



**Bridger Bowl Association
Minutes Spring Meeting
May 28, 2014
7:00 P.M. Holiday Inn, Bozeman**

BOARD MEMBERS

Present: Randy Elliott, General Manager, Dave Ballinger, Treasurer, Julie Bennett, Kristie McPhie, Doug Monger, Bob Pettit, Steve Pohl, Diane Allen, Robb Larson, Doug Mavor

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

MINUTES

The fall 2013 Association Meeting minutes were circulated for review. Bob Mannisto moved to approve the minutes. Marshall Bennett seconded the motion. Vote taken, all in favor. The minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Dave Ballinger

Copies of the Income Budget Report were distributed. Dave detailed income and expenses for the 2013 – 2014 ski season. This year was an improvement over last year's numbers. Operating days increased from 123 in the prior year, to 130 days with skier visits increasing from 185,645 in 2012-13 to 217,516 this year. Net profit for the year was \$1,836,487, a nearly \$815,000 increase from last year.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Bob Pettit

Board Member Retirees – Bob announced that he and Kristie McPhie will be retiring from the board this year after both serving six years. He thanked the Association, Randy and the staff for a great six years of service noting he's seen two of the best years and one of the worst. During his term, Schlasman's lift was added as well as additional side country, there were four new lifts installed with loading carpets, and he has been a part of the Alpine Cabin and beginner area planning.

Staff – The president introduced the staff who was present and thanked them for all that they do: Dave Ballinger, Doug Richmond, Doug Wales, Dan Doehring, John VanHouten and Randy Elliott.

Alpine Cabin – Bob reported that the Alpine Cabin is on track to be open this winter. Pat Johnson, who is running the project, was introduced to the Association.

MANAGER'S REPORT – Randy Elliott

Randy recognized current and past employees and thanked them for their hard work. He reported that there is still a 65” settled base at the top of the Alpine chairlift.

Trees – The staff is working on the dead and dying tree removal; Doug Fir Bark Beetle is back in larger numbers than last year.

Parking – Due to big snow days on two Saturdays this season, Bridger’s parking lot and the highway were overwhelmed. Options to improve this problem include expanding the parking lot, dedicating a lot to carpoolers only and running more busses.

Projects – The Alpine Cabin will be a nice addition to Bridger. Snowmaking will expand up to the Alpine Cabin. Bruce Erickson has been hired to update Bridger’s Master Plan. This will help prepare us for growth in the future, including the construction of the new beginner area. The new area will include low angle terrain and opportunities to expand our current beginner area and alleviate congestion with the kids programs on weekends.

Open Forum – Randy opened the floor to questions.

Questions from the floor –

1. Is there an option for midweek bus service? Can staff have an incentive for using the employee bus? Could lift cutting be an incentive for skiers to carpool?
 - Bridger Bowl has applied for a text amendment to the Bridger Canyon Zoning Committee to provide for more base area parking. The board is also trying to get involved with the Story Mill Parking Project. Kristie recommends Association members get involved with the community meetings to show Bridger’s support.
2. Are there considerations to replacing or moving the Virginia City (VC) chairlift to relieve base area congestion?
 - Replacing VC will likely happen in the future, probably with loading carpets. The timeline will depend on income the next few years.
3. The new Alpine and Powder Park lifts are causing an uncomfortable pinching in the legs of some adults.
 - Bridger Bowl staff will look into this.

FOUNDATION – Chris Bulger

Chris Bulger reported that the Bridger Bowl Foundation contributions in 2013 totaled \$31,965; there were over 100 new donors this year. Currently, all assets total \$149,201. In the 2013-14 season, 259 skiers were served through Foundation funds. The Foundation supported participants from Bridger Bowl Ski P.E., Big Sky Youth Center, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Salvation Army and Youth Dynamics. Expenses for last season totaled \$14,498; administrative costs were \$652 for the year. Each year the unclaimed items from Bridger Bowl Lost & Found are donated to the Foundation and sold at the BSF Ski Swap. This year, there were 116 items consigned; 91 of those items were sold, raising \$720 and allowing for a few more scholarships. The Alpine Cabin has received over \$222,325 in donations to date. This number includes \$132,586 from the Montana THIP Grant, \$70,000 from the Ric Jonas Family Foundation and \$19,739 in private, restricted gifts. Chris presented the plaques that will be in the Alpine Cabin for donors. The Foundation is accepting donations for the Alpine Cabin now. Chris thanks the Association for their support, noting that the Foundation has helped over 2500 people since its creation in 2006.

NEW MEMBERS

New Members – Julie Bennett presented the following applications for membership for ratification: Scott Brady, Kelley Dowdell, Matt Dowdell, Ron Hinds, Patrick Hoffman, William Horgan, Jane Jonas, Ed Murphy, Kern Stevenson, Bradford Watson, Jacob Werner and Trisha Zowada. Mike Riley called for ratification of the new members; Chris Bulger seconded the motion. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion carried, memberships approved.

BOARD NOMINATIONS

Steve Pohl presented nominees to replace outgoing board members, Bob Petitt and Kristie McPhie. Julie Bennett was recommended to serve another 3-year term. Mark Manseau, Martha Collins and Julie Bennett were introduced and briefly presented their qualifications to the Association. The board seeks to nominate Association members with diversity in background, professional knowledge and skill set. Steve called three times for nominations from the floor. No nominations were made; nominations were closed. Voting ballots will be sent out in the mail soon.

NEW BUSINESS

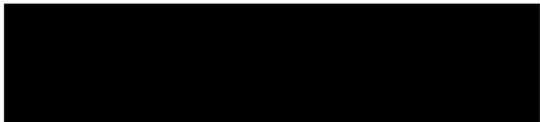
Cell Phone Service – The board is currently working through Gallatin County and Bridger Canyon zoning regulations for cell service; they will try to provide more information at the fall Association meeting. There was concern from the floor that many skiers would prefer not to have cell service on the mountain. The lack of cell service is an important issue for safety in the long run.

OLD BUSINESS

Board Member Retirees – Steve presented Bob and Kristie with plaques in recognition of their six years of service to the Bridger Bowl Board of Directors. Steve commended Bob for his exceptional organizational skills and high level of professionalism. Kristie was acknowledged for her essential role in the Alpine Cabin planning. They were also given oil paintings from local artist Rachel Pohl.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

The president welcomed a motion to adjourn. Chris Bulger moved that the meeting be adjourned; the motion was seconded from the floor. Vote taken, all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



STEPHEN POHL, PRESIDENT



KELLY WISEMAN, SECRETARY