

EAGLECREST BOARD OF DIRECTIONS
March Meeting Minutes
Thursday March 4th, 2021, 5:30pm
Via Zoom

Agenda:

1. ROLL CALL: Mike Satre, Stephanie Hoag, Dave Hanna, Jon Dale, Shawn Eisele, Megan Gregory and Kevin Krein were present. Assembly member Wade Bryson, General Manager Dave Scanlan and Charlie Herrington were present. Fred Hiltner was also present.
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mike called the meeting to order. Shawn asked to add a discussion about the Spring Pass to new business. Kevin asked to discuss Craig Lindh. Shawn made a motion to approve with Kevin seconding the motion. The agenda was approved without additional changes or objections.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January meeting minutes, Dave H moved to approve, Shawn seconded, the minutes were approved.
4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Fred Hiltner from the Juneau “What a year we are having!” He appreciates the new groomers and has had so many compliments about their work and really appreciates all the support for their ski events. JNSC membership has increased from 650 to over 800. He looks forward to summer trail hardening for low snow years.
5. COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS:
 - a. Liaison- Mr. Bryson shared that the off-road vehicle groups are working to reduce conflict with the cross-country ski groups. He also informed the board the that assembly has started their annual budget cycle process.
 - b. Eaglecrest tower sign – Dave H updated that board that the ECF is currently coordinating with Charlie for pictures and they have already received commitment from previous and new sponsors.
6. MANAGERS REPORT:

See Manager’s Report for detail.

Additional comments:

 - a. Finance: Mike noted that with “normal” food sales and no change to interdepartmental fees the mountain would already be in the black. He gave credit to everyone at the mountain for how well and efficiently they are running things.

- b. Moutnain Ops: Shawn noted how well the Ptarmigan chair situation was handled. Mr. Bryson inquired about sales when the chair was shut down. Jon shared concerns about top-to-bottom lift abilities and urged the board to think about the status of lifts over the next 5-10 years. Meg asked Dave about a “Connect with city hall” inquiry to which the GM had responded. Jon asked about the terrain park status. Shawn inquired about the bus accident on Egan. Dave H shared that the bus was a new acquisition and the part failure was an unfortunate accident.
- c. Base Ops: Dave H and Mike offered solutions after one of the tents collapsed due to snow load.
- d. Summer Development: Mr. Bryson reminded the board that the summer task force is not disband and can be brought together to help the mountain plan.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Spring Pass: At this time the GM was not inclined to bring back the spring pass. When asked about extending the season, there may be an opportunity but it would be a decision made at a later date pending weather and staffing, lots of patrol are scheduled to leave but the mountain is open to trying. Jon likes the idea of staying open to show support for the community. Mike added that if they can’t stay open that keeping up some grooming efforts would be appreciated. The GM is more than happy to keep on grooming!
- b. Permits. The GM discussed the renewal of user permits with the board. The Zip Line, Cycle AK, Walking Tours and Segway tours were all discussed at great length. A variety of topics were discussed ranging from finances, length of contract, impact to the mountain, legality of segways. The GM shared with the board the importance of generating more revenue. It is important to think about who we want using our mountain but also that we need more money and have long term issues to face. The discussion provided the GM with a variety of input, concerns and suggestions to consider when renewing contracts. The GM will work with individual contracts to best fit the needs of contractors and the mountain.

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Charlie passed a thank you to the board, all his co-workers and to Dave.

10. BOARD OF DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Mr. Bryson was glad to hear about a great season; if ever there was a time for an all-time great season, this is it!

Meg thanks Dave for his passion and willingness to seek out opportunities the comfort zone.

Kevin has heard lots of great feedback about this season. He knows the board and mountain has lots to deal with in the future.

Jon shared an observation about the resurgence of small resorts. TGR recently spotlighted Magic Mountain and Berkshire East and MSP visited Lost Trail. Eaglecrest holds the same feel with all those resorts and loves to see all the work going on to continue to make Eaglecrest viable for years to come. He thanked everyone for their efforts and would love to see the old tubing area used for the growing Snow Sports activities.

Dave H noted that when adversity strikes you can really see a team come together. He noted the camaraderie of the staff and good spirits on the mountain. It has been uplifting to see such a good demonstration of teamwork,

Stephanie noted we have so much to be happy about! The budget looks great and Snow Sports is going great for so many families. She has heard great feedback from everyone. She has heard some people share concerns about people not wearing masks and hopes that people will be more vigilant. She would like to schedule a Nordic Advisory meeting in April.

Shawn has heard lots of great feedback and is thrilled at how well things are going. He understands what a big lift it is to run the mountain and wants the GM to know that he has the full support of the board.

Mike appreciates what the board members bring to the table. He noted that this is not an easy year but the staff is doing it! As for Craig Lindh he wants to do something to recognize him and will work with the family and planning committee and Mr. Lindh helped make Eaglecrest what it is today. Mike noted that with masks COVID fatigue is real. The ski community is getting tired of masks and we have to enforce the rule so we have a COVID safe experience. (The GM shared that the mountain recently did a 2-week suspension for a repeat violator of the mask policy).

Dave S thanked the board and is hoping to talk summer planning next month and hopes to have more news about the Summer Task Force next month.

11. ADJOURNMENT – The next meeting date is April 1st 2021, via Zoom.

Dave H moved to adjourn, and Stephanie seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm.