

EAGLECREST BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Meeting Minutes
Thursday January 3, 2019, 5:30pm
Room 224 City Hall

1. ROLL CALL

Those present were board members Mike Stanley, Mike Satre, Jon Dale, Stephanie Hoag, Bruce Garrison, Megan Gregory, Dave Hanna, and Manager Dave Scanlan. Assembly Member Rob Edwardson attended by telephone.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Bruce added discussion of new policy under new business. Stephanie moved to approve the agenda as amended, Dave seconded, and the agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 6th meeting minutes were approved as corrected after Dave moved to do so and Megan seconded the motion. Some formatting issues were corrected, and the reference to notes from the Eaglecrest Foundation was deleted; these will not be attached.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION Emily Palmer from the CBJ Parks and Recreation Board proposed a joint meeting with our board and theirs, if we are interested. They are currently working on a Master Plan of all facilities and also wondered if we talk about Dimond Field House operations at our meetings. Bruce responded that a joint meeting would be fine with a prearranged agenda, , and the Dimond Park Fieldhouse information is in the Manager's Report each month.

5. COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

a. Planning Committee Meeting

The meeting was held December 17. It's purpose was to receive information about the summer development proposal. The committee looked at various scenarios, and thought that a brand new gondola may not pay for itself, but that used equipment from Europe may be more feasible. A gondola initially might be a "heavy Lift". A Mountain Coaster pencils out well and might be a good first phase. The decision will need to be a matter for the assembly with public input. Dave will meet with JEDC and tourism operators this week to talk about their needs. The committee encouraged him to move forward with those decisions. We may contract with a third party to also run the numbers. The funding mechanism would be a general revenue bond. A coaster on federal land would require a lease, and that process would need to be started right away if we can't find an option to put it on city land.

6. MANAGERS REPORT (See report for complete information)

a. Financial Report

It was a great Christmas break week; conditions have been surprisingly good. Season passes and multi-visit tickets are still selling, bringing in \$31,000 over the two-week break. We have a net profit at present, and the staff is trying to keep expenses down.

Jon pointed out our increased food revenue this year with only 25% of previous year's expense.

Dave Hanna asked clarifying questions about patrol expense and complimented staff on getting the mountain open under challenging conditions.

b. Snowmaking Operations Update

There have only been 117 hours of snowmaking this season and with coming cold weather it should be possible to run snowmakers through Tuesday. The new pump house and lines are almost ready for pressure testing.

c. Mt Operations Update

Groomers are just starting to do minimal grooming. There is still an opening for another lift mechanic.

Stephanie asked about updating information on Nordic conditions. JNSC groomers communicate to staff when done grooming and there is a dedicated phone extension for Nordic conditions. If website and phone line are not updated, it probably means that no new grooming has been done. Dave will work with Charlie to find a way to communicate this better.

d. Events – see manager's report for December and January events.

e. Field House Update

There is a possibility of Parks and Rec taking over management of field house

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished Business

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. The Finance Committee Meeting was scheduled for January 31 at 5:30. The FY 20 Budget is due to CBJ Feb 15th

b. Policy. We have traditionally provided "comps" to construction companies, the Juneau Empire, and other volunteers and donors, etc. This is different from auction donations which come under advertising. These comps are more of an "in-kind" at general manager's discretion. We need to have a policy to help us to account for value of the comps. In the private sector it is not a problem, but with government employees there may be a problem accepting gifts.

Information about comps would also be good information to consider in future pricing.

Mike Stanley shared a draft policy, which we will take up at the next meeting, as follows:

“The manager is authorized to offer privileges at the ski area, including any of the current pass or product offerings, in recognition of significant volunteer efforts or in-kind contributions to the operations and success of the area. The manager shall keep a record of any privileges granted, and annually report them to the board. The privileges subject to this policy may be granted to current or former board members, but the policy shall not apply to the management of the ski area staff, which remains within the authority and discretion of the manager. “

- c. Dave Hanna brought up the idea of Mountain Host program. People who act as voluntary hosts to mountain. We could keep a roster of people willing to do that. We can think about it and discuss at the next meeting.

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Erin informed us that they do account for the value of the season pass perks, discounts, etc.

10. BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Stephanie: hears good things about what's happening at the mountain and thanks the staff. Jon appreciates snowmaking figures and would like to see the hours each month in the manager's report. Dave thanks the staff and is excited to see the parking video. Mike Satre is happy about all of the things happening. He is a little concerned about consistency of lift operators, and wants to see clean work areas. He thinks we are putting our best foot forward 99% of the time. Megan is excited about all of the marketing and looking forward to hearing about the roundtable with JEDC and to getting up on the mountain. Mike Stanley is getting used to the new website and liking it. He still wants to be sure we report to the assembly about snowmaking. He is impressed with how enthused all the skiers are in marginal conditions. It's a reminder of how important Eaglecrest is to the community. Rob has no Eaglecrest comments. Recruitment for assembly position has closed. Interviews will be on the 10th and that will be presented on the 14th at Assembly meeting. Bruce has skied more than the rest of us and offers kudos to the staff. He thinks it's a pleasant start to the year and wants to see proof of concept for snowmaking and wants to see the Black Bear chair run.

11. ADJOURNMENT – Next meeting date February 7th 2019 at 5:30 in room 224 city hall

Dave moved to adjourn, Jon seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:27.