double check with those people and make that is what they want to do.

TREASURERS REPORT — DENNIS ARNDT

Dennis emailed treasurers report for October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020 as well as the budget for October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020.

Dennis said there are still no financials from CMC. Chun is gone. Krista from CMC Denver Group is temporarily handling accounting, but is pretty overwhelmed.

Dennis said we stay within our budget. He thinks we are fine.

Kirsten had a question on page 2.......Food $87.97 under Hiking. It was concluded that it was probably really for Snowshoeing 17 people at $5 each. Treasurers report accepted and approved.
Ronnie handed out her detailed Holiday Party Report as well as Social Committee 2020 Calendar. We had 97 RSVP’S, 6 people came but did not RSVP and 21 no shows.

January 13, 2020 Happy Hour to celebrate our Over 80’s Olive Garden, Littleton
February 13, 2020 Happy Hour at the School House, Arvada
March 8, 2020 Barefoot in the Park, Town Hall Arts Center, Littleton 2:00 pm
April, date TBD Happy Hour, Denver Biscuit Company
May date TBD Dim Sum Dinner
June date TBD Denver Graffiti Walking Tour
July 18, 2020 Annual Picnic, Staunton State Park
August date TBD Paddle Board Cherry Creek Reservoir
September 13, 2020 Annual Meeting Mt. Vernon Country Club, Brunch
October date TBD Vehicle Vault
November date TBD Happy Hour
December 6, 2020 Holiday Party, Venue CMC, 3:00 to 6:00 pm

More on Annual Meeting Venue and Holiday Party later in report.

DENVER GROUP LIAISON — KATHY KURTZ

Kathy’s complete report is attached to January 13, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes, plus everyone on the board received a copy. Some of the Highlights:

Since Chun’s departure the CMC has temporarily acquired the services of Penn Burris who is serving as Finance and Operations Director thru February 2020. He was previously with AMC. He may be looking at the position, but we do not know at this time who will be filling the position. Krista said she would help. She is a good resource with good credentials and resume but will probably not take it on. Everything from Chun was left in good order.

Roger Wendell no longer wants to manage Hiker Classifications. He was doing it all himself. A committee of one. He will train a volunteer person on the position. Roger proposed getting rid of the hiker classification. He has been doing all of the Denver Group which includes RMOTHG. DS & L said no for now. Only, the Denver Group has it. Kathy will write up the position in case anyone in our group is interested. The long difficult “C” decision was to remove the restrictions regarding what “C” leaders can lead as long as it is not “Technical “.

Reminder of the BENEFIT GALA February 7, 2020 at The Hanger, Stanley Marketplace In Aurora.

Thank you Kathy. You always have a thorough and well done report!
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER REPORT — JANICE JOHNSON

The Q & A section of the Newsletter with discussion on the waitlist seems to be the big question. It is explained that the waitlists usually do clear. Although, Debbie mentioned that she had been shut out of two hikes in a row. Part of that problem could be that generally speaking there are fewer snowshoe trips in winter than hikes in summer usually due to winter weather conditions or illnesses/injuries. This brings up the need for more hike leaders and for existing leaders to lead more hikes. New members retention is dependent on trip availability.

GENERAL DISCUSSIONS — SCOTT KRAMER/BOARD MEMBERS

Kirsten updated page in our RMOTHG By-Laws under governing documents. She also revised and updated our website to make it more user friendly.

Scott talked about the importance of mentoring to our new leaders and prospective leaders. Also, how can we get more of our existing leaders to lead more hikes? How can we as a Board communicate and help our coordinators?

On Friday Kirsten, Martha Mustard, and Elaine Shirley, met to discuss Leadership and the Trip Leader Initiative (which will continue). How to guide, encourage and make sure new leaders stay on course by completing schools and staying with the program. Help them to follow-up on LIT training as well as website training. A main goal is to encourage and help our coordinators. Continue in the Newsletter “Why I Became a Trip Leader” perhaps have a contact name at bottom of article.....if interested in becoming a T.L. Contact bla, bla, bla. Elaine will have classes and steps on becoming a T.L. posted in Newsletter.

The importance of follow up with new leaders. Martha Mustard is very good at this. She sends a very nice letter of congratulations and support to new T. L. Perhaps have a couple of informational articles in Newsletter, one on what you need to do to become a T.L./what are the responsibilities of being a T.L. What to Coordinators do? Another issue to think about is how to get more of our T.L. to lead more hikes. Some T.L. are only doing the minimum number which is one hike per year. Scott made a suggestion that Janice could come up with a standard formal letter of support to new leaders, like a certificate of completion.

For our next meeting Scott would like to discuss our goals for the new year, T.L. Recruitment methods and how can we help our coordinators? What do they need from us to do their jobs?
IDEAS FOR RECOGNITION AWARDS — DEBRA RICHARDT & CAROL WEIR

Nalgene Water Bottles 48 oz. with Logo - $6.50 ea.
Handkerchief one color with Logo - $8.00 ea.
Baseball Caps with Logo and Text - $8.00 to $10.00
Carabiner?
T-Shirts (4 color format) - $8.00
Jackets

These are some ideas of recognition awards we could give to our Trip Leaders at the Annual Meeting or at a separate event for the Recognition and Awards of Trip Leaders. This is a way of identifying who is the trip leader. It distinguishes them from the participants. Should we also have as part of the text “Trained” Trip Leader or “Certified” Trip Leader?

Also discussed is that some people do a lot of hikes. Maybe they should get a bit more, like a jacket? As well as other volunteers like Maryann Mayer should get recognition. These are some things we will discuss at next meeting.

Lastly, dates and venues for Annual Meeting in September and the Annual Christmas Party. It was decided that the Annual Meeting will remain at the Mt. Vernon Country Club. It’s tradition. Keep it a Sunday Brunch. Maybe offer a hike before the Brunch was suggested by Debra. Lue states that the Entertainment we choose is an important factor in turnout. Our numbers were up for 2019. September 13, 2020 is the dated that was voted on for the Annual Meeting. The Christmas party will remain at CMC on Sunday December 6, 2020. I believe Kirsten asked about having a longer Happy Hour, it will be considered. At this time Ronnie and Lou Ann Dixon are the only two people handling the Christmas Party.

Next Board Meeting is Monday March 9, 2020 - 1:00 to 3:00 pm Drumwright Room

Respectfully Submitted
Carol Zurcher