**DS&L March 19, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 PM**

Attendees: Marty Billings, Sue Henley, Karen Hurley, Wayne Johnson, Bill Markley, Martha Mustard, Deb Robak, Beatriz Silveira: Deb Robak chaired the meeting in Linda’s absence

Absent: Chris Bartle, Chris Dohmen, Linda Lawson- NO GUESTS

**MEETING MINUTES:** February 2012 Meeting Minutes were approved as presented. Robin Commons November approval as a trip leader was officially noted for the record.

**TRIP LEADER CERTIFICATION:** Marty Billings provided electronic summaries of background for the following applicants:

1. Jan Monnier – approved for A, B, C hikes, Ski Tours Easy, Road Bike Tours, Winter & Summer Seasons
2. John O’Leary – approved for A, B , C hikes, Nordic Center Trips, Snow Shoe Trips, Winter & Summer Seasons
3. Thomas Hurja – approved for A, B, C hikes, Road Bike Tours, Winter & Summer Seasons

An applicant submitted a leader application but the 2 separate LIT’s were at the same location, Bergen Peak. Marty will inform him that the applicant the 2nd LIT needs to be in a different location and preferably a C hike or better, considering the applicant has a C/D rating. Once the requirement is completed, DS&L is willing to approve via email vote if his approval is urgent.

Marty will research, check policies, and request guidelines for new hike leaders applying for areas not covered in TLS such as fly-fishing, bike trips, skiing, etc. These guidelines will be included in their approval letter and be made available online.

**WFA RE-CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Mike Weaver is researching it. Beatriz reported that it will probably be a 4 hours class with scenarios. Beatriz is active in the task force discussions. It was decided one DS&L committee member on the Task Force is sufficient. Beatriz will talk to Mike about the possibility of incorporating it into Skills Day.

It was recommended that we follow the same guidelines set up in Avalanche school concerning grandfather clauses and timelines.

**ACTIVE TRIP LEADER DEFINITION &LEADER EMERITUS PROPOSAL:** Initially the Active Trip Leader definition was approved but the vote was rescinded by all present. We decided it needed to be discussed further. Bill Markley and Wayne Johnson will submit a proposal defining 1) Emeritus Status, 2) Active Status, 3) Inactive Status, and 4) Lapsed Status. Bill agreed to research the data base concerning trips led within the last few years. After a lengthy discussion we concluded the following:

* Leader Emeritus is an honorary position worthy of a selection process.
* We need further discussion on whether it’s necessary to weed out inactive leaders.
* We need to reach out to inactive leaders who may be coaxed into leading again.
* Sue Henley’s letter addressing inactive and emeritus status was well received but needs further discussion. Considerations were:
	+ Keep it brief
	+ Target inactive leaders only
	+ Omit list of benefits by simply saying “all benefits of leaders will be conveyed to you”
	+ For Leader Emeritus: We would like to recognize/honor you by making you Leader Emeritus……

**TRIP LEADER SCHOOL:** Martha Mustard reported that 12 students graduated from TLS. She received feedback that students liked the online concept and having short scenarios in the classroom. Next TLS is 5/8/12.

**SAFETY/INCIDENTS:** Deb Robak reported that there were no new incidents.Concerning 2012-C008, Deb Robak, Wayne Johnson, Linda Lawson and leader will meet on 3/26/12 to discuss ways to avoid problems in the future.

An email was sent to Joan Rossiter, Director of BSTS, addressing safety in light of the 3 recent accidents in BSTS ski school. She reported back that all the concerns listed have been addressed.

Initial discussions were begun regarding expansion of the role of Safety:

* Make the Safety Newsletters available to the entire DG by placing a notice with link in the MHM and providing a link on the first page of hikingdenver.net under “Newsletter.”
* Creating a forum where members can have an active discussion regarding safety issues, news related incidents, and scenarios. We need a volunteer to explore this avenue.

**SKILLS DAY: Deb** Robak voiced concern about the current lack of sign-ups. Speakers and volunteers are in place. Bent Gate will demo merchandise.

**LEADER SOCIAL – THIRSTY THURSDAY:** Sue Henley had to leave early. The possibility of having a speaker give a brief presentation was discussed.

**UPDATE TRIP LEADER PAGES ON hikingdenver.net:** Chris Bartle was absent.

**Call to adjourn:** 8:47 PM.

**NEXT MEETING: April 18th**