

American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation  
Board of Directors Meeting  
September 17, 2012

Members present: Don Becker, Jane Bidwell, Scott Chapin, John Garrett, Jan Guenther, Yuriy Gusev, John Kotar, Dennis Kruse, John Leighton, Amy Rowley, Sue Scheer, Joe Timmerman, Mary Wingfield. Also present: Ned Zuelsdorff, Shellie Milford, Susan Kendrick, Chris Mayberry (to conduct Board elections), Oyvind Solvang (representing Telemark Resort).

*Minutes of the meeting of July 16, 2012.* John Garret made a motion and John Kotar seconded the motion to approve the minutes as written. Motion passed.

*Agenda.* There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

All people present introduced themselves.

*Officers election.*

Chris Mayberry conducted the officers' election. Nominations for President: Don Becker and Sue Scheer. Sue Scheer was elected by written vote. Vice President: Scott Chapin was only nomination and therefore was elected. Secretary: Jane Bidwell was only nomination and therefore was elected. Treasurer: Joe Timmerman was only nomination and therefore was elected.

*Review of Skier Development Grant Application process.*

Scott Chapin discussed the history of the Skier Development Grant program. Initially the program was implemented for young skier groups. The CXC grant was a separate request and, after a few years, included aspects of public relations and marketing partnership. Currently there are two types of grant applications: youth programs and adult/master skier programs. Question for the Board to consider is whether we want to focus on just programming or programming and marketing. Any request for more than \$2,000 must be approved by the Board.

*Formation of Committees.*

Sue Scheer named the chairs of the ABSF committees. They are: Finance, Joe Timmerman; Skier Development, Scott Chapin; Competition, Dennis Kruse; Personnel, Jane Bidwell; Trail, John Garrett. John Kotar is Chair of the ad hoc 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee and will give reports at upcoming meetings. Sue asked that Board members let her know if they would like to be on any of the committees. Don Becker made a motion and Dennis Kruse seconded the motion that a policy be established that if any Board member wants to participate in a committee meeting, the meeting should be at a place where he/she can call in. Motion carried. John Garret opposed the motion. Yuriy asked that the meetings be held at a quiet location.

*Review of Board of Directors Powers and Duties.*

Copies of the ABSF Board of Directors Powers and Duties were distributed to members present. Sue Scheer indicated that the gist of the information is that the Board sets policies as the basis of its activities. The Board selects the Executive Director who then makes sure that the policies are carried out. Sue commented that individual Board members cannot make decisions for the whole Board.

*Trail Report/Update on Start Area Progress*

John Garrett indicated that he sends an invitation to the meetings to Committee members and all other Board members. He creates detailed minutes and sends to all Board members. At the recent Trail Committee meeting the group reviewed three potential start area sites: Telemark, Leonard School Rd and Boedecker Rd. Lengthy discussion took place regarding past negotiations with Telemark and current status of the negotiations. Oyvind Solvang said that, per request of Steve Kaufman and Dick Short, he is now the negotiator for Telemark. Earlier in the year Sue Scheer, John Garrett, Dennis Kruse and Ned Zuelsdorff were selected by the Board to be the negotiating committee regarding Telemark property use. Sue Scheer removed herself from negotiations because of Fred's purchase of the Boedecker property, his donation of 36 acres to Sawyer County and the potential discussion of creating a trail head at that location. Various suggestions were made as to who would fill Sue's position. John Garrett made a motion that Joe Timmerman be assigned to the negotiating committee. Dennis Kruse seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ned will send Oyvind a copy of the last proposal in order to move forward on negotiations.

*Executive Director Report.*

Ned reported that registration numbers reached 8400 for the Birkie, Korte and Prince Haakon. Wave two skate is closed. The Birkie Trail Run registration is 947. Several new events or changes are: the Nickerbeiner, a 2.5K event starting on Main Street on Thursday for skiers wearing vintage skis and clothing; the Family Fun Ski 5K/10K will be a Thursday evening event lit by luminaries. Ned continues to work with the National Guard Norwegian troop exchange. He is working with the timers to do a live webcast from the start, OO and finish on race day. He is also working with another firm who will do video clips of skiers crossing different points on the course. After Ned mentioned that the Awards Ceremony was scheduled to take place at LCO because of the facility size needed and the possibility that Telemark would not be open, much discussion ensued involving the status of Telemark, the tradition and historical aspect of Telemark and the fact that they must be able to meet the requirements for these events. Jan Guenther made a motion that the staff provide Telemark a list of requirements that would need to be fulfilled for all of the Birkie events to give them an opportunity to provide the venue for the events. Amy Rowley seconded the motion. After further discussion, the motion was amended to state that the Board be notified before any decision is made regarding location of main events. Don Becker seconded the amended motion. Motion passed.

Sue Scheer listed the dates of future Board meetings: October 15<sup>th</sup>, November 12<sup>th</sup>, December 17<sup>th</sup> for Holiday staff and Board gathering/meeting, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013, call February meeting if needed, March 18<sup>th</sup>, April 15<sup>th</sup>, and May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Submitted by Shellie Milford