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 March 9, 2020 in the Drumwright Room of The American Mountaineering Center. Board members present were: Kirsten Tollefsen, Janice Johnson, Carol Weir, Marty Pfefer, Debra Richardt, Scott Kramer, Dennis Arndt, Lue Fratantuono, and Carol Zurcher. Also present were Kathy Kurtz, Ronnie Knueven, and Sue Henley.

GENERAL BUSINESS

SECRETARY REPORT — CAROL ZURCHER

Kirsten mentioned that she did not see where the the vote and approval on the updated By-Laws were recorded. Carol will look into it.

January minutes were accepted and approved.

Regarding cards and envelopes discussed at the January meeting, it may be some time before we have them. Marketing is working on them and Mary Bradley will let me know when they are available. In the meantime, Mary gave us some CMC cards to use in the interim.

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATORS REPORT — LUE FRATANTUONO

892. Regular Members
   5. Social Members
   55. Lifetime Members

952. Total Members

TREASURERS REPORT — DENNIS ARNDT

There is still no financial data from CMC. Krista who has been helping since Chun’s departure is overwhelmed. Kathy noted that Krista has a background in accounting and is supposedly staying on although Scott heard otherwise. That she was leaving in 2 weeks. So we are not sure of her status.

Things are in good shape, we are under budget. Kirsten brought up the fact that Elaine Kallos is still showing under Hiking and really should be under Snowshoeing. Dennis said he would fix it.

Discussion on Carole Adler’s Arches Trip in April. Ten people signed up for Carole’s trip. No payment shows up. Five people have signed up but not paid. It was our understanding that at the time of registration you also have to pay? Dennis will talk to Carole and find out what’s happening.
Virus talk before we went on to Social Committee Report. Kathy said some policy may come out as to different measures CMC might take regarding the Virus. Guidelines to follow, Keegan may be working on it, but she doesn’t know at this time.

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT — RONNIE KNUEVEN**

Happy Hour for our 80 and over members was a huge success! 54 people signed up, 70 showed up. Perhaps this will be an annual event every January. Happy Hour at the School House was very nice 28 Participants. Barefoot in the Park 16 signed up. It was a fun performance. Eight of the participants had dinner at Adelitas.

Social Committee Meeting was held on February 19, 2020. Attending were: Lou Ann Dixon, Sue Henley, Ginny Keir, Kirsten Tollefsen, Linda Thompson and Ronnie Knueven. Sue Henley had many interesting suggestions for future social events which were attached to Ronnie’s report.

Upcoming Social Events (Note: these could all change because of COVID 19)

The July annual picnic is ready to go. Entrance fee is $9 not $8. Annual Meeting on 9/20, Ronnie has put down $500 deposit at Mount Vernon. The entertainment this year will be “Candlelight Mystery Players” it is a group involved production. Ronnie said she has seen them and loved it.

Holiday Party this year will be on a Saturday 12/5. Sunday was already booked.

Scott had a couple of things he wanted to talk about before we moved on to Kathy Kurtz’s Report. Budgets: Would like budget requests sent to coordinators by mid July and due by August 10, 2020. Then to be discussed at our September board meeting. Probably 2nd Monday in September before Annual Meeting. Also, Board Members for next year we need to think about replacements for Dennis and Marty. Both Dennis and Marty will be leaving. Scott will stay on another year. We need someone with some accounting or bookkeeping background to take on Dennis’s position. Perhaps we can put the position in our Newsletter or have Jeff Flax send out an email blast. Lue mentioned she wants to turn over her position and would like time to mentor someone so it would not be too overwhelming for them.

**DENVER GROUP LIASON — KATHY KURTZ**

Wilderness First Aid was cancelled for March due to COVID 19.

CMC BOD has approved “new improved definition for winter terrain”. Will be approved at the March 24 BOD meeting.
State Updates: Doug Maiwurm, Education Director, is resigning from the CMC and will be taking a new position with the City of Denver as Outdoor Recreation Coordinator for Denver Mountain Parks. His last day was February 21, 2020.

Jay Cordes, Development (Fundraising) Director, resigned effective March 1, 2020.

OPS Director close to be hired, if not already hired! Stay tuned for how responsibilities will be re-organized.

Claire Joseph, new Membership Services Associate in office. Krista, accounting, continues with a huge workload to catch up and keep things going. She is doing great!

MEMBERSHIP - as of January 2020 is 6,988 members. — A 60% retention! Increased the under 30 Membership fee from $30 to $39.
Maddie is teaching a March Women’s Trip Leader School (w/Kevin or Jeff Stevens)

FUNDRAISING - February 2020 Gala a success! Benefit to raise funds for Youth and Adult education programs. We raised $102,000 — Remarkable for first year.

DENVER GROUP
SCHOOL TUITION STUDY: Committee has made great progress in analyzing and calculating potential school tuition prices, based on a very complicated and thorough analysis. Total days #of instructors/session, #students/session, #of class sessions, #of field days, #hours/session, tuition $$/student, etc. Good news is current tuition determined by instructors were very close to study’s findings. Sarah Thompson is on this committee and is pleased with the progress.

ZOOM — System for holding meetings via teleconference. DG hopes to acquire a subscription soon for all Denver Group Members’ use. Quick Start Seminars (QSS) will use it for Webinars for some sessions.

Robbie and I were invited to the last ALPINE CLIMBING SCHOOL committee meeting last week formerly TCS, Technical Climbing School. Since they moved to state, DG had lost coordination with the school. Great meeting and we can be glad they are on top of keeping our school field sessions available for WTS, climbing etc. continue to have skilled instructors, and emphasize safety among other things.

Denver Member Initiatives Committee (DMIC) - DAY HIKER SCHOOL (aka Modular WTS) will launch a beta class this month. Finally was able to secure permits. Eventually will move to Schools Committee.

Needs - Director(s) DMIC to take over from Cyndi Lehr and Mike Tischer. Need managing organizing skills.
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER REPORT — JANICE JOHNSON

Janice is now sending letters out to new RMOTHG leaders. The letter was revised to help new leaders figure out how to do things and work with coordinators. The February newsletter highlighted a new RMOTHG leader, Carol Bennett. As it turns out she will not be leading RMOTHG hikes and did not rejoin RMOTHG. She will be leading weekend CMC hikes as she is still working. She will actually begin leading and rejoin RMOTHG in 2021 when she plans to retire. Janice has a question: do we want to go back a few months and highlight some of the new leaders? It was decided no, not to do that. Kirsten suggested to ask coordinators if they have some newer leaders they would like to highlight in the Newsletter? This might inspire other leaders to lead more hikes, more than one hike a year.

Roger called and asked Janice if she could contact a lady from Kaiser Permanente (which Janice did do), regarding if RMOTHG would be interested in having representation at a Kaiser Permanente event promoting our active group of seniors. Janice explained she would have to talk to the Board. However, in the meantime the lady called back and said she found out she couldn’t do that evidently it was not approved by KP or for some other reason. This brought up a question from Janice: do we want to do any other self-promoting events at other venues. Such as active senior residences or libraries that have presentations for seniors, health fairs etc.? Do we want to promote our group this way? It sounded like this might be something to be considered further by the Board later. Q and A’s for Newsletter such as can we use E- Bikes on our bike trips. Leaders would need to know what trails allow e-bikes, what classes of bikes are allowed. This is something Wayne can check into. Also, Scott likes surveys. We have access to Monkey survey and can take individual questions. This could be in the Newsletter. There could be one or two questions and answers each month. For instance one Question could be “what activity do you enjoy doing most”? Thereby receiving important feedback information from our members.

IDEAS FOR DISCUSSION — SCOTT KRAMER

RECOGNITION AWARDS FOR LEADERS

Scott put together a handout with activity statistics on how many hikes, snowshoe, bike rides, X-country skiing trips were done last year. How many trip leaders conducted the trips and how many trips were accomplished. Also, how many trips had wait lists and the number of people wait listed. What we do not know is of those waited listed how many got on or did not get on a trip. As well as how many wait listed just gave up.

Annual Meeting related items. Do we want awards passed out at Annual Meeting or let Coordinators handle recognition however they want? Last year leaders received free meal and one drink at the Annual Meeting. To show Support of leaders do we want to pay for some of their supplies that they need to carry as leaders with a gift card? Offer gifts such as a Shirt, hat, scarf; they could choose what they wanted. Also, something quite nice, Frank Burzynski offered doing a portrait of individual leaders as a gift. We could have an Annual meeting photo in the program brochure and state why they are being recognized. Do we want to provide meals again this year for our leaders? We decided yes we do. There were about 30 leaders that attended at $30 per person. Plus, there could be a little something provided as a gift to be presented by coordinators to leaders. Awards budget for this year is $2,600. Maryann should get some special recognition. We really depend on her. All agreed. Need to know how
much money did we take out last year for meals for leaders? So we know how much will be left over for other recognition gifts. It will be gathered, and presented at next meeting.

PRESENTATION BY SUE HENLEY ON NEW SOCIAL EVENT IDEAS

We received a nice printed Calendar of Events and Details: here are some highlights

“E” Gamer Night (Fundraising for Conservation)
Travel night with slides, dinner/potluck @ CMC
Frank Burzynski’s photography chosen for DIA drinks/appetizers?Visit Gaylord Amenities
Geocache in park for dinner with wine and beer
Teach something and hike on CMC
Square dancing
Cinco de Mayo night hike, dinner/party
Kwanzaa hike, dinner/party
Jewish hike, dinner/party
Inter generational hikes
Trail Crew day
Native American Spirit Tree hike, dinner/party
Radium Hot Springs overnight and hike
Forest bathing event
Winery tour evening
Sponsor goat weed eating event

Sue is thinking about the idea of maybe doing some of our social activities with other parts of CMC. Bobcats were mentioned, invite them to do something with us. Do some conservation events. Be more a part of CMC. Do we want to mix things up?
Do we want to do fund raiser events together? Give some of the money to CMC?

Sue brought up paddle board outing and water liability issue. It should be checked out. Ronnie asked if we couldn’t just sign a waiver? Needs to be checked out. Could be on individual basis.

Do we want to mix with CMC more? Do we want to do fund raising events with them? Dennis brought up the fact that we regularly give money to CMC at the end of year. We do not have a lot of money to sponsor events with CMC. We could give our name.

Kirsten mentioned work chart review with Maddie, ask them if there is something we can do with them. Kathy thought Sue’s ideas were great. Maybe more of our group should know of these ideas. Maybe Sue could put something together on the trail maintenance for Janice to submit to Newsletter.

Scott said these are good ideas that we as the Board need to discuss. Suggested that Sue pick one of ideas and spear head that idea. Let us know which one you would want to take on.
MENTORING FOR NEW LEADERS AND MISC. — SCOTT KRAMER

Scott said that he spoke with Martha Mustard last night and that the new leaders thought it was OK as is. The Trip Leaders who want to lead will do so. Some have other motives for being a Trip Leader. Maybe check with Kevin Schaal.

Some members, evidently, have asked if email addresses of fellow members could be provided to them so they could contact someone they liked hiking with about doing a hike together. It was decided no, not a good idea for privacy reasons.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm
Next Meeting Scheduled for May 11, 2020 1:00 - 3:00 pm Drumwright Room
Respectfully Submitted by Carol Zurcher

There was after meeting discussion about COVID 19 and how it might affect CMC & RMOTHG. WFA was already cancelled. We will wait to hear more. Keegan is putting something together to send to membership.