

Arctic Orienteering Club Board Meeting
March 30, 2006
Minutes

Present: Ellyn Brown, Dan Billman, Andrew Lee, Paul Carson, Ian Moore, Kimball Forrest, Bill Spencer, Cory Smith, Trond Jensen, Eric Follett, Dave Evans, Brian Richardson, and Chris Tomsen.

Minutes approval

The 1-26-06 minutes were approved with two corrections. One correction was a typo; the other was Brian Richardson clarifying that he would run the Mountain-O as a regular meet director with our normal entry fees.

Bylaws

Andrew, Dave, and Kimball corrected an oversight in the Bylaws. According to old minutes, the USOF membership requirement for board members was removed at the 2004 Annual meeting, but the change did not make it into the signed version for some reason. The correction removed the USOF membership requirement from the Bylaws as intended at the 2004 Annual meeting.

ConocoPhillips grant

Trond applied for and received a \$500 grant for the club from his employer. He encourages others to see if their employers have similar programs. ConocoPhillips will want some follow up—photos and publicity information to see how the grant money was used. The secretary will write a thank you letter.

Mountain-O

Saturday July 22 was selected as the date for the meet. Brian will need some input in how to design a course as he has never directed an O meet. We already have verbal OKs from Chugach Native Corp. and the City of Whittier. We should also check into possible mining claims within the area, and have certificates for insurance ready.

Trond asked if the terrain was suitable. Ian and others volunteered to do a scouting trip. The board decided to move ahead with the meet unless we get a bad scouting report.

In exchange for running this meet, the board agreed to lend Brian controls for three of his company's events.

Eric said that we needed to buy more controls anyway. Dan moved, Bill seconded, and a MOTION was passed by the board to purchase up to 50 new color blind (blue striped) controls plus up to 200 safety whistles.

Richter trail upgrade report

Eric reported that the Nordic ski club will build their planned trails. They liked the trail alternative suggestion that Eric brought to the meeting, but as an addition rather than a substitution.

Dave volunteered to take over for Dick Hawkins and join Eric as one of our representatives at the Far North Bicentennial Park Trail Users Group committee.

Mapping update

Ian has an agreement with the Ukrainian mapper for mapping May 10 through June 10 for \$100 per day, no drafting fees. Other clubs have been impressed with his speed and quantity of work for new mapping, though his detail work is not as fine as can be. Transportation, housing (Eric volunteered his motor home), and food would need to be provided. The mapper does not speak English (and no/ poor? Russian), so that might be a difficulty.

Another more professional sounding mapper from the Czech Republic is a possibility for June or August. His rates are \$18/hr plus drafting fees.

Kimball suggests that we hire both mappers. Paul moved and was seconded, and the board passed a MOTION to raise the mapping budget to \$15,000 this summer.

Halloween-O

There are no updates on the possible UAA partnership yet. Brian talked to Ron Randall of Muni Parks/Bittner House and found that the Parks department is interested in engaging in more outdoor events. They already run a Halloween event that can be combined with orienteering. Parks is willing to co-sponsor an event (or events) with us and would allow us to charge a fee or request a donation in exchange for some volunteers. There was definitely some interest in this from the board.

Parks user fees

Dan reported that Anne met with John McCleary of Muni Parks to discuss user fees. Muni Parks collects the dollar per person fee when there are registered participants or posting of results. The thought is that organized use of the parks excludes other users, but our events do not do this. Other groups: Wombats pay park use fee (yearly), but no per dollar fee. Little league pays only \$7 per day per field for exclusive use.

We can petition for reduction the fees because we don't have exclusive use during our meets. Kimball asked if we can negotiate a flat fee. Dan mentioned that they were shocked when we gave them a \$600+ check for last year's fee. Eric and Kimball suggested that, since they want Bicentennial maps, we can suggest trading them maps for fees - perhaps a dollar per dollar reduction in fees for what we spend on mapping in Bicentennial Park? Eric said that McCleary agreed that we could leave the indistinct trails off of the maps for the Parks department.

It was also mentioned that we should and will not have to pay park fees for use of Pia because it is military land. In the past we have paid the fees for access past the muni owned gate, but Bill and Ian have keys.

Big-O, Classroom Training, and Day 2 O-festival

With Dick Hawkins' move to the Kenai, we need to find replacement volunteers for these events. For the Big-O, Paul volunteered to set out the controls (same map as previous years), and Ian can get the map to the printer. Additional volunteers during the day are needed. Chris and Trond are maybes.

Spring classroom training, May 9 at the BP Energy Center (need to confirm?): Eric, Chris, and/or Jen Jolliff are possible volunteers, but we should call for new volunteers. A good source of volunteer recruits might be from the Orange course results lists at last year's O-festival.

Day 2 of O-festival, September 10: Dan suggests twisting the arm of those who haven't volunteered as meet directors yet this year.

Outdoor safety risk management

Chris is taking a course and volunteers to write a plan for the club.

Next meeting: April 27

Prepared by Andrew Lee, Secretary, 4/25/06