

## **MINUTES**

ABSF Board of Directors Meeting

Monday June 20, 2022

3:00 PM

Samuel Johnson Outdoor Center at OO

**Board Members Present:** Paul Eckerline, Jeff Tumbleson, Tom Duffy, Kathie Pautsch, Mike Mandli, Sue Scheer, Yuri Gusev, Jan Guenther, Madelaine Rekemeyer

**Electronically present:** Charlie Dee, Kris Bjerkness, Bill Brown, Karen Manske

**Staff Present:** Ben Popp, Jimmy Sokup

**Approval of Agenda:** Bjerkness move. Pautsch second. **Approved.**

**Approval of Minutes** from May 16, 2022 meeting: Mandli move. Dee second. **Approved.**

**President's Comments:** Paul Eckerline

- Madelaine Rekemeyer was introduced as our newest board member. She is appointed to the ABSF BOD as our Bayfield County Representative. She is also on the Board of Supervisors for Bayfield County and was welcomed by all.

**Jimmy Sokup:**

- ABSF Director of Facilities and Operations was introduced to those who have not yet met him. His responsibility includes the entire trail system, facilities, and infrastructure. He presented a power point that outlined the goals for the 2022-2023 season and beyond. The Birkie is all about the trail and long term trail stability is a top priority.

- Highlights from his excellent presentation:
  - Recent trail clean up days in May were very successful.
  - Working with Birkie One committee to open 3K trail at LCO prior to Honor the Earth Day in July.
  - Birkie Green is a high priority in all endeavors.
  - LWC bleachers have been replaced.
  - Building a new storage unit by Wheeler Road where a piston bully (among many other things) will be stored.
  - Building a new arch at the Birkie Trailhead and at the Prince Haakon start area.
  - Remodel of the Birkie Headquarters in Hayward.
  - Many things happening in the near future at Mount Telemark including an Observation Tower; 5K paved trail/roller ski loop; mountain bike trails (working with Camba to align new trails with the existing network including a pump track); adding another 1.5K to the World Cup trails to make a 5K course; 5K snowmaking loop.

### **Executive Director's Comments: Ben Popp**

- Ben sent out a detailed written report prior to the meeting. Let him know if there are questions.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Finance: Kris Bjerkness**

- The final 2022-2023 budget was presented. Kris thanked the staff for the great job they did putting this together.
  - \$5.5M Revenue is projected.
  - \$4.6M Expenses is projected.
  - Surplus projected to be \$886K.

He pointed out the \$902K of restricted donation/grant income may not be spent during this fiscal year.

Increases in event revenue go directly to event expenses; remainder of increased revenue goes to trail improvements, capital expenses, addition of 3 FTE's, and marketing and promotion.

- **Motion:** ABSF BOD approves the proposed 2022-2023 budget. Bjerkness move. Pautsch second. **Approved** unanimously.

### **Telemark Capital Campaign:** Bill Brown

- Now that Phase 1 of the Capital Campaign is completed, the second phase will focus on development (redevelopment of Telemark). Proposing that the current fundraising committee be changed to the ABSF Development Committee with Bill Brown as leader. This committee would:
  - provide oversight and engagement with all development activities.
  - work with Andrew Wall to determine overall strategy and long-term plan.
  - be a mixture of board members and general committee members.
  - provide alignment between the board and staff.
  - move forward with Phase 2 strategy with the first priority being the construction of an outdoor recreational building (Base Camp).

**Motion:** Move to create the ABSF Development Committee as defined above. Guenther move. Duffy second. **Passes** unanimously.

- Discussed that the work of the Telemark Futures Committee is completed.

### **Documentation Committee:** Charlie Dee

- No report

### **Competition Committee/World Cup Update:** Ben Popp

- No new information. Deadline for a decision to host a 2024 World Cup event is October, 2022

**Birkie One:** Jeff Tumbleson

- Work continues to complete the trail at LCO. Also focusing on how to pull more people/diversity into the Birkie organization. Looking at doing community outreach (LCO College felt to be a good resource).

**New Business:**

- There will be no July meeting.
- The August meeting is our ABSF Annual Meeting on Saturday August 13, 2022.
- Next board meeting is Monday September 19, 2022 3PM, location to be determined.

**Motion** to adjourn: Duffy move. **Adjournment** at 4:55 PM by acclamation.