

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors,
Board of Directors, Big Sky Country National Heritage Area
December 21, 2020
4:00 PM
Via Zoom
Great Falls, MT

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

In attendance: Lynette Sriver-Colburn, Jane Weber, Gayle Fisher, Ken Robison, Carol Bronson, John Taillie, Connie Jenkins, Rich Ecke, Murray Moore, Jerry Lehman, Chris La Tray, Mary Willmarth, Ellen Sievert, Renee McDonald (late).

Also present: Bill Bronson (legal counsel)

Excused absences: Charlene Porsild.

Absent: None.

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest: None.

2. Consent Agenda

a. Minutes from the November 23, 2020, board meeting passed unanimously.

b. Ratification of Executive Committee actions taken between meetings: The Executive Committee discussed topics with the board taken up by the committee in between meetings.

3. New Business

a. Information

December 14, 2020 meeting of the Cascade Conservation District: BSCNHA was again topic of discussion at their board meeting, and they voted to take no position.

January 25, 2021 BSCNHA Annual Meeting: This will be an open meeting to the public per our open meeting policy. At this meeting, we will cover the appointment of board members, election of officers, approval of the CY 2021 budget, and committee reports.

4. Old Business

a. Committee Reports

Feasibility Study Task Force

Weber reported that the task force met last week to continue work on the feasibility study. The task force will send off the document after the first of the year.

Finance Committee

Lehman reviewed the financial statement for the month. It has been placed into the record.

Reviewed the draft CY 2021 budget that the board will vote on at the January 2021 annual meeting.

Lehman, Ecke, and Taillie met to discuss which electronic payment method would work best for BSCNHA to adopt. They recommend that we use PayPal and establish a link on our website so people can make contributions online. Robison moved to accept the recommendation to setup a PayPal account in order to accept online contributions. McDonald seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Marketing Committee

Ecke reported that the committee has been busy this month with media inquiries about BSCNHA and our work. They also sent out a message to our contact list announcing that the feasibility study will be sent to NPS early winter. The committee will be taking over the BSCNHA Facebook page toward the end of January 2021.

Fundraising Committee

Willmarth reported the committee sent out about 110 end-of-year letters. She also discussed the importance of all board members contributing, particularly for grant applications.

Projects Committee

Carol Bronson reported that the website has been updated. The committee didn't meet this month but will pick up their regular meetings in January. The committee has been discussing potential projects to dig into in the coming year.

Audit Committee

No report.

Heritage Database Committee

No report.

5. Announcement from the Board Members

Robison announced that the Black History Month programming will not be held in February. They will postpone it to possibly October.

Ecke will be speaking tonight to a group of local residents about the Feasibility Study.

Weber reminded us that it's time to renew our conflict-of-interest forms. Scriver-Colburn will send them out in early January.

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Next meeting: Monday, January 25, 2021, 4:00 PM

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.