

## 2023 Bobcats Annual Board Meeting Minutes

### **Attendees**

Board Members: Sue Ahlberg, Abbie Gentry, Linda Jagger, Susan Quechenberger, Rich Schiebel

Guests: Jim Guerra, Denver Counsel Liaison

The Zoom meeting started at 7pm on May 30, 2023. Susan recommended some basic ground rules for the discussion, and all board members were in agreement. The following agenda items were discussed:

### **1. Approval of the meeting minutes for the 2022 Bobcats Annual Board Meeting:**

The minutes were unanimously approved.

### **2. Follow up on open items from the 2022 Annual Board Meeting:**

- Trip leader criteria to maintain leader status: Susan Quechenberger decided not to report trip leader infractions to Claire Joseph. No further action needed.
- Bobcats Facebook page, content, maintenance: Item remains open. The board renewed discussion on this topic. Susan noted that last year Rich Schiebel had a number of ideas regarding the content and management of a Facebook page, and that he has the interest, knowledge and skills to manage such a project. Susan asked Rich to manage this effort, and Rich accepted. Rich informed the board that he would get back in touch once his assessment and proposal were completed. Susan asked that any board members who had an interest in helping should reach out to Rich directly. Jim Guerra offered to help and was willing to contact Bill Broderick to see if he would join in this effort.
- Archive of Bobcats newsletters on CMC website: Item was not discussed at the 2022 meeting, but has since been addressed, thanks to Abbie. No further action needed.

### **3. Recruitment for board positions:**

There are currently four open positions - Social Coordinator, Communications Manager, Newsletter Editor and Trip Leader Manager. Susan reported reaching out to twelve Bobcats trip leaders thus far, resulting in Michael Rees being interested in the Social Coordinator and Holly Myers being interested in the Communications Manager. Abbie has been working on recruiting as well. The board discussed both candidates, and both were approved. Susan will follow up with Holly and Michael to get them on board. All board members were encouraged to look for additional candidates for the remaining vacant positions.

#### **4. Trip registration timing:**

All board members agreed that the inability of the new website to handle a multitude of trip signups on a specific date and time was a major issue for both members and trip leaders. It was acknowledged that this is an organization wide issue and that the CMC was fully aware and working towards a resolution. In the meantime, all board members agreed that a change was needed to our current process for trip sign ups. Abbie provided background as to the origin of instituting the current practice, and noted that it is no longer relevant in the new system. The board unanimously agreed that going forward, all trip leaders would be free to select the date and time that each of their trips will be open for registration. This change was to take place immediately. Abbie offered to email all Bobcats trip leaders, followed by an email notification to all Bobcats members a few days later, followed by an announcement in the June Bobcats Newsletter. These notifications would also include information on how to set up notifications on the new website when Bobcats trips are posted. The board agreed that the Bobcats newsletter will still contain links to upcoming Bobcats trips, as that is a key component of our newsletter content and still valuable to our members.

#### **5. Onboarding new trip leaders:**

The board discussed having some additional requirements for onboarding new trip leaders. It was agreed that all new Bobcats trip leaders would be required to lead their first Bobcats trip with a Bobcats co-leader who would act as a mentor for the new trip leader. Secondly, any new trip leader must have attended 2-3 Bobcats trips prior to leading trips for our section.

#### **6. Set dates for 2023 picnic and trip leader meeting:**

Tentative dates were selected - August 26, 2023 for the annual picnic, and Jan 3, 2024 for the annual trip leader meeting

#### **7. Trip leader recognition:**

Rich shared information on how other CMC sections recognized their leaders, most notably the BPX section, and suggested that we follow suit. He shared some specific examples such as highlighting a specific leader and profiling trip leader production in our monthly newsletter, publicizing new trip leaders, and conducting personal outreach to acknowledge each leader's contributions. He noted that our annual trip leader meetings focus on being social and supportive. Susan pointed out that the deviation last year to provide support for trip leaders in navigating the new website was at the request of our trip leaders, and that feedback post meeting was positive.

## **8. FYI: WFA reprieve, 10 trips per year benefit, section membership counts:**

Susan shared the following information obtained at the recent Trip Leader Summit.

- For some trip leaders, the requirement for being up to date with WFA is being suspended for the remainder of 2023. This does not apply to BPX trip leaders, technical (scrambling, climbing) trip leaders, CMC class instructors, or CMC school directors. New requirements are expected to be published for 2024.
- The CMC will be waiving the annual membership fee for trip leaders who have completed 10 days of leading trips in the prior year. A successful completed three day backpacking trip counts for 3 days of leading trips..
- There is an organization wide issue with the inability to get correct member counts for the Denver sections. CMC management is currently working on this problem, but cannot yet provide a timeline for the resolution

## **9. Update from Denver Council:**

Jim confirmed that the FYI items discussed in agenda item 8 are also on the radar for the Denver Council. He informed us of the current lack of scholarship money for trip leaders to take classes that were necessary to retain their trip leader status. Jim also provided additional insight as to the potential changes for the WFA class offering and associated trip leader requirements

### **Action Items:**

- Susan will check with Michael Rees about the August 26th picnic date and reconnect with the board if the date needs to be changed
- Susan will follow up with Roberta to confirm that a trip leader will have their CMC membership dues waived if they lead 10 days of trips in the prior year
- Abbie will notify Bobcats members and trip leaders about the changes to our trip registration practices
- Rich will take the lead for identifying requirements and creating a plan for the implementation and ongoing management of a Facebook page for the Bobcats
- Susan will notify all four of our newly approved trip leader candidates as to the additional requirements for leading Bobcats trips
- Susan will take responsibility for onboarding Holly and Michael in their new board positions

The Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:40pm

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Jagger, Secretary

Susan Quechenberger, Co-Secretary