

MINUTES  
ABSF Board of Directors Meeting  
December 3, 2018  
3:00 PM ABSF Office

Board Members present: Paul Eckerline, Mike Brown, Jeff Tumbleson, Sue Scheer, Tom Duffy, John Kotar  
Digitally present: Mike Mandli, Charlie Dee, Jan Guenther, Kathy Pautsh  
Absent: Yuriy Gusev, Brett Rondeau, Dennis Kruse,  
Staff Present: Ben Popp  
Call to order: 3:05 PM

Approval of Agenda: Duffy move, Scheer, second. **Approved**

Approval of Minutes from October 15, 2018: Mandli moved, Duffy second.  
**Approved**

President's Comments: Paul Eckerline

- Thanks for a great year.
- Executive Session. Board and Executive Director went into executive session. No decisions were made.
- Issue we need to explore: What is the role of the Competition Committee? It hasn't met for several years. We may want to change its focus from World Loppet to other matters. Ben and Paul will discuss with Dennis when he gets back to town.

Executive Director's Report: Ben Popp

- Registration numbers: 9600 for Birkie week races, a pace way ahead of last year. We can take 900-1000 more for the combination of races. The Birkie itself will reach capacity soon.
- The Women's Ski Clinic is going to be huge as Cindy Swift and Jan Guenther have organized well.
- The Women's Fast Bike clinic is full and we have a sponsor. Key factor is that due to our snow making, we can guarantee snow for the event.
- We've now taken over Nordic Kids as part of our Sports Development. It serves 150+ kids.
- The Trail Pass situation this year has become cumbersome since we instituted the early season pass. It's been confusing for people. So we have a plan for next year that will be much more user friendly: a Ski Season Pass We'll get ahead of that for next year by creating an All-Access Pass as well as a ski pass.

- Over the weekend our crew was able to seal the pipes connected the high capacity well at Telemark to our snow guns at the start line. So we'll start making snow again at a much faster rate.
- Kikkan Randle will on hand for Birkie week, 2019. We'll, raffle off one of her signed bibs. Worldloppet President Juha Viljamaa from World Loppet will also be here and ski the Korteloppet.
- Our goal for opening OO as venue is Thursday, Dec. 20. We're almost most done at this point. We've put together a rental calendar and will start marketing that in the future.
- Our staff spent a lot of time fixing the lights at Fish Hatchery.
- Bids for the Becker Law Link tunnel at the trail crossing for Highway 77 went out, and once they're in, we'll be able to judge whether a bridge or tunnel is a better deal.

## Committee Reports

### Finance: Brown

- P&L summary has new section to try to answer questions. We are trying to work out the best metrics to be reported out to the board.
- No big new stories. \$1.16 M surplus at this time, with \$600,000 in bank.
- We'll get financial invoices from OO building soon, so when we can pay those out we'll know exactly how much under budget we came in on this project.

### Trail Committee: Mandli

No report

### Documentation: Dee

Bylaw Proposal (proposed changes in red):

#### Article I

Section 2. Nondiscrimination. The American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation does not discriminate on the basis of race, physical handicap, sex, color, religion, sexual orientation, **national origin, marital status** or age and is committed to a policy of fair representation on the board of directors.

Dee moved, Scheer second. **Approved.**

### Skier Development: Guenther

Competition: Kruse  
No report

Old Business

New Business  
None

Adjournment: Duffy moved. **Acclimation.**