

## Southwest Montana Climbers Coalition (SMCC)

Meeting April 13, 2004 – 5:30 pm

### **Board Members Present:**

Bill Dockins, Fred Donich, Pat Callis, Randall Green, Joe Josephson, Bill Claridge, Jim Earl.

### **Members Present:**

Aaron Hjelt, Wayne Harney, Kristen Drumheller, Alison Guri.

### **Agenda:**

1. A brief summary of significant developments since last meeting.
2. Staggering of Directors terms.
3. Signing of bylaws approved at last meeting.
4. Resignation of Treasurer and appointment of successor.
5. Treasurer's Report.
6. Discussion regarding fundraising and membership.

### **Previous Minutes:**

Minutes from the previous meeting March 10, 2004 were read. Bill Dockins motioned to approve minutes. Seconded by Joe Josephson, they were approved unanimously.

### **Developments –**

Bill Dockins, Bill Claridge and SMCC member Kris Erickson had previously met with adjacent landowner, Hilda Harper, and the BLM regarding access the popular "Allenspur" crag near Livingston. Ms. Harper agreed to offer an easement along the north end of her property. Surveyor, Barney Allen is donating his time to perform a "center line" survey. Trails coordinator, Geoff Heath, Kris Erickson and Jim Earl have begun working on the trail and replacing the bolt hangers that had been removed earlier in the year. Northern Lights donated 200 bolt hangers towards the project.

The SMCC Board agreed that we should all encourage climbers to not visit the Allenspur until the survey and easement papers are complete.

The landowner, Ms. Harper in accordance to her religious beliefs, firmly requested there be NO trail construction or route development on Saturdays. However, once the easement is in place, normal approaching and climbing Saturday is allowed. All those present at the meeting agreed to actively support this request.

It was agreed that all legal correspondence and documents currently outstanding will continue to be sent to Bill Dockin's office address. Bill Claridge motioned that all future mail and our published address should be sent to a P.O. Box in Bozeman. This was seconded by Fred Donich and approved unanimously. Joe Josephson agreed to secure a box at the Bozeman Babcock Station and Fred Donich offered to donate the first year rent, estimated to be \$68.

It was announced that Jim Earl has donated his time and web server space to create, and manage [www.swmtcc.org](http://www.swmtcc.org) as well as an email mailing system through mailer.mailer.com.

### **Director's Terms –**

In order to create a system of staggered terms, Bill Dockins motioned for a resolution to the by-laws that four directors serve one-year terms. This was seconded by Randall Green and passed unanimously. Fred Donich, Bill Dockins, Joe Josephson, and Randall Green were appointed with one-year terms. All other board members have two-year terms.

### **Signing By-Laws –**

All Board members present signed the incorporation document as prepared by Bill Dockins. The remaining required signatures from Tom Kalakay and HJ Schmidt would be finalized at a later date.

### **Treasurer Replacement –**

Earlier in the day, Bill Dockins resigned as Treasurer. Bill Claridge volunteered as the replacement and was approved unanimously.

Bill's Treasurer's Report gave a bank balance of \$862 with one outstanding Accounts Payable of \$52 to Aaron Hjelt.

### **Membership –**

Bill Dockins began the membership discussion by outlining the requirements according to the bylaws. In summary, there were three primary requirements for membership: first, the SMCC is open to anyone with an interest in climbing in Southwest Montana; second, a written application must be submitted; third, there will be annual dues, if required by the Board.

Bill Dockins showed the group three sample applications from other climbing groups around the country. It was clarified that a basic form with boilerplate language about an interest in climbing in Southwest Montana along with contact information and a signature will cover the first two points above. Randall Green motioned we should have a nominal membership fee. This was seconded by Bill Claridge and passed unanimously.

Numerous membership structures were proposed with all members present offering constructive feedback and a spirited discussion. Joe Josephson motioned we adopt the following membership structure. This was seconded by Pat Callis and unanimously approved:

**Individual Membership: \$10 per year.**

**Corporate Membership: \$100 per year.**

**Membership Year: September 1 through August 31.**

**As per the by-laws we are required to conduct an open membership meeting every year during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in May. It was noted that this would give us little time to prepare for this years meeting.**

**Bill Dockins motioned the first membership meeting will be held "sometime in 2004. All subsequent meetings will be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in May." This was seconded by Pat Callis and unanimously approved.**

It was agreed that a membership application needs to be created and should include the points mentioned above as well as the option for additional donations. Jim Earl offered to create a "stop-gap" form for an upcoming slide show event.

It should be noted that several membership ideas were discussed and tabled for discussion at a future date. These concepts were: the creation of a "Lifetime" membership, negotiating

discounts at local retailers for SMCC members, and specific membership cards (perhaps donated by a local printing business).

Various database and membership list organization methods were discussed. Joe Josephson, membership coordinator, will work with Jim Earl and Alison Guri on membership list maintenance options.

#### **Fundraising –**

Aaron Hjelt, past organizer of the MSU Climbing Club, generously offered to turn several long-standing events over to SMCC management. These include: “The Best of Bozeman” slide show (5<sup>th</sup> Annual in 2004), “Tour de Hyalite” (16<sup>th</sup> Annual in 2004), Bouldering Competition (3<sup>rd</sup> Annual in 2004), and the “Baldy Blitz”. The Board unanimously agreed to provide the support and time to assist Aaron in transitioning these events into fundraising efforts for the SMCC.

Joe Josephson agreed to talk to Barrel Mountaineering in regards to continuing the private ice climbing guide days in association with the November Ice Festival. In 2003, it was very successful with Jack Tackle and Joe Josephson, through Barrel, contributing a majority of their guide’s wage to the SMCC.


Other fundraising ideas were: silent auctions, an annual organized gear sale to compliment the local “ski swap,” and bubble gum machines *vis a vis* Wild Iris in Lander, WY.

#### **Adjournment –**

No future meeting date was set and the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm in time for the Forest Service slide show on trail building and the 2003 volunteer efforts with the SMCC.

*Will Shoutis, Trails Supervisor for the Bozeman Ranger District, Gallatin National Forest gave a 45-minute power point presentation and passed out volunteer forms. The meeting was very successful with an impressive number of SMCC members attending. Thirty-two people were on hand for the presentation and the question and answer period that followed. Mr. Shoutis is personally very committed to cooperating with volunteer groups like the SMCC and is working hard to help make unique projects like the recent Gallatin Tower Trail a reality. Upcoming work of interest to climbers in the 2004 summer includes; completing the Tower Trail and upgrading the River Trail (from the 35 mph Bridge to Squaw Creek). Improvement of the River Trail is the first step in the process in getting approval for better climber trails to crags like Black Line Buttress.*

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Josephson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Joe Josephson, Secretary.