

Sundown Ski Patrol Board of Directors Minutes Regular Meeting: January 7, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. K. Kostuk, Patrol Director presiding.

Present Board Members: Present Board Members: K Kostuk, S. Dawick, L. Boyd, N. Wardrop, B. Garfield, M. Loparco, T. Kim, T. Philpin, Ronell DeNegre, Chris Warren

Absent: B. Polio, J. Scarcella

Non-members: J. Barter

K. Kostuk, Patrol Director: no comments

Minutes of December 2019 were reviewed; B. Garfield, motion to accept, M. Loparco, 2nd. All in favor, motion carries.

S. Dawick, Assistant P.D.: The schedule is set. We are struggling on a few afternoon shifts. The new sign in sheets are working well. T. Philpin raised the question of how people who work two consecutive shifts or a sub who only works one of the shifts should sign in. K. Kostuk expressed the patroller would sign in and sign out according to the time which would reflect the shift. Substitutes should note the time they are covering. J. Barter suggested adding additional space or blank pages for additional notes. M. Loparco suggested adding the radio log to the sign in sheet. J. Barter mentioned the instructors for the candidate classes need to have a space to sign out a radio. K. Kostuk addressed the "Anchor Shift" for people who have jobs, which require shift flexibility. They need to tie down to a shift. S. Dawick has had discussions with these people. We have many patrollers who seem to be working random shifts. He are not in favor of the 4-9 shift. It leaves the shifts short for sweep at the end of the night. M. Loparco mentioned that there is a patroller who states she is not assigned to a shift but is allowed to dropping in. S. Dawick stated all patrollers need to have at least an anchor shift then fill in an additional day shift. K. Kostuk will speak to the patroller involved and get a commitment.

Treasurer Report: L. Boyd presented report for December 2019. R. DeNegre motion to accept, B. Garfield, 2nd, all in favor, motion carries. An annual report is in progress. It needs to be lined up with the fiscal year. This year's swap numbers were added to the report. The report is preliminary numbers. L. Boyd will be confirming the numbers with J. Sagretta. Report was distributed for review. M. Loparco questioned what was included in "other expenses" for the swap because there is a 40% increase. L. Boyd stated the new computer system and printers for the swap account for the additional expense. B. Garfield stated this is a one-time expense and should not be seen in the upcoming years. B. Garfield talked with Ski tunes today. They have not made payment of their percentage of the outdoor business from the swap. They will be making it soon. J. Barter questioned where the money from donations is noted. L. Boyd and B. Garfield stated the donations are incorporated into the revenue. K. Kostuk will invite J. Sagretta to the next Steering Committee meeting.

Committee Reports:

- 1. Medical supplies/Oxygen:** B. Martin: Inventory was taken. An order will be submitted including Oxygen.
- 2. Toboggans:** N. Bird: K. Kostuk reported there is one toboggan that needs to have handles repaired. N. Bird is working on it.
- 3. Radios:** J. Cegelka: Repeaters were installed on Thursday. Radios were reprogrammed. There was an issue and the radios were reprogrammed again on Friday. Tests were done on Tuesday by J. Cegelka and J. Olson. The coverage and reception all over the mountain is better. K. Kostuk

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mentioned the number of channels has grown. He will speak to D. Wolf regarding the abundance of channels. K. Kostuk will also speak to D. Wolf because the two base radios have not been reprogrammed. T. Philpin stated he was here on Friday when they were programming and was told the company did not have the software to program the base radios. T. Philpin mentioned the Kenwood radios have four channels and the fourth one is not being utilized. He recommended the fourth channel could be used as for the radios to communicate to each other especially if they were taken to an off-site incident. K. Kostuk stated there is supposed to be a "talk around" already set. K. Kostuk stated the radios are not supposed to leave the site.

4. **Lift Evacuation:** C. Boyd: Not Present. No report.

5. **Nominating Committee:** J. Barter: R. Coffey would like to be considered for the steering committee next opening. L. Boyd said J. Rigby expressed interest in being on the steering committee. N. Wardrop stated G. Bruhin is also interested.

6. **Building Committee:** B. Garfield: K. Kostuk reported people are opening the thermostat in top shack and adjusting the temperature. He will look into alternative methods of control. L. Boyd suggested moving the key to the bottom shack. M. Loparco questioned the state of replacement of the heater in top shack. K. Kostuk stated management looked at it and felt it was functioning well. There is no need for replacement. There are new propane tanks but they have not been set up in sequential order.

7. **Finance Committee:** D. Ohanesian, L. Boyd, R. Coffey, J. Scarcella. Not Present. No report.

8. **Equipment:** Empty: No Report.

9. **Food Services:** C. Morris: Not Present. No Report. K. Kostuk stated C. Morris has taken inventory and placed an order.

10. **SWAP:** B. Garfield: covered in Treasurer's report.

11. **Web Pages:** H. Bender, R. Stevenson: Not Present. T. Philpin stated the sub requests cannot be seen on mobile phone apps. He suggested we have a computer in the base station for the hill captains to see substitute requests. L. Boyd stated we could use one of the old laptops that was provided free for the swap trials. S. Dawick was concerned patrollers would become consumed with computer use during shift. K. Kostuk said we could try it.

12. **OEC:** N. Wardrop: Six candidates are approved to begin OEC on the hill Thursday January 9. There are two additional candidates who were not successful in testing. One candidate was unsuccessful in the skills evaluation and did not take the scenario testing. One candidate was unsuccessful in the scenario evaluation. N. Wardrop expressed the option to allow the 2 unsuccessful candidates to participate in the OEC on the hill in order to prepare for a re-test with the Steering Committee approval. Steering committee approved.

13. **OET:** J. Barter: There are twelve Candidates in class this year. Seven have gone through OEC this year. Three are three YAP's who are children of patrollers. One is a mountain host. One is a previous mountain host. J. Barter is making a few changes to the curriculum. Mt Host have

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expressed an interest in being able to run an empty sled to an accident scene. In order for them to do that they need to complete the OET program which is currently full. J. Barter is not sure it would be beneficial to the patrol to fill our OET program with MT Host who would only be able to bring an empty sled to a scene. M. Loparco stated it could be a benefit for shifts that are lightly staffed. J. Barter stated it would be better for them to become a patroller. T. Philpin instructs his Mt. Hosts to bring a ready bag to the scene if there is an incident. K. Kostuk and J. Barter agree at this point Mt. Host will not be trained to run empty sleds. J. Barter stated starting with OET makes the commitment 18 months. It is reinforced that candidates starting with OET are expected to go forward with OEC. T. Philpin suggested candidates starting with OET pay in advance for their OEC program so they are committed. L. Boyd asked if anyone had taken the OET and not continued with the OEC. J. Barter stated last year there were two candidates who started with OET, Only one continued (50%). This year we currently have three YAPS starting with OET who are children of patrollers. There is a strong feeling it would be beneficial to have a method for testing people's ski abilities prior to the classes. Possibly marketing material could state we need to evaluate the ski level. L. Boyd stated the patrol has taken many people and taught or improved their skiing. J. Barter mentioned that we are fortunate to have many good instructors who can bring candidates up to a competent level. M. Loparco stated it is not our job to teach people how to ski. It is our job to teach them to be a Ski Patroller. R. DeNegre asked if we could make more effort to recruit in the winter months so we can test them. The suggestion was made to pick one night and have the people come out and be tested. T. Philpin stated we could have posters up in the lodge right now. K. Kostuk will talk to management regarding promotional material.

14. Legal Advisor: G. Cantwell: Not Present. No Report.

15. Medical Advisor: S. Goldblatt: Not Present. No Report.

16. Scheduling: S. Dawick: Comments in Assistant Patrol Director report.

New Business:

Toboggan Return to top of hill – K. Kostuk brought up the subject of returning toboggans to the top of the mountain. It was noted the primary method of returning toboggans to the top of the hill is utilizing a carrier. J. Barter stated both lapping and with a carrier are trained and are acceptable. K. Kostuk would like to see lapping done away with completely, not even taught. There is an issue on lift one because it is completely open to the public coming down exhibition from the bottom to the tree line. Our chairs are not designed to be sitting with a toboggan on your lap and hold on to the safety bar down from the bottom of the lift to the top. We trained on how to lap a toboggan long before we had the carriers. We now have six carriers. K. Kostuk would like to have a vote by the committee that we do away with lapping toboggans. M. Loparco stated he agrees in theory but feels people should have the skill to do it in the event they are the only person available. J. Barter suggested meeting in the middle by putting in the stipulation if people are going to lap the toboggan they must have two patrollers. M. Loparco suggested lapping not be allowed on lift one. K. Kostuk restated lapping not be allowed on lift one. It must be done with a carrier. Lift two lapping could be allowed. J. Barter asked if anyone was aware of any incident where a patroller lost a sled on the lifts, with exception to the night of the lift evacuation. K. Kostuk stated "Not yet". T. Philpin questioned why we would even want to keep lapping as an option when there are carriers available other than the fact that we have done it this way in the past. C. Warren stated we have patrollers who have been lapping the sleds all of their careers and change does not come easy. M. Loparco stated there could be a speed issue if a carrier is not available at the bottom of the lift. J. Barter mentioned loading a toboggan with a carrier on lift 2 is difficult. T. Philpin made a motion that we disallow the practice of lapping toboggans. C. Warren second. J. Barter stated

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we are going to have to retrain a lot of patroller because there are some who have never used the handle carriers. He suggested to amending the motion to start next ski season so people have an opportunity to prepare and train for the change. T. Philpin withdrew his motion. J. Barter suggested we discuss the toboggan transport with the patrollers on our shifts. K. Kostuk suggested we table this until next meeting. B. Garfield stated the people who are lapping the toboggans are the people who are comfortable doing it. J. Barter stated it could be effective immediately that two patrollers are required if you are lapping the toboggan. R. DeNegre made a motion two patrollers are required to lap a toboggan. C. Warren does not feel it is right to make an immediate change. He likes the concept but does not feel this is the way to initiate the change. R. DeNegre withdrew the motion. K. Kostuk proposed the way forward is to talk with the patrollers on your shifts to gain their input. T. Philpin suggested K. Kostuk send out an e-mail blast on the subject.

Old Business:

Policy and Procedures: K. Kostuk sent out the updated Policy and Procedures last month. The intent was for people to look at it so we could vote on it this meeting. L. Boyd asked what updates or changes were contained in it. K. Kostuk responded it has been unchanged and was updated with the current date for approval. M. Loparco made a motion to accept the Policy and Procedures Manual as it is written. B. Garfield, second. All in favor, motion carries.

ICS 100: K. Kostuk stated all patrollers have been registered.

Patroller Uniform: S. Dawick brought up the fact that we have two patrollers who have not completed the OET portion of the course who are wearing red jackets with white crosses. These people cannot cover top shack or pull a toboggan. It messes with the schedule because they are not full patrollers. We need to stop this practice. Only fully certified Alpine patrollers should be wearing red jackets with white crosses. N. Wardrop stated according to Sundown Ski Patrol protocol you must pass OEC, OET and outdoor OEC to qualify to wear a red jacket with a white cross. J. Barter and S. Dawick agree this has been discussed before and is in the minutes. K. Kostuk stated this is also national NSP requirement. J. Barter mentioned the two people in conversation should be tested within 10 days and will be full alpine patrollers. Additionally according to NSP you are a "Patroller" once you pass OEC. You are not an "Alpine Patroller" until you pass OEC and OET. L. Boyd questioned the fact that Mt. Hosts are wearing red jackets. K. Kostuk stated they bought their own. K. Kostuk explained Mt. Host are supposed to be actively engaged on the mountain and report to the hill captain. It is up to the hill captain to get them out on the mountain.

T. Kim made a motion to adjourn at 2044 p.m. C. Warren, 2nd, all in favor, motion carries.

Next steering committee meeting is Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancie Wardrop, Secretary