EAGLECREST BOARD OF DIRECTIORS
Meeting Minutes
Thursday September 3rd, 2020, 5:30pm
Via Zoom

Agenda:

1. ROLL CALL: All board members were present. General Manager Dave Scanlan was present.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mike called the meeting to order, Stephanie moved to approve the agenda with Jon seconding the motion, and the agenda was approved without changes or objections.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
    a. August 6th meeting minutes Shawn moved to approve, Jon seconded, and the minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
   Emily Palmer, Brian Davies, and Erin Lupro were present and had no comments at this time.

5. COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS
    a. Planning Committee Meeting August 27th
       The committee met as planned and most of the board attended. See "Unfinished Business" for more information.

6. MANAGERS REPORT See Manager's Report for detail. Additional comments:
    a. Financial Report - Manager Dave Scanlan answered some clarifying questions about the full cost allocation and its effect on the Ski Area Administration budget. There is an increase of $12,000 per month in the amount that the city charges back to us for admin services. There was an error in the formula for "total rentals", which will be corrected.
       All of the summer expenses from CARES funding are kept separately.
    b. COVID Conservation Corp program Update
       Incessant rain has necessitated extra attention to erosion control, but work is proceeding well. Heavy rain days have been big brushing days.
       About 6 more dry days are needed to complete the Dick's Loop trail with shot rock. There are lots of users on the new bike trail. The Nordic Trail Permit is likely to be ready in time and is now waiting for comment from the local historic society as to any concerns.
    c. Department Review

Mountain Operations Lift shacks and more have been painted in spite of the weather, but tower painting has not yet been tackled. Ptarmigan chair has had extensive work. The crews just got started on the new exterior Stairway at the Porcupine lodge; it will be helpful in minimizing contact for rentals, etc. Mike reminded us of travel/testing requirements for the lift inspector and others coming in.

Base Operations. Staff has been busy with tracking for CCC crew and detailed tracking of CIP projects. There has been some turnover in crew and new hiring.

Snowsports school. Plans including time slots, and group sizes have been completed, with approval from the city for COVID plans. We generate a little more revenue from homeschool program, which has more students this year. Books to Boards will not be feasible this year due to COVID safety concerns.

The staff is exploring options with First Student for an employee shuttle.

A design and plan for the cafeteria have been made.

Rental, Retail, Repair Repair shop positions can be challenging to fill and recruiting is starting now.

d. Events
   i. Discover Eaglecrest Day has been changed to October 10
   ii. Fall Drive in Movie Nights are planned in association with Gold Town Theater. These will not be a revenue producer but will enhance community engagement.
e. Summer Operations Planning. The George family is very open to continuing discussions. A revenue bond is still an option for funding, backed with letter of credit from potential real estate development. There is a lot of work left to do in flushing out the funding options.
f. Dimond Field House Update. A transfer to Parks and Recreation could happen by January at the soonest. There would be a draw from general funds for the field house operation. Work with Juneau School District for special needs activities could be a good revenue boost.

7. UNFINISHED BUISNESS
   a. Election of Officers and Committee Assignments
   Dave Hanna proposed a slate of officers:
   Mike Satre - President, Stephanie Hoag - Vice President, Jon Dale - Secretary.
   Shawn seconded the motion and the officers were elected without objection.
   The following committee assignments were proposed by Mike.
      Finance: Chair Jonathan Dale, Kevin Krein, Sean Eisele
      HR: Chair Stephanie Hoag, Megan Gregory, Kevin Krein
      Planning and Policy: Chair Dave Hanna, Shawn Eisele, Kevin Krein
      Nordic Advisory: Chair Stephanie Hoag, Megan Gregory
      Trail Advisory: Chair Megan Gregory, Jonathan Dale
      Eaglecrest Foundation: Chair Dave Hanna, Sean Eisele

Stephanie moved and Jon seconded the motion to approve the committee assignments and they were approved without objection. Mike requested that committees have written summaries prepared for the board meetings.

b. Ski Patrol Range Reclassification
   The range reclassification has been approved and details will be shared as soon as Sara at HR returns next week from leave.

c. COVID Operations Plan for Action
   Changes that were made during and as a result of the August 27 meeting were explained: The phrase **"Eaglecrest reserves the right to limit guest traffic to preserve social distancing."** was added. One possible way of limiting would be to give preference to season pass holders, but the options are being kept open for now. The CBJ EOC has reviewed and approved the plan. The plan does not cover the possibility of CBJ going to a VERY HIGH risk scenario. That would most likely mean that the ski area would close, and the chance of that happening is low. During lift loading operations, masks will be required and minimize transmission following industry guidelines. The guidelines are being developed in detail and coming soon with the idea that all of the industry will unite to follow best practices. There was discussion about types of face covering that are acceptable, and suggestions that we add "appropriate" and "appropriately worn" to the plan, with information on the website about what makes a good face covering. Signage and social media were recommended as ways to get the message out. Discussion is still needed about enforcement and consequences. It's important for users to realize that helping to keep the area safe and open is their responsibility. The ski area is not able to give guarantees or refunds if the area shuts down, and we need to be very upfront and transparent about that. Dave will try to get the plan rolled out to the public soon.

d. Schedule joint meeting with the Eaglecrest Foundation
   Meeting during our October 3 board retreat was suggested, with Thursday September 24 as a backup suggestion.

8. NEW BUSINESS - none

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
   Erin is excited about the new stairs and limited traffic in Porcupine lodge. She disagrees with the elitism of opening only to season pass holders, and suggests we build and use a reservation system. She agrees with messaging to ask users to share in safety work and called attention to the wording in our pass purchase agreement about our inability to give refunds.

10. BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Stephanie agrees with Erin's comments about elitism. She appreciates all the good work and is happy to see how much is getting done.
Kevin echoes the "good work" sentiment.
Shawn also appreciates all of the work that's been going on.
Jon likes the good vibe and preparation happening at Eaglecrest and is ignoring any negative weather forecasts. He asked about the possibility of a parking lot ski swap, and is looking forward to getting more info about what's happening with the cruise industry.
Megan will look over refund policy and likes the drive-in movie idea
Dave H welcomes Brian back and thanks Erin for her perspective on a "passholder only" opening option. No gloom and doom on weather forecasts!
Mike is looking forward to our retreat and will start working with Dave on the agenda. He thanks the staff and board members for their work.

11. ADJOURNMENT – The next meeting date is October 1st 2020, via Zoom.
Dave H moved to adjourn, and Stephanie seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 pm.