

AMGA BOD Meeting Tuesday, January 26, 2010
-DRAFT- Until Approved at June Meeting, 2010

BD HQ Salt Lake City, UT

BOD Members present: Jim Pearson, Dick Jackson, Rob Hess, Margaret Wheeler, Marty Molitoris, Keith Garvey, Evan Stevens, Dale Remsberg, Scott Soden, Kyle Lefkoff, Peter Gould

BOD Members not present: Majka Burdhardt, John Winsor, Adam Fox, John Race, Clint Cook, Martin Volken

AMGA Staff: Betsy Novak, Josh Harrod

CGF: Scot Schell

Others:, Matt Farmer, Kevin Tatsugawa, Todd Passey, Tim Connelly

9:05 AM: Welcoming by Margaret

Intros from attendees.

Moment of Silence

Adoption of Minutes from OCT meeting

Margaret proposes to accept, Evan seconds, all vote in favor, minutes accepted.

9:15AM: President's Report. Margaret reads her report...see file.

Ad-Hoc strategic planning committee: Keith, Clint, Betsy, Adam, Evan, Margaret

Kyle: Offsite meeting for this committee, hire a 3rd party strategic planner/facilitator.

Get plans from other organizations.

Margaret Chairs the committee.

9:30AM: ED Report Betsy: Betsy reviews her written report.

OR show was a success for partnerships and fundraising. We should be working to grow private donations.

Kyle: Snowcat day is a great fundraiser. More stuff like this would be great.

Betsy: Benefits of self funding, Climbing instructor program, and its successes.

Landmark Learning LLC, is an example of notable programs seeking AMGA program support, Boy Scouts of America is another example.

\$50k in the black.

Two new scholarships (Doug Parker and Roger Baxter-Jones, Craig Luebben Memorial Scholarship).

20 less students than 2008, but gross profits from programs were improved.

GL, Insurance has been revamped- Kyle will look into making sure it is the proper charges and coverage. Items in place for Canadian programs to run with proper coverage, allowing for expanded course locations.

9:50AM Scott Soden Finance Report:

Budget surplus and change in staff, pretty impressive. Our financial strategy has paid off kindly, conservative nature has served us well.

10:00AM IFMGA committee report Kyle Lefkoff:

November 2010 is the first meeting in the US. Lots of details of event and associated items. Pins, keychains, sponsorship, uniforms, etc... Uniform for meeting is non-technical piece for the event. He is excited, wants us to dedicate to putting on a great event, no matter what the cost.

10:20AM Break

10:40AM Josh Harrod Membership Report – see report

Membership is up 11% due in large part to increased SPI and CWI membership. Merchandise service fees are, AMGA increased merchandise prices to help cover the additional processing fees.

Scott: Break up of members? Utilization of dues?

Evan: Scholarship committee meet and discuss stuff – as per who gets scholarships, how many, selection criteria, etc....

10:50AM Rob Hess TD report:

Curriculum notebook for programs.

Clarify new standards outline for Rock Instructor standard. Update in newsletter and email to current Certified Rock Instructors.

Contract programs fate? Per the October TC Meeting the Technical Committee's recommendation to the BOD is to terminate the Contract Programs (RIC, AGC and SGC) entirely. Betsy and Henry will provide substantial financial and enrollment report for June meeting to help facilitate BOD's decision.

IP reviews?

IP training payment? Looking in to it.

Marty: Rock Instructor credentials changes? 5% discount is minimal...

Dale: Guidelines have not changed, still the same standard.

Betsy: If continuing in program no loss to individuals, and discount can't be more as we are breaking even on many programs.

Evan: Newsletter item and email about this to clarify.

11:20AM Access director proposal Betsy:

Surplus of budget can provide for a part time position, and then membership dues can be restructured to support position in 2011. Lots of benefits as outlined in proposal.

Kyle: Support for 2 reasons, shows IFGMA we are doing something more concrete.

Access Fund: work hand in hand with these organizations, i.e. CGF gets permits for every acquisition by the AF.

Rob: This shows action.

Evan: Increase dues so that we can shoulder this extra position. Time for increased dues (haven't been raised in 8 years). More money from membership means more opportunities for the membership

Marty: Competing organizations. We need a better face for land managers to gain access and permits.

Evan: Who is against this? No one really.

Dale: Will this effect the CGF proposal?

Margaret: CGF does not affect Access Position.

Jim: Anyone in mind? No. Can we hire the same person for CGF and Access.

Dale: Red rocks – may close?

Keith: CGF-Access in concert with each other. No need to do the same job twice.

Betsy: Separate person for CGF and Access.

Evan: We need to vote on this and take action.

Scott: Part time enough?

Betsy: Yes, it's a start.

Keith: Full time position in 2011? Make sure dues can handle this.

Dick: Seconds this as well.

Kyle: Lots of folks interested in something like this.

Marty: Time to take action.

Evan: Motion to vote on creation of Access position. Marty seconds it.

Dale: Can we see the financials.

Betsy: Surplus: \$25,000 Access Director, \$7,500 IP Bonuses, \$6,000 CGF, \$10,000 IFMGA emergency fund: total \$48,500 of \$50,000.

Do we want to cut IP bonuses?

Margaret: Fiscally conservative.

Scott: Budgeted for next year

Dick: This will benefit CGF.

Evan: Dues increase: roughly \$15/member. It is an ED decision. June agenda item.

VOTE: All members present voted to create position of Access Director.

11:50AM Peter Gould Public Policy:

Draft a cease and desist letter from Peter/law firm.

House Bill 2619 to require backcountry travelers to possess electronic signaling devices above timberline.

Enforcement? Poor use of resources. (This was removed from voting that afternoon)

PCC – Stepped in to take the burden off of Betsy and Rob. 1 complaint about rogue guiding, but no action taken. Some amendments to the PCC framework.

Kyle: We are not an enforcement agency.

12:05PM Proposal to amend bylaws. After lunch.

Kyle: Thanks, glad to be a part, dinner at his house for BOD meeting in June.

12:07PM Instructor Pool Bonus proposal

\$7,500 to go to IP bonuses

Bonuses vs. wage increase for future?

Dick: More the bonus than the wage increase.

Margaret: Marko Prezlj says our IP pay is the lowest. We should look in the long term to raise wages.

Evan: We need to look to increasing the wages for the future to retain IP members with competitive wages.

Evan – Motion to vote for proposal, Dick seconds

Keith, Dale, Margaret, Rob abstain for conflict of interest, all others vote in favor

Keith we need to have discussion/proposal on wage increases for June meeting.

Margaret: Wage increases for 2011 is an agenda item for June meeting.

Dale: Increasing dues/program costs to pay for this.

AGENDA for June: IP Wage increases, dues increases, strategic plan

LUNCH

Kyle Lefkoff leaves meeting

1:00PM Amended by laws – Jim Pearson

Section 6.5 Nominations, conflict of interest policy.

Section 6.18 If a BOD misses 2 meetings instead of 3 action can be taken

Section 8.6/8.8 Technical Committee treated differently to any other committee, members are advisors to TD. TD can make decisions on their own, BOD can then serve as the checks/balances for their decisions.

Section 8.10 Nominations committee will create the process for selecting members.

Section 8.11 Risk management committee creation, TD, PD, 4 DC's and 2 other members of AMGA.

Section 9.2 TD does not have to re-run for the BOD, TD has a professional seat on the BOD.

See Adopted Bylaws

Jim: Motion to approve, Margaret seconded. All members present voted in favor.

1:20PM IFMGA meeting \$10,000 emergency fund.

Betsy discusses this.

Dale: Make sure this doesn't deter us from raising more funds.

Dale makes motion to vote, Rob seconds, all members present voted in favor of proposal.

1:25PM CGF-AMGA Ad-hoc committee report

See report

Discussion:

Jim: Being a coop member does not make you liable for another coop members actions.

Marty: Taxes at year end?

Jim: COOP itself would pay taxes on whatever is left at year end.

Payments? How to do them. Worker cooperative, and it has a different payment method.

Scott: NFS: Subcontracting rules changing, permit process opening up, concept of requiring certification is not likely to be a USFS directive.

2:10PM CGF Proposal Scott Schell

See report

This is pretty much do or die. If the COOP model can't make it, and guides don't join, then this is not the time and place for the CGF to exist.

BREAK 2:25pm

2:30PM continue

Dale: Is there a time period of no action due to permits/insurance, etc..? Not really.

Scott: How many members now? 35.

Betsy: Membership dues anticipating? Are you (CGF) going to run out of money?

Scott: Optimistic. Anticipating fund-raising.

Dick: Leap of faith at some point. Got to get the members to contribute to this now as well.

Margaret agrees.

Jim: File articles of organization and tax ID number ASAP. Loan package is unlikely.

Peter: Agrees, file documents, but

Dick: Time for matching funds.

Peter: Incremental matching funds?

Scott Soden: Doesn't think there are enough interested guides. Think COOP can work, but need more members than might be willing to support the cooperative.

Tim Connelly: IFMGA access obligations?

Margaret: Ask IFMGA country members to contribute money as well?

Rob, Keith: Don't agree

Discussion on the topic, about matching funds. Margaret says we need to convey confidence of this as an option. This is the only option.

Cameron: Ad-Hoc committee stays intact.

New Proposal: These funds released with the following deliverables are in place and matched by fundraising in two stages:

Stage 1: AMGA commits to release \$3000 initially to CGC (Certified Guides Coop)/CGF

Stage 2: When CGF/CGC raises \$6000 then the AMGA will release a second \$3000.

February 5 – deadline for letter of information to members to whole AMGA membership.

Special onus/emphasis/letter on certified body.

Justification

Explanation of a coop

3 month plan going forward

Jim: This is CGF BOD decisions to make on fundraising.

Jim proposes to vote for the proposal, Margaret seconds. All voted in favor except Keith Garvey and Dale Remsberg who abstained due to conflict of interest.

4:00PM Fall 2009 IFMGA meeting report

4 IFMGA countries are compliant with all IFMGA by-laws. Every country has similar struggles to what we are facing. President of IFMGA is offering to help with land management issues.

4:10PM New Business Items

Betsy: Position Statement by AMGA on competing organizations.

Dick: Risk Management Plan in place and in order.

Margaret: Ambassador Program – resource of materials and documents. Updates to IFMGA on AMGA happenings.

Betsy: Send out Incident and Risk MGMT plans to BOD staff.

4:20PM Executive session

4:45PM End Executive Session

Dates: June 4th & 5th for next meeting.

Long range planning committee by email.

4:50PM Motion to Adjourn from Margaret. Second by Evan. All vote in favor.