

THE BIRCHLEGGINGS CLUB INC

Our purpose: To contribute support of the American Birkebeiner Cross country Ski Race and promote healthy life styles by encouraging participation in outdoor physical activities.

Annual Meeting and Board of Directors Election
September 30, 2016

Gale Otterholt, President, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm at the Birkie office, Hayward, Wisconsin.

Board members present: Gale Otterholt, Steve Carmazon, Dave Balsiger, Toni Popp, Tom Rowley, Connie Meek, Jim Tenorio, Edward Eroo (by video conference call)

Not present: Don Becker

Also present: John Kotar

The minutes from the January meeting were read and approved.

The treasurer's report was received and approved. We have now paid \$23,000 toward the Mosquito Brook Hut. We're halfway there!

Old Business:

Birkie Expo: Discussion focused around how to staff the Expo table. A motion was made and seconded to have a partially unstaffed informational booth this year. Board members will help with the booth, and further operational plans can be addressed at the January meeting.

Membership incentives: Ideas for encouraging members to join or renew membership in the Club were discussed. Members will be urged to join to become eligible for prizes in a random drawing, similar to last year. It was agreed that all paid members' names would go into the drawing once for each paid year. Dave and Ed will develop for this effort.

New Business:

Tony Wise Proposed Statue: Allison has a number of donors that are interested in donating to the Birchleggings Club for the purpose of making the Tony statue a reality. There are many details to work out. A motion was made and seconded that the board was in favor of looking into this carefully, proceeding with caution, and seeking outside help when necessary. Motion carried. A subcommittee including Gale, Jim, and John Kotar will proceed with looking into this further, involving Allison, and working with the ABSF staff.

Mosquito Brook Cabin: The board discussed possible ways to present Birchleggings info, both inside and outside the hut, in an effort to share information about the club with all skiers. Some suggestions were using signs, pictures/or plaques. Jim will talk with Allison about this and come back with suggestions.

Birchleggings Clothing: Steve reported on the collection of Birchleggings clothing available through Swix. Swix offers to return 10% of sales to the BL Club. Partnering with Swix is a possibility, but details would need to be worked out. Currently BL logo skiwear is available on the Mt. Borah website. A motion was made and seconded to continue with Mt. Borah and pursue Swix with the understanding that our relationship with Mt. Borah would continue for at least one year. Motion carried.

Handling of Birchleggings Awards and Awards Breakfast Invitation: There was discussion surrounding the changes that took place last year concerning the transition of the BL awards to the ABSF. Concerns were raised about the breakfast invitation letter and other changes. Tom will talk with ABSF about writing and sending the letter of invitation, handing out of awards on race day, and helping with shipping out awards that are not picked up.

Election of Board Members: Gale Otterholt presided over the election of board members. The incumbents, Dave Balsiger, Steve Carmazon and Toni Popp were reelected.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2017, 2:00 pm at the Birkie office in Hayward.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Submitted by Toni Popp
September 30, 2016