



Minutes of the Fall 2017 Meeting

- Date:** September 30, 2017
- Location:** Maggiano's Little Italy, McLean, VA
- Host Club:** Club Crabtowne - Molly Hochman
- Attendees:** The attendance list is available [on this link](#).

Call to Order

Peter Porton, Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 8:41 am. Peter welcomed the 47 delegates, representing the 18 clubs and seven tour operators: Joe Ferrara, Banchi Outdoor Adventures; Doug Horstman, Encompasse Tours; Sean McErlean, Holidayz; [ski.com](#), John Frasca; Sportours, Effie Rubenstein; Sports America, Mike and Sheri Agnew, Marco Dallapiccola and Agnese Leonardelli.

Peter lead a moment to remember Judy Miller.

Executive Committee Reports

- **Secretary's Report:** Frank Peñaranda moved and Peter Porton seconded to approve the minutes from the May 6, 2017 Spring meeting as e-mailed to the council members with some minor corrections. The motion passed.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Steve Peirce distributed the treasurer's report and noted that the funds are in good standing. Dues, due in spring, are past due after today. Dave Karczmarek moved and Jay Crouthers seconded to accept the report. The motion passed.
- **Website Report:** Frank Peñaranda e-mailed the [Trip Sanction Report](#). We are above target on the number of trips sanctioned for this period. He needs information from clubs for their BRSC sanctioned trips so he can put the information on the site. Please send him a link to your club's flyer for the trips. All sanctioned requests will be acknowledged within 48 hrs. or he did not receive your request. A reminder that the site is a public one, mostly serving the BRSC clubs' needs and therefore the site is wholesale not retail. So, all trip prices are removed from the general flyers posted for BRSC-sponsored trips. He also indicated that Clubs may submit their newsletters as a link that he will post on the site. On Hot News (at the top of the page) clubs may post items such as having one slot left on a trip or some event is rapidly approaching. The minutes of meetings are also posted on the site. Frank welcomes all ideas that may better serve the BRSC objectives and clubs' needs.
- **Race Report:** Marshall Walsh, Race Coordinator for 2017-2018, reports he has been working with contacts at the mountain and will ask trip leaders for racing names in November. The race will be Tuesday, February 6th. He will send promotional material to all trip leaders to help spike attendance. He is getting up to speed with Dave Olsen's spreadsheet and working with Ski camp to set up racing lessons on Sunday or Monday prior to Tuesday's race. A discussion ensued over the advantages of racing individually over a few days as Dave Karczmarek does

with the Winterfest versus the structure used for large groups as Dave Olsen does with the Western Carnival. Molly Hochman would like a description of the course sent out prior to signing up.

Old Business

- **2018 Western Carnival Update (Whistler):** Noble McClellan (Richmond Ski Club) and Mike Agnew (Sports America Tours) report they are freshly back from Whistler where they checked out the lodging, conference center and restaurants. They met with the Whistler representative. They toured the Coast, the Chateau, the Crystal, Delta Suites and the Listel. They ate in great restaurants with world renowned chefs and warn of needing reservations far in advance for some places. There are 232 participants signed up thus far. Clubs can still tag on and small groups can piggy back on another club. Contact Mike Agnew. Be sure to check charges for using credit cards and phones in Canada. The exchange rate is now less favorable and the contract price will be adjusted later. GST is no longer refundable.
- **2018 Eurofest (Trois Vallées, France):** Mike DiProspero (Columbia) and Sean McErlean (Holidaze). Mike was pleased to report six clubs (136 participants) are signed up and have contracts with our tour operator Holidaze Ski Tours. The six clubs are Columbia, Fagowees, Fredericksburg, Harford, North Mountain and Snow Searchers. Four of the clubs have sold out their requested allotments. Only a handful of spaces remain with the other two clubs. Visa and Master Card are taken. Capital One and Sapphire don't charge foreign transaction fees, nor do several individual banks. It's wise to check these out before hand, as is the practice of alerting one's card provider of any scheduled foreign travel destinations. The exchange rate has increased but is now dropping. Only the land portion will be affected. 56 are going to Paris. 60% of participants are going on the pre-trip to Paris or the post trip to LaPlagne. As for phone use, he reported that T-Mobile has unlimited data in Europe, and other providers may also.
- **2018 Winterfest (Stowe, VT):** Dave Karczmarek (Baltimore) and Joe Ferrara (Banchi Outdoor Adventures). This marks the 3rd year of our re-establishing Winterfest. The program has been very successful and six clubs are signed up this year. The clubs are Baltimore, Columbia, Fagowees, NGA, Richmond, and SCWDC. There are two pick up spots, Ashland and the White Marsh Mall. There is also a U-drive option. Each individual club sets its own pricing. The goal is for 100 participants. There will be a Fun Race so let members know when they sign up. If a club is participating it need to contact Frank Peñaranda with the appropriate LINK for the club's web page. Joe Ferrara is using 56 passenger buses and will hold the passenger count to 38-42 people per coach for comfort and space. The trip is 12 hours from Richmond and 9 hours from White Marsh. The EPIC pass is now part of Stowe, but Joe needs the name and pass ID to convert an individual's pass into lift tickets. The clubs get credit for members having EPIC. The FAM date is Dec. 14-17 at the Commodore Inn and if a club is on the fence a representative may be able to go. Save the date: March 3-8, 2019 for the Sunday River Winterfest.

New Business

- **2019 Bids for Sun Valley Western Carnival** - Susie Pumphrey (Pentagon Ski Club), Trip Coordinator. Bids were solicited from Sportours, Encompasse, Sports America Tours and Winter Ski and Sport. Sportours, Encompasse and Sports America Tours bid. The vendors

were given 15 minutes to highlight their bids and answer questions. Susie Pumphrey then presented a bid comparison spreadsheet and allowed for discussion. Steve Peirce distributed the ballots with each club's entitled numbers. Susie Pumphrey and Frank Peñaranda counted the ballots. Peter Porton announced that Effie Rubenstein, Sportours, had been selected as the tour operator. Following lunch three decisions were made. By a show of hands The Welcome Party will be on Monday instead of Sunday so as not to interfere with Super Bowl. Peter made a motion to upgrade the food package to the premium Helicopter package for \$20 more a head. Dave Olsen seconded and it was approved by a show of hands. Drink tickets will be limited to domestic beer instead of craft. This too was approved by a show of hands.

- **2019 Bids for Eurofest** - Steve Peirce (Pentagon Ski Club) Trip Coordinator. Bids were solicited from Holidayz, Ski.com and Sports America Tours. All these vendors bid. Holidayz presented both a bid for Val Gardena and a wild card bid for Engleberg. Ski.com presented a bid for Val Gardena and wild card bids for Val Di Fassa, Courmayeur and Alta Badia. Sports America Tours presented a bid for Val Gardena and a wild card bid for Val Di Fassa. Each vendor was given 15 minutes to highlight their bids and answer questions. Steve Peirce then presented a bid comparison. Steve suggested the destination be narrowed to Val Gardena and Val Di Fassa since both these destinations were similar Italian resorts located on the Sella Ronda. After further discussion Steve recommended that the selection be further narrowed to the two Val Di Fassa bids. A motion to that effect was approved and Molly Hochman moved to pick between the two Val Di Fassa bids. ??? seconded. The motion was passed by a show of hands. Sports America Tours and Val Di Fassa were chosen unanimously by a vote of raised hands.
- **2020 Western Carnival (Banff) and 2020 Eurofest (St. Anton)** were not discussed
- **2021 Western Carnival:** the Snowmass destination was not discussed nor changed.
- **Future Western Carnival Location:** Peter Porton reported receiving a phone call from Telluride requesting they be considered for the Western Carnival.
- **2021 Eurofest:** After some discussion it was the general consensus to keep Nagano, Japan as the destination for 2021. Kenneth Eng has been to Japan many times and feels Nagano has a better Japanese experience.
- **Eurofest/Winterfest:** Steve Peirce would like to move Eurofest up a week so as not to interfere with Winterfest. Presently the two trips interfere with each other and may prevent people who would otherwise go on both from doing so. Dave Karczmarek states that in the future we should give as many options as possible. East-West-Europe. Winterfest could be moved down a week. Steve Peirce motioned: In the future we will try to have Eurofest be bid for the last week of February, and try to separate it from Winterfest, as the second week of March. Robert Schwab seconded and it was approved.
- **Warren Miller Movie and Ski Expo:** Kenneth Eng of SCWDC is the Warren Miller independent film promotor for this area and SCWDC is hosting the movie **Line of Descent** at the U.S. Naval Memorial, Naval Heritage Center, on Sunday November 12th. There are three screenings: 12 pm, 3 pm and 6 pm. The cost is \$12 per person for the ski expo and movie. He has free movie tickets available for door prizes for your club. If you would like to have a table

with 2 chairs at the expo to promote your club the cost is \$50. Please contact Kenneth Eng, captain.ken@email4u.com if you would like either the tickets or a table.

- **Election for President:** Peter Porton announced that an election committee should be formed to select a President according to the BRSC bylaws. Steve Peirce indicated at that time he was interested in running for that position. Later in the meeting Peter Porton stated that Bill Schrodel would head the election committee, since he is the outgoing President, and Peter being a fellow Pentagon member could not be on the committee with Steve Peirce running for that position.
- **Future BRSC Cruise Proposal:** The Fagowees would like to propose a BRSC summer cruise. They will prepare a presentation for the next meeting.
- **Spring Meeting:** Potomac Ski and Adventure (Frank Peñaranda) agreed to host the spring 2018 meeting on May 5th at Maggiano's Little Italy in Tysons Corner, VA.
- **Adjournment:** Frank Peñaranda moves to adjourn. Peter Porton seconded and all approved. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Susie Pumphrey
Secretary RSC