

EAGLECREST BOARD OF DIRECTIONS

Meeting Minutes

Thursday August 6th, 2020, 5:30pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

Minutes:

1. ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM. GM Dave Scanlan was present. All board members were present. Assembly Liaison Wade Bryson was also present.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Stephanie moved and Kevin seconded the motion to approve the agenda, and it was approved without objection or additions.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. July 9th meeting minutes

Megan moved, and Kevin seconded the motion to approve the minutes, and they were approved without objection.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION Paul Swanson and Emily Palmer were present. Neither had comments at this time.

5. COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

a. Planning Committee Meeting July 9th

Dave Scanlan gave a quick review of the meeting. The committee discussed the bond package proposal. Our proposal for to include a high speed lift did not move forward. The committee discussed pros and cons of lift alignment, the sky bridge, and next steps moving forward to be ready for grant opportunities. The staff is beginning to look into permit issues, and Northwind Architects interns are working on Summit Lodge plans.

b. Nordic Advisory and Trails Committee Meeting Wednesday June 15th

Stephanie summarized the meeting. There was a good attendance with ten Nordic skiers present. Dave presented information on the summer work underway on bike trails and high alpine trails. Trail hardening for the Lower Nordic Loop was discussed as were permit issues and priorities for specific areas. A plan was made to apply for a new permit ASAP in hopes that hardening can take place beginning in mid September. Nordic signage was

reviewed and discussed. Dave presented the committees with updates on summer planning, and the information was well received. Committee members made suggestions and were particularly interested in cabins.

6. MANAGERS REPORT

- a. Financial Report See the manager's report for detail.

Season pass sales have been good, with over \$80,000 in revenue already from passes and cabin rentals. Last year revenue for the first month of the fiscal year has been limited to about \$3000 in lodge rentals for weddings, and small concession fees from Cycle Alaska. There usually is not much revenue until locker rentals start at end of summer.

- b. COVID Conservation Corp program Update See the manager's report for detail.

The program is going well and getting some national attention. Crews are completing 75 to 100 feet of trail per day and are on track to get wrapped up with current trail projects in 2-3 weeks, in spite of challenging weather hasn't been easy. Volunteers Jack Kreinheder and Bruce Griggs have helped with the effort. Corps of Engineers permit applications have been completed and submitted for Lower Loop Hardening, and are open to public comment until August 17. A groundwater plan for contaminated soils is required and will be completed soon. Permit may be in hand by mid-September to allow a month or more for work on the Nordic trail hardening before the snow arrives.

Shawn asked about how the future summer development plans can be supported by CCC crews: Ridge trails and Mt. Bike trails are helping the area to move in that direction, and permits are being renewed and modified for a trail/road to Cropley Lake. Reid Stoops met with Dave S. with ideas on possible grant funding and cooperation.

Kevin asked about brushing and clearing of slopes by CCC employees and relationship to that done by regular employees and Dave S. clarified.

Dave H. clarified that the "road" to Cropley would not be a highway. Wade suggests we try to call it 10-ft wide gravel trail.

- c. Department Review. See the manager's report for detail.

Mountain Operations.

Lots of painting has been done for lift shacks, chairs, and Fish Creek Lodge locker rooms. Stairs and deck work at Porcupine Lodge are coming up, as well as shingling and deck repair for Fish Creek Lodge. Repairs to electrical wiring on Ptarmigan and Black Bear have been made. Line work is in progress and we are ahead of schedule for lift inspection.

Jon asked about pipe replacement and whether it was on the radar for summer, as well as Hooter tower lights. There will be no pipe replacement, but some pipe repair will be happening. The Hooter lights will be getting some attention as fall approaches.

Base Operations: There has been a lots of work on setting up pass payment Plans and COVID response plans, and supporting CCC crews through purchasing, contracting, and materials processing.

Snow Sports School/Rental, Retail, and Repair: This department has the hardest job in preparing to deal with COVID safety. It is hard to know how things will progress, so staff is coming up with an array of flexible and safe plans for lessons and other activities. Mike asked to pass on his thanks to Erin for all of her work.

Marketing and Events: Season Pass sales were well supported through social media and the live webcam at the Powder Patch is being installed. The Annual Ski Swap has been cancelled and may be replaced by a parking lot ski swap. Discover Eaglecrest Day will be an outdoor event with masks.

- d. Dimond Field House Update See the manager's report for detail.
The field house is in a difficult financial situation. There is potential for a \$34,000 CARES act to supplement the \$10,000 left in funds. Discussions are beginning to allow the CBJ Parks and Recreation Department to take over the facility.

***** stopped here.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Ski Patrol Range Reclassification
Have made good headway. We have a final draft of class specifications and job duties and hope to have positions moved up one range before recruiting for coming season. Staffing costs and requirements may increase with COVID, and we need to be sure to have a good roster of ski patrollers.
We are starting to get some more interest from ski patrol candidates.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. COVID Mitigation Plan Introduction
The draft is in our hands and we need an in depth work session with the policy committee, and facilitating public comment and approval. Dave described the process so far. Collaborative. Listening to webinars from ski industry partners. Looked at mitigation strategies by department and how those interface. SSS and RRR has the most work. Work on different data points for "phases" of risk is next. Its important to give people confidence in safety at Eaglecrest. Policy meeting date discussed. Zoom available for Th Aug. 27th so we will set it up for then.
Board Retreat timing was discussed for early Oct. Board meeting is Oct. 1. Tentatively planned for Saturday Oct. 3. Extended morning.

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Paul Swanson complimented Dave and all of the work he's been doing and offers to be of help.

10. BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Stephanie enjoys being part of org with things happening, thanks Dave and staff.

Kevin feels welcomed and glad to be part of board.

Jon thanks Dave and staff and hopes the winter will mirror the summer in coldness

Wade Bryson also compliments staff and asks for clarification of July revenue difference over previous revenues. Recommends always starting sales in July

Megan echoes what everyone else has said and appreciates Dave's work, Bryson's presence, COVID documents.

Shawn liked the idea of inviting JCF in on summer planning. Wants to know how we can bring tourists to sky bridge – touch base with cruise ship assoc.. Really appreciates the work on Nordic lower loop for goodwill.

Dave is impressed with the amount of work by trail crew.

Mike echoes other comments re. good work and is beginning to look towards winter work ahead for us.

11. ADJOURNMENT – Next meeting date September 3rd 2020, Zoom

Adjourned at 6:51