

CSMC Board Meeting Notes – 12 March 2025 7:00 PM

Present:

Jessica Murray, David Murray, Lisa Lee-Johnson, Rob Maiman, Alex Joseph, Erin Marshall, Eric Klaszus, Mika Hakkola

Location: Zoom meeting.

Agenda:

1. Current board members intentions for the new year, potential new board members.
 - Mika is interested in joining the Board in the coming year.
 - There are a few others who might be good candidates in future years. Everyone was urged to reach out to people who they think might be interested before the upcoming AGM.
2. Candidates for president, club structure.
 - Jessica is looking to hand over the reigns as President.
 - There wasn't anyone with evident capacity to take the role. TBD
 - On paper, the club does need a President. Everyone is ready to support the new President with the associated administrative work.
 - Weighing the difference between being a "Company" vs just a Meetup club.
 - i. Incorporation has the advantage of structural protection for Board members with the financials being vetted and audited annually.
 - It was overall agreed that we should move away from a month-to-month membership duration, and move to January 1 renewal for all members to reduce the workload and increase the ease of having members renew. This will make it easier to send membership reminders for everyone all together at once, as opposed to constantly chasing people to renew all throughout the year.
3. Financial update – Erin.
 - Overall, the club's financials are stable and in good standing.
 - We had some large one-time expenses this year which yielded a net loss of \$900 in 2024.
 - There was a drop in membership in 2024.

- Mika recommended trying to draw new members by hosting events with different organizations and people to cross-mingle with different groups that have similar interests.
4. Implementation of annual waiver – admin process, tying to membership fee, communication to organizers and members.
 - Jess will check with Gerry if we can get one waiver that all organizers can use, and they all get sent to one central email address (preferably the CSMC email).
 - Jess is updating members notes on Meetup with W25 to indicate that this member has signed the annual waiver for 2025.
 5. Membership fees. Justification, what they are for? (based on member feedback).
 - Currently there are fewer number of club trips, some members may feel they aren't getting their money's worth.
 - CSMC training sessions are high value. Attending one single training session pays for the members in one trip, when comparing costs of training through other organizations.
 - There are many other free groups such as Facebook and Meetup groups that people can join if they don't feel they get \$40 out of their CSMC membership.
 - Overall consensus was that \$40 / yr is not unreasonable.
 - The club does still own and use rock and ice climbing gear for trips, which requires replacement from time to time.
 6. Incentives for organizers, mentorship, assistance with trip coordinating.
 - Need to find a way to make it easier for members to become organizers.
 - Board members or Captains can use their judgement to get new organizers to the gate.
 - Change the requirements for new organizers to 1-2 co-leads, instead of 2-3 co-leads.
 - Eric will reach out to the potential new organizers from last year to help facilitate them over the last hurdle and get them started with organizing some trips.
 - The Board is receptive to the idea of having trip organizers pitch a trip idea to the Board and have CSMC front the cost of booking accommodation for the trip. Members who attend the trip would pay CSMC for their spot. This would take the onus of money collection off of the organizer, making their job a lot easier.
 7. CSMC recognition program for organizers and contributors

- Swag upcoming.
8. Spring picnic, gear swap, big summer events.
- More on this coming up.
9. Spring newsletter.
- Aiming for next issue to be in April.
 - Idea to include in the newsletter:
 - i. Number of CSMC members on Meetups
 - ii. Number of active paid CSMC members.
 - iii. etc.
10. Other concerns.
- Potential exploration for club radios for organizers to use in backcountry for club trips. Possibly VHF radios (rental is possible) and / or RockieTalkie. Mika and Dave will chat more about this.

Aujourned at 8:30pm.