

BRIDGER BOWL

STELLAR COMMUNITY STELLAR MOUNTAIN STELLAR DENDRITES



**Bridger Bowl Association
Minutes Fall Meeting
November 19, 2013
Jim Bridger Lodge, Bozeman**

BOARD MEMBERS

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

MINUTES

The spring, 2013 Association meeting minutes were circulated for review. Sheila Harr moved to approve the minutes. Bob Rasmus seconded the motion. Vote taken, all in favor. The minutes were approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Bob Petitt

There was an introduction of the new board members, Diane Allen and Doug Mavor. The other current board members were introduced as well.

Bob briefly reported on the conditions from the 2012–13 season; the snow in the springtime helped increase skier visits.

There have been significant donations to help fund the new Alpine cabin, including funds from the Ric Jonas Foundation as well as several other memorial donations. Bridger Bowl was also awarded a TIIP grant from the Montana Office of Tourism to be put toward the construction of the cabin.

Season pass sales have been very strong this fall, surely influenced by the new snow and potentially from the Big Sky/ Moonlight merge.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Dave Ballinger

Copies of the Statements of Activities and Financial Position were distributed. Dave detailed income and expenses for the 2012–13 season. Skier visits were improved from last season quite a bit over the same number of operating days. Net income for the year was \$1.02 million, compared to a \$44,000 loss the previous year. Retained earnings was \$20 million.

MANAGER'S REPORT – Randy Elliott

New lifts – The lifts are nearly ready for public. Finished load tests on Friday and Saturday. There is still a checklist of tasks to be done, but should be finished by the end of next week at the latest.

Opening – We are still planning on opening on the scheduled date of December 6. We have received pretty good snow, starting in early fall. The recent warm weather hasn't helped snowmaking, but the forecast calls for colder temperatures and more snow.

Staff – Department heads were introduced:

Jeff Abelin – Ticket Office and IT support. Sarah Pawloski, his ticket office assistant, was introduced as well.

Bob Allen – Facilities and Risk Management. A new generator was added this year; it will allow for water usage during power outages. The artificial wetlands project got planted and experimental project for water treatment will be up and running this year.

Dave Ballinger – Accounting. Dave is a huge asset for Randy. Lindsay Korth, one of his assistants, was introduced as well.

Dan Boehmer – Lift Operations and summertime painting projects. Dan painted the entire ski patrol building this year. He is currently training his lift operators for the upcoming season.

Dan Doehring – Vehicle Maintenance. The new shop provides a lot more workspace.

Bonnie Hickey – Snowsports and Playcare. Bonnie manages several programs and a lot of employees. She will be working closely with the planning of the new proposed beginner area.

Travis Kirkpatrick – Rental & Retail Shop. There will be a new point-of-sales system in the shop this year.

Joe O'Brien – Lift Maintenance. Robin, one of his assistants, was introduced as well. They were very busy this summer, and helped with the load tests of the new lifts.

Doug Richmond – Ski Patrol. He has been busy with training. Pete Maleski, his assistant, was also introduced. Pete worked throughout the summer on building lift shacks for the new lifts.

John VanHouten – Slope Maintenance. They moved a lot of rocks and dirt this summer for the new Alpine and Powder Park unload ramps. Jason Prasek, his assistant, and Josh Thomson, in charge of the terrain park, were introduced as well.

Doug Wales – Marketing. The new website has been a big project, and is still a work in progress. It performed great for season pass sales this fall. Weather data will be up soon as well as new cameras, one looking down the new Alpine lift and one looking at the Apron.

Jim Walker – Food & Beverage. Jim is our new Food Service Director. He brings a lot of positive energy to the staff.

Summer Projects – Staff worked on pulling off the dead and dying trees.

All overhead power is now gone. The line running from the bottom of Bronco to the top of old Alpine was removed this summer.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Alpine Cabin – The engineer has gone over the architectural plans and is ready to start talking to contractors. The goal is to have a contractor or project manager in place by January. Assuming we have a profitable holiday season, the cabin will be built the summer of 2014.

Proposed Beginner Area – The clearing for the new beginner area is open with a gradual slope; it will be great for beginner skiers. They are eager to start working on this project.

Cell Towers – For convenience and safety concerns, there will likely be cellular service up here within the next year. They've been talking to various companies and are currently waiting for the Bridger Canyon Zoning Committee to re-evaluate their cell tower policy.

Year-Round Trail Use – The Forest Service has been working on this project for bikers and equestrian.

Parking – There is still an issue of limited parking up here. There has been effort to encourage bus service and park & ride options. The board has been talking with the Gallatin Valley Land Trust, BSF and Streamline regarding the proposed Story Mill project. Currently, they are trying to build community awareness of the use of the potential benefits of this parking area, including reduced traffic and increased safety throughout the canyon.

Other Projects – The board is currently reviewing long-term management and transition planning.

FOUNDATION

Kristie reported that the Ric Jonas Foundation has granted the Foundation a generous donation to go toward the building of the new Alpine Cabin. The Foundation has also received gifts from various family memorials, online web orders, the Bridger Ski Foundation Ski Swap and a ski film at the Emerson, "Into the Mind". There is discussion about making a memorial area with names of recognition; more information will come. Dave reviewed the financials of the Bridger Bowl Foundation. Current cash is \$32,940, investments total \$14,212, and CD's include \$30,265, totaling over \$77,000.

NEW BUSINESS


New Members – The following applications for membership were presented for ratification: Bill Bryce, Kathy Campbell, Doug Chabot, Mark Hoza, Kent Madin, Ken Peters, Brady Wiseman. Gary Andrews moved to ratify membership of those presented. Sheila Harr seconded the motion. Vote taken, all in favor. Motion carried, memberships were approved.

QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Bob Harr suggested working on an "opening ceremony" of the new lifts. Randy and Doug Wales will work on this and announce a ribbon cutting, and/ or different ceremonial activity soon.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

The President welcomed a motion to adjourn. Gary Andrews moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Sheila Harr. Vote taken, all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45.


BOB PETTITT, PRESIDENT


JULIE BENNETT, SECRETARY