

Meeting Minutes - Alyeska Ski Club Board Meeting

November 30, 2021, 11:30am via Zoom or CCI, 2401 Cinnabar Loop

AGENDA

X	Lara Hildreth
X	Jeff Gries
X	Paul Lantz
X	LA Schweiger
X	Josh Hegna
X	Nancy Kragt
X	Guy Wade

X	Caroline Ahrenshrt
X	Rob Wasserman
X	Gordon Descutner
X	Keith Hand
X	Tim Gallagher
X	Denise Brown-Robinson

Agenda – call for additional items

October 26, 2021 Minutes – needs approval (attached)

1. Motion to approve the September 8, 2021 Minutes
 - o Jeff Gries motioned to approved minutes
 - o Caroline Ahrenshrt seconded the motion
 - o All in favor and motion passed

Chairman's Report – Paul Lantz

- o Program and Admin. Activities:
 - Fall Officials Clinic held at Hilltop Nov. 6 and 7 for JA, CO, Ref and Timing and Calculations. Over 40 volunteers attended.
Clinic went well, ASC appreciative of all that attended.
 - Juniors and Alpine X athletes left for camps in MT and CO on November 17.
 - Coaches trained through Beechtree Diagnostics on administering COVID tests and subsequent follow-up for symptomatic athletes or coaches while traveling.
Training is going well.
 - Juniors and Alpine X trained at Arctic Valley Nov. 27 and 28.
Weather was very cold but participates enjoyed getting back on skis.
 - Dryland finished for Juniors and Alpine X programs. Will continue into December for Freeride.
3 more weeks remaining for Freeride dry land.
 - Registration for Mighty Mites and Devos closes at midnight Nov. 30.
 - Mighty Mite Pre-season Coach's Meeting Nov. 30 and Devos Coach's Meeting Dec. 1.
To be held at Uncle Joe's pizza. Thanks to those involved for pulling this together.
Need more Devos coaches.
 - On-snow training at Hilltop scheduled for December 4 and 5 for Juniors and Alpine X.
Tentatively scheduled for older groups to Arctic Valley and younger to Hill Top.
 - Level 100 Coaches Clinic planned for December 4 - 5 at Hilltop.
 - Masters Camp in CO scheduled for December 6 – 10.

- Regular season on-snow training scheduled to begin at Alyeska on:
 - Dec. 11 for Juniors and Alpine X
 - Dec. 12 for Devos and Mighty Mites new athlete tryouts
 - Dec. 18 for Devos, Freeride and Masters.
 - Dec. 19 for Mighty Mites

Finance Committee Report, November 17, 2021 (attached) – Keith

- FY22 Budget vs. Actuals through November 10, 2021 (attached)
\$40K deficit now but no this is normal and should level out as new U10 and U12s enroll.
- Statement of Financial Position through November 10, 2020 and 2021 (attached)
No change, positive compared to 2020.
- Accounts Receivable Summary through November 13, 2021 (attached)
- Registration Numbers (see attached report)
Lara reported registrations numbers, looking good thus far.

Development Committee Report, November 18, 2021 (attached) – Lara

- Received \$43,225 in sponsorship renewals to date.
Encouraging response so far, still working toward goal of \$100K.
- Warren Miller net income \$19,518.
Considered a huge success.
- Hired a Media Outreach Coordinator for newspaper articles, social media and newsletters.
Katie Writer will fill this position. She is a Freeride Coach and world class Freeride and Alpine skier.
- Virtual auction planned for Feb 19 – 26 with a party on the last day at Challenge Alaska.
Challenge donated the space for this.
Food trucks and Girdwood Brewing to participate.
Call to Action – Ask ACS participates to donate used gear to Challenge.

Old Business – Lara

- Alpine Committee recommended keeping the storage equipment (locker) room closed to athletes for this season. The staff provided feedback (included on the 2nd page of this agenda). Names have been removed for anonymity.
Alpine committee recommended only coaches for this space.
Discussion among the Board to allow the older athletes to have access to this facility.
Alpine Committee and Board members will re-visit this to see how many athletes this space can safely handle.
Talk of re-purposing the space if not utilized for intended purpose.
Discussion of protocols and how these will be implemented if athletes are allowed to use the facility, with emphasis on Safe Sport protocols.

Schedule next Meeting – week of Jan. 17

Staff Feedback on use of the equipment storage room for the 2021-22 season:

1. After school it seemed more efficient to get athletes training with them getting ready on the deck. When they had access to the locker room it seemed to delay them getting on the hill. It was great to get the athletes together to warm up outside on the weekends instead of trying to pull them out of the locker room. Even with the access to the main level of the RTC this past winter it seemed they could not pick up after themselves and it was always a struggle to keep it clean. The locker room provides a place for athletes to gang up on each other and this group of athletes seems like there are already enough problems with that.
2. I do not think we should open the locker room up. If they really need to be inside they can use the main floor but they have to clean it every day before they leave or we just keep them locked out.
3. Athletes should not have access because in the past the locker room has been messy and gross due to lack of responsibility. Additionally, athletes have been known to hangout in the locker room getting into trouble and engaging in bullying activities.
4. I believe that we need to find a better way to store the skis for the older age groups without using the downstairs locker room. In the past I have spent countless hours trying to get my group out of that place to train. When the athletes are downstairs they lose perception of time. They litter the place, they are disrespectful toward the locker room as a whole and unfortunately there is bad behavior going on downstairs. I think that if we let the kids "just store the skis" we are opening a can of worms. The kids will not limit themselves to simply going in quickly to pick up their gear. They will wait for another teammate, they will start chatting, they will goof off and lose time. I do not have the luxury to have a coach monitor the athletes depositing/grabbing their skis. We are always on the run to set the training venue for our groups and oftentimes we need to make multiple runs to drag gear up the hill. If I can't count on a coach because they need to monitor the locker room then the session gets delayed. Last winter being able to see our athletes on the porch we were able to get them moving by simply yelling "hey, get moving" from the lift line. This can't be done if we open the locker room again.
5. I don't have an issue with athletes using the locker room. Money was raised to provide this space for the athletes. It's a lot easier on families. Everybody's concerns are valid, but I feel that it really just comes back on us not laying the hammer down and laying out the rules/expectations with locker room usage. If COVID is truly the concern, and it's not within mandate/guidelines that are out for athletes to use it, then don't do it. But I don't think other than that there's no reason for us to keep athletes out of there. Maybe limit it to 1 athlete per locker. That will make it so wayyy less athletes have access, unlike what we were doing 2 years ago stacking 4 U14s in a locker. Less athletes = less COVID juice. Maybe just FIS and Junior/Senior Full time athletes from other programs?
6. I think by allowing only a specific group of the membership to utilize the space, will create a lot of push back from the other programs and members who are not allowed to use the space. They all pay RTC membership/usage fees and would see this as not being fair that some get to use the space while all other users are not allowed to. I think it has to be a decision that is membership wide and it would either be that everyone is allowed access or no one is. I think some members had issues with UAA athletes being able to utilize the space last year while ASC members were not allowed to.

I also believe that the former locker room creates the perfect setting for kids to congregate and hang out and not practice social distancing or masking while inside. It would be a poor use of our resources to have a coach or staff member having to be in there monitoring behavior and making sure only those specific athletes are gaining entry and getting their stuff and then exiting. Even the athletes in years past who didn't get to have a locker due to space constrictions would still go in and hang out and it would be hard pressed to think that wouldn't happen even if you were to only give specific athletes access. In years past when the locker room was open there would be athletes in there until 9/10pm at night just hanging out. It was definitely more of a social area and a place to hang out at outside of skiing than one to quickly grab/put on your stuff and get to training. Behavior problems and issues have also come up while athletes have had access to the space. They also have a very hard time and lack the responsibility for cleaning the space after their use. Even when the main floor was open for warming purposes only there was also trash and gear to pick up after the athletes.

Maybe we could add more hanging storage outside for backpacks and racks for skis for the membership. Or reconfigure the deck so that it is more conducive to storing items during training. I realize it's hard with the space we do have and the amount of members utilizing the area to come up with a good alternative solution.