

**American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
September 13, 2010**

Members present: Bill Bauer, Scott Chapin, Tom Duffy, John Kotar, Dennis Kruse, John Leighton, Don Maher, Dave Nelson, Paul Pedersen, Sue Scheer, Joe Timmerman. Attending by phone: Don Becker, Mary Wingfield. Also present: Ned Zuelsdorff, Shellie Milford

Meeting called to order at 4 p.m. by Dennis Kruse.

Minutes of the July 19, 2010, were approved. There were no amendments to the agenda.

Finance Report. Joe Timmerman reported that ABSF has an account balance \$304,000. A on-year CD at Peoples Bank was rolled over. Registration fees and sponsorships are up vs last year at this time. Ned explained that the budget information was not available due to the time it takes to break the information out month to month. Joe talked about the audit proposal from Anderson, Hager and Moe. After discussion, Joe made and Paul seconded a motion to accept the proposal at a cost of \$2,000-\$3,000. Motion passed.

Joe opened discussion regarding proposed involvement of Steve Narveson as the chief financial person for ABSF, overseeing all aspects of the financial activities. The rate of pay would be \$30 per hour and in addition, Steve would donate some of his time. Joe will check with Steve to make sure he is bonded. Joe Timmerman made a motion and Paul Pedersen seconded the motion to hire Steve as the Chief Financial Officer under a contract basis. After discussion, Joe amended the motion to hire Steve Narveson as the Chief Financial Officer for a year conditional to bonding and not to exceed \$12,000 unless the Board has approved increased amount. Motion passed.

Executive Director Report. Ned reported that the registration numbers are 4,420 which is 485 ahead of last year at this time. There are currently 590 Trail Run registrations. The Birkie Enterprises clothing purchases are starting to arrive. We are in need of a heated trailer for the start line to house the timers at start area bib pick-up.

Presidents Comments. Dennis Kruse talked about the situation with Telemark Resort. The Telemark Interval Owners Association voted to turn the Resort (not condo units) over to the lien holder on October 1st. There are still negotiations and efforts being put into a possible purchase by Telemark Partners. There has been discussion about selling and putting 600 acres of the land into land conservation trust.

Dennis talked about the efforts of CXC to put together an invitation to elite athletes to come to Madison for the Sprints and then to the Birkie. Yuriy indicated that CXC would put up \$11,000 to help with expenses.

Dennis will attend the Annual General Meeting in October and intends to work on getting the Birkie back in the Marathon Cup. In addition, he will discuss focusing on effective media coverage and sponsorship.

Ned spoke to John Farra about getting the National Championships here in 2012.

Election of Officers.

Nominated for President: John Leighton and Dennis Kruse. John Leighton elected.

Nominated for Vice President: Dennis Kruse and Don Becker. Dennis withdrew his nomination. With no additional nominations, Tom Duffy made a motion and Dennis Kruse seconded the motion to approve the election of Don Becker. Motion passed.

Nominated for Secretary: Bill Bauer. With no additional nominations, motion made by John Leighton and seconded by John Kotar to elect Bill Bauer as Secretary. Motion passed.

Nominated for Treasurer: Joe Timmerman. With no additional nominations, motion made by John Leighton and seconded by Paul Pederson to elect Joe Timmerman as Treasurer. Motion passed.

The Board thanked Dennis Kruse for his leadership and tenure as Board President.

John Leighton took over as Chair of the meeting. He indicated to the Board members that he wants the Board to focus on policy, direction and strategic planning, or summed up as governance. John commented that he wanted to start out with forming committees and that the purpose of the committees is to formulate the issues, gather the data and present to the Board. He suggested that sharing information via email will save time and will help avoid lengthy meetings. As a committee example, John mentioned the Young Skier Development Committee which is tasked to distribute a certain amount of money, they bring a work product to the Board meeting and the Board acts on it. He said that if the Committee doesn't have a task, there is no reason to have the Committee. John indicated that he would suggest the following Committee Chairs who would in turn gather their membership: Young Skier Development, Scott Chapin; Policy, Co-Chairs Bill Bauer and Don Becker; Worldloppet (including Birchleggings), Co-Chairs Paul Pedersen and Don Maher; Competition, Dennis Kruse; Trails and Facilities, Dave Nelson; Control and Compliance Committee (Finance), Joe Timmerman, Chair

Other Business: Bill Bauer asked about housing skiers who would have been staying at Telemark. Shellie indicated that there had only been a few requests for assistance. The sponsor room needs are being taken care of at alternative facilities. It was suggested that we review the idea of bussing from the Twin Cities. Scott suggested that we look into how far the radius is where rooms are completely booked.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Submitted by Shellie Milford