



**Bridger Bowl Association
Fall Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2015 7 p.m.
Jim Bridger Lodge, Bridger Bowl**

BOARD MEMBERS

Present: Randy Elliott, General Manager; Dave Ballinger, Treasurer; Steve Pohl, Julie Bennett, Kelly Wiseman, Robb Larson, Diane Allen, Doug Mavor, Martha Collins, Mark Manseau, Pat Hoffman

CALL TO ORDER

Steve called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. He introduced himself and the other board members, Julie Bennett, Vice President and Finance Committee Chair; Kelly Wiseman, Secretary and BCPOA Representative; Robb Larson, Long Range Planning Committee Chair; Diane Allen, Customer Service Committee Chair; Doug Mavor, Transportation Committee Chair; Mark Manseau, ADA Committee Chair; Martha Collins and Pat Hoffman. He also introduced Randy Elliott, Vice President of Operations; Dave Ballinger, Treasurer; and Lindsay Korth, Recording Secretary.

MINUTES

The 2015 Spring Association meeting minutes were circulated for review. Sheila Harr moved to approve the minutes; Marshall Bennett seconded the motion. Vote taken, all in favor; minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Dave Ballinger

Dave presented a slideshow, prepared by Amatics CPA Group, displaying each retail departments' revenues for the 2014-15 ski season. Copies of Bridger Bowl's Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activities were distributed. Dave detailed income and expenses for the summer and fall months. Bridger Bowl is in a strong financial position for the upcoming 2015-16 ski season. Snowsports is doing better than the years past even with fewer days this season. Dave explained that the budgeted gain/loss on timber sales was a loss this year due to the low price of timber. He also circulated charts with data and comparisons of skier visits, ticket sales, Bridger Bowl income, etc. over the last thirty years. Dave is available in his office or by phone and email if members have questions.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Steve Pohl

Financials – Steve noted that Bridger's net income is higher than it has ever been at this time of year.

Cell Service – Atlas Tower did not submit their application for cell service; there will not be cell service at Bridger this season.

Possible Lodge Expansion – The board hired Bechtel Architects to plan the potential expansion of the Saddle Peak Lodge. They have visited Bridger a couple of times and have begun the planning process. The Long Range Planning Committee will meet with them next week.

MANAGER'S REPORT – Randy Elliott

Conditions – Randy reported that the snow we received in November helped, but the warm temperatures have been melting it away. Snowmaking will start when the temperatures get colder.

Staff – Randy introduced the employees that were present: Jim Walker, Duban Guererro and Andy Van from Food Service; they had a very busy wedding season and are currently hiring employees for the winter.

Doug Richmond and Pete Maleski from Ski Patrol; patrollers just finished three days of medical training; they have three more days of avalanche and other outdoor training. Pete was one of the three patrollers that attended the National Avalanche School this year in Snowbird, UT. Dave Ballinger and Lindsay Korth from Administration; they keep busy. Emily Lind and Erin O'Connor from Marketing; Doug Wales is at another function. Dan Boehmer from Lift Operations; Dan does miscellaneous painting projects in the summers, currently he is working on hiring and training new employees. John VanHouten and Jason Prasek from Grooming and Slope Maintenance; they had an active summer cleaning up dead and dying trees, John also spends a lot of time working on our weed control program. Joe O'Brien from Lift Maintenance; they upgraded the Sunnyside quad lift by putting in a new drive and motor, and replaced the motors in the Powder Park and Alpine lifts as well. Jeff Abelin from the Season Pass Office; Jeff helped bury fiber between SPL and JBL to enable computers to communicate better between the buildings. Bob Petitt is joining the team; he will be taking on Risk Management duties this upcoming season.

Summer Projects – There was a lot of money and effort put in to the parking lots; people should notice a difference with the amount of mud that accumulates in the winter months. Most of the expense for the upgraded motors on the lifts was covered by warranty; however, Bridger paid extra for a ceramic bearing.

Past Board Members – Randy asked all of the past board members to stand; members thanked them for their service.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Long Range Planning – Robb reported that the board hired Bechtel Architects, by recommendation from himself and the other committee members, Steve, Doug and Martha, to work on the potential Saddle Peak Lodge expansion. The updated Master Plan is online under the "What's New" link on www.bridgerbowl.com; note that not every item on the plan will be implemented immediately. The committee is talking with the Forest Service, cycling community and backcountry equestrians regarding summer activities. The Long Range Planning Committee is also focusing on dealing with the overwhelming growth in Bozeman. Association members discussed the potential issues Bridger could face with the added population; board members encourage dialogue from everyone to help brainstorm. The construction of the proposed Beginner Area will likely be scheduled for the 2017-18 ski season.

Transportation – Doug explained that the committee focuses on how people get to Bridger Bowl and where they park when they get here. Last year Bridger added 275 parking spaces in A Lot and instituted the carpool parking incentive. This year, Bridger is offering a nearly doubled expansion of the Streamline bus service; it will depart hourly from the Fairgrounds, in addition to MSU. The board is hoping that Bozeman will do their part in helping low carbon emissions by carpooling or taking the busses. Association members discussed the new bus schedule; replacing the K-Mart pickup location with MSU will likely fill the bus up quicker. Many ideas were discussed regarding how to control the parking and skier population on busy days. Members also discussed rapid growth in Bozeman and the many aspects in which it will affect Bridger Bowl. Communication of ideas amongst each other is important.

CROSSCUT RANCH

Eric Love introduced himself and Stuart Jennings. They gave a brief history of Bohart Ranch, the Crosscut Ranch and the Bridger Biathlon Club. The biathlon club is a 501(c)(3) organization that entered in to a 3-year lease purchase contract to acquire the Crosscut Ranch Property. They went through their provisional plan for the area. Currently, the club plans to build a mountain sports training center on the property. Eric stated that they plan to collaborate with Bridger Bowl as much as possible, specifically with traffic and parking. The Bridger Biathlon Club needs to raise \$7 million by December 2017; \$4.8 million will purchase the Crosscut Ranch, leaving the remaining funds to purchase Bohart Ranch. The Bridger Canyon Property Owners have not shown any opposition to the project as of now. They have a lot of long-range ideas that will require a lot of philanthropic fundraising.

FOUNDATION – Marshall Bennett

Marshall reported that the Foundation provided 206 scholarships for area youth and families during the 2014-15 ski season; the scholarships include the child's ticket, rental and lesson fees. The number of awarded scholarships each season has remained consistent. The Foundation is still accepting donations for tiles in the Alpine Cabin. At a MSU Bobcat football game, the Foundation board and their families parked cars in the parking lot as a fundraiser and raised over \$4,000. The annual BSF Ski Swap brought in just over \$1,000 in donations from the Bridger Bowl Lost & Found. Marshall thanked the members and their spouses for their efforts. The Foundation's financial situation looks positive for the upcoming season.

NEW BUSINESS

Bridger Canyon P & Z Committee – Kelly reported that the committee is rewriting the zone code for the Bridger Canyon. The first public forum is this upcoming Thursday, Nov 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fire Station.

New Members – Kelly presented the following membership applications for ratification: Thor Arnold, Russell Ashby, Kristin Chester-Vance, Tim Conlan, Alan Crawford, Reilly Decker, Lynn Flaming, Dave Foster, Margaret Foster, Stephen Guggenheim, Hannah Gullickson, George Hogan, Doug Hulstrand, Joe O'Brien, Jeremiah Johnson, Ray Jones, Sheri Klas, Brian Krueger, Heidi Lea, Chris Leoniak, Lain Leoniak, Iain Massucci, Walker Milhoan, Whitney Milhoan, Colton Moore, Andy Mudd, Eric Neilson, Erin O'Connor, Lera O'Sullivan, Matthew O'Sullivan, Clayton Peacock, Mark Pesa, Mark Pratt, Christopher Rich, Todd Scott, Darin Shepherd, Jennifer Stark, Jeremy Stark, Mitch Steckmest, Craig Vanderland, Helen Vanderland, Joe Nicolas Wagner, Andrew Waters and Alex Wilson. Gary Andrews moved to ratify the new members; Mike Reilly seconded the motion. Vote taken, all in favor; Motion carried and memberships approved.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Steve welcomed a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sonja Berg moved the meeting be adjourned, Theresa Larson seconded the motion. Vote taken, all in favor. Steve adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.



STEVE POHL, PRESIDENT



KELLY WISEMAN, SECRETARY