

11/20/05

DXC Special Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Brian Bich, Patti Harvieux, Eric Viken, Doug Olsen, Anne Flueckiger, Sisto Santodonato, Bryan French.

Meeting at approx. 7:10 p.m.

BF: Welcome, good chili, etc. On to BMFF topic - Not sure exactly how much we earned, but estimate around \$2000.

EV: Scott Nelson from Dunn Bros. has pledged at least \$1000 to DXC, but we need to present a 'legacy' proposal - something longer lasting. Not just paying light bills, etc.

AF: Let's decide how much to dedicate to Youth Skiing now and worry about larger XC issues later. re: Youth Skiing, a 'MidSki' type program might be able to use the school district to help apply for tax-exempt donations.

PH: I believe the Salmelas were working on a 'school ski' program that received something on the order of 50 Rossignol skis for the kids at Stowe and Marshall to use. I wonder if those skis can be used at other schools. I wonder if we can find out how this happened.

BF: Past BMFF earnings were used in conjunction with registration fees for a summer program that Gary Colliander coached for Duluth Biathlon.

AF: Two coaches would be a good idea. I'd like to be on this summer program committee.

**Motion** (AF/BB): DXC spends \$1000 of BMFF proceeds for a summer XC ski training program for high school-aged kids. Unanimous.

PH: We may need to add a 'Youth Liaison' as a DXC Board Position.

BF: Should we host the BMFF next year?

All: Yes.

BB: Should it be at the Omnimax again?

PH: Let's let the BMFF committee decide.

AF shared some information from the 2005 BMFF committee post-event wrap up.

BF reminded everyone about the current state of affairs with the IRS. General discussion ensued.

**Motion** (AF/BB): DXC splits into two entities. DXC as it currently exists as one entity, and the Duluth Cross Country Ski Education Foundation as the second. Discussion included assertion that an educational 501c3 would support the training of children skiers; would need well-groomed trails; would especially need a facility to support the educational mission. Unanimous.

EV: These two entities will definitely need completely separate financial books.

BB: Youth education definitely fits into the educational aspect of the 501c3.

EV: Bryan, make sure this plan doesn't have any hamstrings - that this 501c3 status as we envision is clean.

Discussion: Possible things an educational 501c3 would support: Teaching ski technique; ski preparation; ski trail grooming clinic; trail maintenance/design forums; lecture series; guest speakers; host guest coaches; coach training clinics; training high school level coaches; XC ski education in the schools; youth XC development programs; scholarship/equipment for financially challenged XC skiers.

EV: Develop ski training facilities, snowmaking, trail development, etc.

BF: This group will need a board. Any suggestions for names? Morris Levy, Robin Downs, one of the Salmelas, John Farchmin, Scott or Sara Kylander, Matt Harrison, Erich Roeber, Heidi Hebert, Mark Knudson, Tim Holst, Ann Sudoh, Steve Kramer. Current DXC board members Doug Olsen and Brian Bich would prefer to spend their energies on the new educational 501c3 organization.

AF: If this educational 501c3 application is successful, perhaps we should request applications for that board.

DO: If this new 501c3 organization had a home facility, its surrounding trails could be the ones it develops and supports.

DO: Sharing websites is a great idea.

BB: Having a physical location is very important.

BB: Can we/should we ask to take over Spirit Mountain's Nordic Center?

DO: We would definitely need to be a 501c3 AND have a \$75,000 budget (or however much) for a FT staff person.

EV: If we were based out of one specific location, that could disenfranchise the rest of the city that isn't from that area.

BF: If the programs and mission were strong enough, I don't think the location would matter.

BB: The Foundation could be have a home base, but the 501c4 club, as it currently exists would be everywhere.

DO: For the official club race, it's important that it always be a smaller, community-based race. If we ever decided to go for a big race, that would be done by a separate entity.

**Motion:** (EV/AF) DXC will add links to local XC coaches to our website. Discussion about quality of coaches and concerns about liability if problems arise. PH mentions that only one local coach (Eve Stein) has expressed interest in a web link. AF rescinds second, until more than one coach expresses interest. EV will round up at least 3 coaches for website, at which time board will reconsider.

Meeting adjourned 9:30.

Minutes by Bryan French