

**General Meeting January 8, 2013**

**At the Long Ridge Tavern**

**Meeting began 7:50**

Introduction by John Olshan

Update on board activities (Lori)

* Nov, Dec & Jan Board activities

Treasurer’s report (Tom)

* John & Tom working on the last touches for the finance report. We have a consolidated 6 months through December ready to go and should be posted by the end of the week.
* We need some more income! We need a good Jan Feb & March to restock the bank account.
* We have approximately $20k in the bank account now.
* Income really just began in December. Big bills come in September.
* Every bill that we can pay on line is paid that way. We’re trying to move all of the bills to on line pay.
* We had some big bills recently - $3,900 to stock the kitchen. $1,200 to clean lodge & wash dishes.
* Treasurer’s role has a long learning curve!

Lodge had no oil, Internet or garbage pick up the last week in December.

* Lodge oil tanks are new. Oil delivery should be delivered on a schedule per the provider.
* Comcast’s Internet account was in Peter Buck’s name. It needed to be closed and open a new account in RHSC name. The bill was sent to the lodge address. We’ve transitioned the account to a phone, long distance & internet.
* Garbage is picked up on Saturdays unless we schedule another pick up. We need a bigger bin – that won’t be provided by the garbage pick up contractor. We will schedule additional pick-ups for holiday weeks.

Operations (John filled in for Curtis)

* We have a vermin problem at the moment. This is a seasonal problem.
* Pest controls in the basement are big! We need parents to keep children away from the traps/poison.
* Bin rentals – we have squatters! Bins are not a privilege. This is a small source of revenue for the club. We’ll send reminders out & then have to evict people who haven’t paid.

Maintenance report (John filled in for Bob)

* Lodge is in great shape. Bob somehow balanced the heat.

Activities and Programs

* Race Weekend – January 25 & 26th. Race = 26th at Pico. We have 25 people confirmed so far. Tom Nolan is the Race Chair. You need to register with Tom, and call Paul Challis the monthly coordinator to reserve your room at the lodge.

Membership report

* Prospective members introduced themselves – Ryan Gardner a friend of Tom Grimm, joined the meeting. His wife Elizabeth & 4 month old son are away. They were engaged at the club 3 years ago – during the New Year’s Eve celebration at RHSC.
* Membership Initiative/Meet & Greet – scheduled for January 17. We have 90 adult members. Still need more members!
* Guests are now confirmed when a member makes a reservation for the remainder of the season. Please spread the word!
* We need to send an email blast notifying the membership of the new guest confirmation policy.
* Stephanie & Beth to provide an updated membership roster. Including the list of members who are certified to be coordinators.
* Because we’ve changed the way dues & membership are confirmed – it took a lot of work to get the new list updated.
* We need to have the roster updated by 3rd week in December when the season begins.

Communications Report

* Meet Up

We’ve been talking about creating a new website for some time. We’ve researched several options to create further functionality on the website. Such as :

* Online reservations
* Improve communications among the members
* Create a better presence on the web to recruit additional members.
* Privacy & security features – being able to assign different people different access levels. RSC is not available to the general public.

We looked at systems that other ski clubs use.

Ben Wheeler has been championing Meet Up for a few years.

At the last board meeting, we voted to move forward with MeetUP.

Criteria required:

* 24/7 availability
* Fully supported & already bug-tested
* Affordable!
* Any modifications/customization RHSC needed, would not require code to be written.

Features include:

* Automatic waiting list confirmation – when someone cancels the next person on the list will automatically be bumped up to the confirmed status.
* We’ll be able to see who else has made a reservation.
* Post photos
* Forum & discussion groups included

Anne put together a phased approach to the implementation.

March 12 or April 9th General Meeting targeted to demo MeetUP to the club.

Phase 1 would include online reservations for members. No $ transactions. Members would need to use existing process for guest reservations. Meet Up would be voluntary & the existing reservation system stays in place. We’d like to implement MeetUp this season so that we can begin the trial period.

Let’s not start in December or February. These are the messiest months for reservations!

A list of who is coming, how many spots are left – who is on the waiting list.

Paul requests that the monthly coordinator has the ability to enter reservations for members who don’t want to use MeetUp to keep it up to date. Meet UP will need to reflect the RHSC rules. We need to be conscious of the continual changes that the club experiences. We need to create a system that addresses guest reservations/confirmations. If the system doesn’t address guests, the board will need to create & communicate those rules.

Ben committed to help the club run Meet UP for one year. We haven’t made a decision as to who will maintain the Meet UP site. We need to work through a training program.

Nothing will be widely implemented until the club is comfortable as a whole.

We’ll have redundancy between Meet Up & monthly coordinators so that we don’t add extra work to monthly coordinator, and that we know it works before we move into the next phase.

John has been very skeptical of online recruitment. When he saw the respondents from Meet Up, he was surprised that all of the respondents were very similar to our existing members.

General consensus is to start the Meet Up trial asap! Go and join MeetUp and request to be enlisted in RHSC. Directions to follow shortly.

Award from Ct Ski Council for Outstanding Member to John Swingler to thank him and recognize all of his hard work and dedication to RHSC.

Open discussion for members to voice questions, comments and concerns

Meeting adjourned @ 9:15.

Next RHSC general meeting Feb 12.