

**Tsalteshi Trails Association Board Meeting Agenda**  
**Dec. 4, 2014, 5:30 p.m.**  
**Skyview Library**

Members Present: Dan Harbison, John Mohorcich, John Pothast, Lindsay Fagrelus, Scott Downing, Mike Crawford, Stephanie Musgrove, Jenny Neyman (telephonically)

Members Absent: Lynn Dusek, Bill Holt

1. Approval of Agenda – Agenda was approved.
2. Approval of Minutes – Minutes were approved.
3. Guests – Morgan Aldridge (prospective treasurer), Jeff Fox (biathlon)
4. Chair's Report – Dan Harbison. No report.
5. Treasurer's Report – (Stephanie Musgrove): Presented YTD accounting. Youth ski revenue is up significantly (with more kids participating and discontinuation of the discount for siblings). Stephanie advises a need for better planning on grants to avoid overages. Between RTP (lighting) grant and Bobcat grant TTA spent about \$6,000 for its match, much from revenue sharing, which is unrestricted and could be used for other things. (RTP grant required a \$12,500 match, of which TTA met all but \$2,100 through pole donations and volunteer labor). Dan posits there should be a board member serving as grants liaison to work with Bill on grant planning/management, as it's getting to be too big a job for just Bill, especially when he's also grooming, etc. Scott proposes perhaps moving to an executive director model, so trails maintenance and grants management don't fall to the same person.
6. Committee Reports
  - a. Biathlon — Jeff Fox reports there's a new push in the state for biathlon programs to be housed under the UAF Cooperative Extension 4-H program. Local biathlon was housed under the Cycle and Ski Club, which is no longer active. Local participants would then need to be members of Alaska Biathlon, USAA, TTA and 4-H — fees might be getting onerous. And TTA might lose some contact/control of biathlon if it's under 4-H. John M comments that if TTA took it over now, it could always change later. John M motion, Scott second, to house biathlon under TTA. Unanimous consent. Biathlon also needs a new place to house guns (were kept at Snowshoe Gun Club). John M motion, Scott second, to move guns to Soldotna Sports Complex. Unanimous consent. Jeff also reported that TTA's biathlon safety (closing Wolf, Raven, Coyote and Beaver) is perhaps unnecessarily cautious. Could probably just close Raven and Beaver (open only to biathlon participants) and leave Wolf and Coyote open.
  - b. Events — Mike reports that Turkey Trot was a success with 68 participants. TTA splits proceeds 50/50 with T200. Cyclocross, for a first-time, last-minute

event, was successful in participation and fun. Didn't make money as most participants were already TTA members (got discounted rate), and Mike ended up springing for beer. But event will likely grow in the future. Film fest saw big spike in membership renewals, bringing in about \$900 in memberships alone.

- c. Community (see b.)
- d. Membership (Scott) — no report
- e. Racing (Renee) — no report
- f. School Liaison — Dan reports that Tsalteshi will host Homer's meet this weekend, due to poor conditions in Homer. Underscores the variability of the school sports calendar at the trails.
- g. Technology (Mike) — no report
- h. Trail Development — Dan reports that trail signs have been switched to winter rules. Still, people have been out walking with dogs. Needs more education to remind users of the change.
- i. Youth Ski — John reports that participant limit was raised from 120 to 156 to get in all the kids on the wait list (more coaches were recruited). Might need to buy more equipment, which would eat up increase in registration revenue.

## 7. Old Business

- a. Finance/Revenue Committee — Committee wants board direction on soliciting donations. Jenny has prepared promotional material about Tsalteshi to present to potential funders, and Bill brainstormed a list of 30 or so possible targets. TTA used to avoid seeking/accepting donations from corporations based outside Alaska. Should we allow that now? What model of donations should we present — sponsor a program or provide general-use funds? And how should we recognize donors? (Dan comments that previous boards didn't want to turn the trails into NASCAR with sponsor signs everywhere. Mike reminds us that the website lists in-kind donors and can post logos and links to additional donors.) Dan thinks we're better off asking for support for specific things — buy a snowmachine, etc. — so should present a list of \$10,000 (or whatever) amount of stuff we need, and donors could choose any or several items. John M suggests that board members create funding proposals for the programs they're involved with (Scott for biathlon, Mike for events and the website redesign, John for Youth Ski, etc.).
- b. Trail Development Grant — Completed and final paperwork and reimbursements have been submitted.
- c. Storage and safety of equipment — Bill has run a chain through equipment to

prevent theft, but a better long-term storage solution is needed to protect equipment and keep it out of the weather. John M wonders about using biathlon structure as some sort of wall/shelter. Dan and John P suggest talking to Sarge at Skyview about using the (now-vacant) auto shop area for TTA storage.

- d. Rec and Trails Grant — no report
  - e. Seeking donations (See a.)
  - f. Create an appreciation liaison — Mike urges that TTA be better at tracking and thanking donors and volunteers by designating a board member to be an appreciation liaison to work with the treasurer and make sure thank-you notes are sent, website thank-you lists are up to date, etc. Proposes recognizing Volunteer and Business of the Year, awarding plaques and recognizing awardees on the website (John suggests a sign up by the bench listing recipients, too). 2014 recipients will be Nic and Natalie Larson for their work on the single-track trail, and Beemun's for general support throughout the year.
8. New Business — none
  9. Board Comments — none
  10. Next meeting — 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2015, Kenai River Center
  11. Adjournment — 7 p.m.

**Tsalteshi Trails Association Annual Meeting**  
**Dec. 4, 2014, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Skyview Library**

- About 25 people attended. Mike showed slideshow of photos from previous year's events and video teaser for upcoming Iceman event.
- Dan fielded questions about grants, bathrooms, fat-tire bikes, biathlon and land acquisition.
- Steve Ford with Kenai Peninsula Outdoors Club presented TTA with a \$500 donation.
- Two new board members were voted in to fill seats vacated by Stephanie and Dan— Morgan Aldridge and Josh Overturf.