

**MINUTES**  
**PWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**  
**October 15, 2020 – 6:30-8:00 p.m.**  
**Conference Call due to Covid-19 concerns**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board Members:** Tom Adams, Janet Caille, Mike Corbin, Elaine Green, Bob Hansen, Janis Kloster, Jack Morgan, Linda Reiter, Mike Shearer, Sandy Sticken, Bruce Williams, Jim Zakely, and Kristy Wumkes (USFS Liaison).

**Board Members absent:** Katina Mallon, and Karen Roth,

**Advisory Board Members:** Fred Allen, Chuck Bell, Kevin Cannon, Alan Meyer, Mark Snyder, and Celia Walker.

**PWV Members, Other:** Karen Artell, Jim Branch, Jeanne Corbin, Sean Orner. and Pete Ramirez.

**Guests:** Jeff Randa, and Jared Smith, USFS (Acting) North Zone Recreation Staff Officer.

**ESTABLISHING QUORUM AND MEETING GROUND RULES.** Elaine reminded everyone to please mute their microphone when not speaking. Elaine asked Secretary Janet Caille to confirm a quorum which Janet did. Elaine asked Jared Smith, USFS (Acting) North Zone Recreation Staff Officer, to introduce himself. Elaine also welcomed guest Jeff Randa.

**AGENDA.** Elaine Green asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. Elaine mentioned that Item B in Committee Reports should be Recruitment, not Spring Training. The agenda was adopted.

**MINUTES.** Elaine asked if there were any additions or corrections to the September minutes. Seeing none, the minutes were adopted.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**(A) CHAIR REPORT.** Elaine Green talked about plans for the **Year End Event (YEE)** and **Annual Meeting**. Both will be virtual this year. The YEE committee met last week. The plan for the YEE is to put together a video presentation via Zoom which PWV members can watch at any time. For the Annual Meeting, instead of having the Annual Meeting as part of the YEE, per the Bylaws the requirement is to make the Board available for members to ask any questions of the Board and give an update on the status of the organization. To accomplish this, Elaine said that for the Annual Meeting, we need to have a Zoom time when all the Board members are available. Chair Elect, Mike Corbin, and Elaine have proposed 6:00 p.m. on November 19, before the next Board meeting. Elaine asked Janet to poll the Board members to see who will be present. Janet pointed out that with elections, there will be 5 new members on the Board. Of the Board members present, 7 confirmed that they will be available November 19, 6:00 p.m. for the Annual Meeting.

Elaine sat in on a webinar entitled **“Dealing with Crowdedness on Trails”** put on by the New York/New Jersey Trails Conference, trails up the Hudson Valley. They have some unique challenges, one of which is they have a train from Grand Central Station that ends up at their Trailhead, so they can have up to 500 people getting off the train at once to hike a trail, many of whom are novice hikers. This is quite a unique challenge. They hire and have volunteer stewards, using crews from Americorps for 6 months. Instead of having people hike along with the hikers, they station stewards at the Trailhead, at ridgetops, and at intersections along the trail to keep people from being lost. etc. They have data-driven decision making, for example they

know when most people get lost, and they know when most people swim illegally, etc. It was an interesting discussion to sit in on.

Elaine had sent a copy to Board and Advisory Board members of the nomination of Fred Allen for the NWSA Wilderness Championship Award. Elaine had sent the copy because she wanted everyone to know of the background and all that Fred Allen has done for PWV over the last several years. Elaine also learned a lot while she knew some of what Fred had done. This past Thursday, PWV learned that Fred Allen received this award! Elaine appreciated the fact that Fred has represented PWV so well. Elaine mentioned that anyone wanting to see the bios of others nominated for the award should contact Dave Cantrell. The award was given at the annual National Wilderness Workshop, held virtually this year. Fred received congratulations. Fred said he was quite humbled and very proud that PWV was recognized in this way, any way we can get the PWV name out nationally is fantastic. Elaine also expressed thanks to Chuck Bell, Dave Cantrell and Kevin Cannon for writing letters of support for Fred's nomination.

**(B) CHAIR ELECT REPORT.** Mike Corbin mentioned this was his last meeting as Chair Elect. He had no further report, saying elections would be conducted later in the meeting.

**(C) IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR.** Tom Adams expressed thanks to the Recruitment Committee particularly Celia Walker for sending out dispatches every couple of weeks to the 74 2020 applicants. She also sent out a survey in conjunction with Margaret Shaklee. They received many positive responses.

**(D) USFS REPORT.** Kristy Wumkes, USFS Liaison, gave a report on the **Cameron Peak Fire** which is still ongoing. Kristy asked Alan Meyer to show the new closure map which for now is the entire Canyon Lakes Ranger District (CLRD). The closure is in effect until Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, depending on what the fire does. The Pawnee Grasslands are not included. The fire is currently at 164,000+ acres and is now the largest recorded fire in Colorado history. Friday, unfortunately, will likely be a red flag day. The fire fighters are focusing on indirect line build in the Glen Haven, The Retreat and Storm Mountain areas, working on structure protection. They have ordered another 200 structural protection engines. The Fire Team is having trouble filling the requested resources.

Kristy gave a follow-up on discussion from last meeting on some of the **patrolling statistics**. Kristy's comparison was for July 1-Sept 16. Compared to last year, litter was pretty much a wash with maybe a 6-7% increase on dogs off leash.

Kristy thanked Alan Meyer for his hard work on the reverse 911 procedure. Kristy said that USFS District Ranger, Katie Donahue, was unable to attend the meeting due to fire duties. Kristy asked **Jared Smith**, USFS (Acting) North Zone Recreation Staff Officer, to say a few words. Jared said Friday will be another really challenging day for the Cameron Peak fire. Jared chatted briefly with Katie who is extremely busy and sorry to miss the meeting. If the fire dies off, she will be back. Concerning emergency communication, Kristy gave Jared a SpotX device which he has been working on with Larimer County Emergency Telephone Authority (LETA), specifically with a woman named Val. They are doing some testing to see if LETA can send a message directly to a SpotX device, and hopefully InReach. Testing has been unsuccessful so far. Val has contacted her support personnel at LETA hoping for a solution. Jared will be looking forward to working on protocol for the future, checking in and out, communications, etc. Jared expressed thanks for having him, and he should be here until mid-January. Jared said he was born in Fort Collins, his children are 6<sup>th</sup> generation Coloradoan, and the CLRD is his home unit. His family has had a cabin in the Red Feather area since 1959. In conclusion, Kristy said it had been a pleasure to work with Elaine.

At this point, Elaine Green, said the **fire blew up** on Wednesday and it's now affecting more PWV members. Mike Corbin got the ball rolling on an initiative to help other PWV members. On Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> an email went out to all members via the Web Team inviting people to call if they have a resource to share or if they need help due to the fire. We are currently in the midst of trying to put a process together to help members in need. Elaine thanked Mike. Alan Meyer on behalf of Member Relations has been calling people directly.

Kevin Cannon said there are a lot of folks wondering about **bridges** for Blue Lake and Roaring Creek. Kevin heard from the fire liaison officer recently and it doesn't look good on getting in there because the fire is blowing up. Kevin said if we don't get to the bridges this year, he is looking at replacing them with steel wire joists.

Alan Meyer displayed a **Google map of all active member addresses** with a pin drop capability. Alan demo-ed for the Board. Alan will share with the Board, and update when we get new members. This is an excellent tool for showing neighborhoods (for potential get-togethers, for places SpotX units could be located more centrally, etc.). Celia Walker asked if it was possible to make the map available to all PWV members. Alan said he was reluctant to make available to all PWV members but it was possible. Celia stressed it should be public to members only.

Fred Allen gave a status update on the people he had talked to (or heard about) who live within the fire impacted area including Betty Blendi, Ken & Kristy Williams, and Amy Williams. Per Inciweb, the Cameron Peak Fire is currently 56% contained.

**(E) TREASURER'S REPORT.** Sandy Sticken explained the negative donation shown in the financial statements was because a donation was recorded incorrectly as \$100, instead of the actual \$50. We are not making money but are spending money casually. Sandy asked if there were any questions on the financial statement. The following motion was seconded and approved.

*Motion to approve the financial statement for this quarter.*

Elaine asked if anyone wanted to vote 'Nay' on this motion. Seeing none, the motion was approved. Sandy reminded everyone to turn in budgets by October 31. She wants to get everything turned in so we don't have items held over into the new year. Elaine reminded everyone that Operational Plans are due at the same time for the 21 designated committees.

**(F) SECRETARY.** Janet Caille thanked Alan for the new Google map of members he created, saying she had used it a couple of times already. Regarding fire-displaced PWV members, Janet and Mike Corbin have been in contact with Jeff Johnson who is in a hotel in Fort Collins. Janet also talked to Buckhorn Director, Austin Hubbard. He has been taking the volunteer fire fighters around to different fire roads. There is not a lot of fuel left in the area so they are fine.

Janet said that thanks to Mike Shearer, Sandy Sticken and herself, PWV has purchased 8 Chromebooks to be used for recertification and hopefully by other PWV committees. Mike had been scouting out good prices and so they were able to purchase Chromebooks for \$169/Chromebook which is definitely the best price Janet had seen. Janet thinks there are lots of possible uses (Public Outreach, Kids in Nature, etc.) in addition to recertification. Janet asked that Committee Chairs with possible uses for the Chromebooks to please contact her. Mike thanked Janet for making the grant happen. Janet said we spent a little beyond the \$1200 grant

amount but PWV had approved an additional \$1000 as needed and so PWV should be able to buy protective covers for the Chromebooks. Sandy is looking into getting PWV personalized covers.

Janet said this meeting was the last of her four-year term as Board Secretary. She thanked everyone for making this a personally enjoyable time. Elaine expressed gratitude to Janet for her dedication, perseverance, and keeping everyone on track. Chuck Bell commended Janet on the rapidity within which the minutes were completed and distributed. Chuck feels this is really important to get the minutes to Board members while the meeting is fresh on their minds.

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.**

**(A) SUPPLEMENTAL TRAINING.** Linda Reiter is working on the operational plan and budget for Supplemental Training. She has checked with several of the traditional presenters to see if any of them wanted to do a virtual class. So far, Winter Patrols and Wilderness First-Aid were a 'no'. For CPR First-Aid, the presenter is willing to try a blended class, 4 hours on-line and two hours outside. Tectonics is a wait and see and no response from Wildflowers. Until we get more direction concerning the pandemic and the fire, Linda doesn't know what the Board of Directors (BOD) wants to see and asked for input. Alan Meyer said not knowing what next year will be like, maybe we shouldn't go back to the traditional presenters but focus on training that could be done virtually. Wilderness First-aid has to be done in person. Elaine said that on-going training is one of the things that keeps an organization vibrant and appreciated Linda's efforts to continue training virtually.

**(B) RECRUITMENT /DISPATCHES.** Celia Walker said her report showed that PWV has been pretty successful in keeping the interest of possible recruits thru the bi-monthly emails. Celia wouldn't send these out more frequently than every 2 weeks. The varied format was helpful and not boring. The subjects were low-hanging fruit, so we would need additional subjects and more authors if we do this approach for other things. Being an author is pretty easy as it is a mutual collaboration between Celia and the author. If an author wants to do the whole thing that is fine, and if not, Celia will fill in.

Celia can see a potential for using this technique for a variety of other reasons. In recruitment, there is always a gap for applicants between January and March and again between March and May. This technique could be used for feeding some training materials (even sub-portions of the Training Manual) to the applicants and staying in touch with them. The materials can be made more appealing with images and videos too. If we had a subset of "Friends of PWV", this could also be a way to stay in touch with them. This might be a way to build Supplemental Training with mini-lessons taught in a series. Celia said that a group in town called the Front Range Forum does seminars taught by their own group. Now between Oct. and next May, we have regular members and no Affiliation meetings, so maybe PWV could use an approach such as this, for staying in touch with our regular members and trying to reduce the numbers of drop-off next summer. Since we won't be able to hold in-person preview events in January, maybe this approach could be used. Previews in the future could use some portion of this.

Celia also said that if we had relationships with businesses in town like Woodward Governor, maybe something like this could be a service we could offer their employees. We could send them a lesson once a month and then they could distribute to their employees. This might be a way to teach topics like Outdoor Ethics, basic backpacking skills, hiking safety, etc., as a service to them. Mike Corbin mentioned that he and Celia had talked about options like this

for Spring Training. Decisions can't be made now but doing some of the training this way or via Zoom would probably be good. Bruce Williams commended Celia on a job well done. Celia said this was a sanity saver for her during the pandemic. As a professional editor, she was able to stay in touch with several of the new applicants including Jeff Randa. Janet Caille also complimented Celia and thought this could be a way to continue Affiliation meetings. Celia said PWV needs to see who might want to use this approach. She could send out samples to whomever might want to use. Alan Meyer mentioned the list the webteam keeps a list that they call 'Friends of PWV' which includes everyone who has gone to our website asking for a PWV newsletter. Since we don't send out newsletters all that often, this might be a way to take advantage of this list. Celia asked anyone thinking of other topics to please send to her.

**(C) NOMINATING COMMITTEE.** Elaine said before starting on this process she wanted to thank Alan Meyer for all his work and for becoming PWV's Zoom Master. Elaine said Alan would explain the process. Elaine said that the PWV tradition after presenting candidates is to have those nominated to physically leave the room so discussion may be held. Since that is not possible this time, Alan will use a Zoom feature to push non-Board attendees into a breakout room while the Board member vote.

Alan explained that once he has pushed someone into the breakout room, they cannot leave the room until Alan lets them back out. Alan also explained that an anonymous poll will be used for voting. Mike Corbin said that the nominating committee met, discussed a lot of people and decided on standards the committee was looking for in Board members (people who would be involved, would speak up, and had past beneficial experiences). Mike feels we have some very excellent candidates from a variety of backgrounds. Mike asked each candidate to give a short synopsis.

**Sean Orner** said she is excited for the opportunity to be on the Board and has enjoyed meetings she has attended so far. She said she is thankful to have someone like Janet to learn things from. **Pete Ramirez** is interested in learning more about PWV and hopes to contribute where he can, given his experience professionally and personally. **Jim Branch** was honored to be asked to be on the Board; he is new to the PWV having joined in 2019. Jim has been involved with a lot of non-profits and is looking forward to participating where he can. **Mark Snyder** thinks that it's great to move from the Advisory Board to the Board and is looking forward to being a voting member and is excited to help lead the Board into next year, especially with the fire situation. **Jeanne Corbin** said many people on the boards know her. She has been asked to be on the BOD in past years but felt like she didn't have time. Since she's now Vice Chair of Kids in Nature (KIN) and Trail Patrolling Committee (TPC) Chair, she has more time and experience to offer and is looking forward to contributing.

Alan pushed the candidates (except for Bruce) to a breakout room and told them how to return when he let them back in. Discussion ensued with many positive comments about all. When asked, Janet said PWV currently has 14 Board members, 5 are leaving, and electing 5 more will keep PWV at 14 Board members. Janet also explained that Elaine's term would normally expire but since she will now be Past Chair, her term will extend to October, 2021.

Alan then pushed out the remaining non-Board members and he brought up the voting poll. All were elected unanimously. Elected to the Board were Jim Branch, Jeanne Corbin, Sean Orner, Pete Ramirez and Mark Snyder. Bruce Williams was elected Chair Elect and Sean Orner was elected Secretary. Elected to the Advisory Board were Tom Adams, Janet Caille, Jack Morgan, Linda Reiter and Jim Zakely. Re-elected to the Advisory board were Gerry Cashman, Jan Creager, Judy Jacks, Bob Manuel and Alan Meyer. Mike officially welcomed the new

members to the Board and welcomed Sean Orner as Secretary and Bruce Williams as Chair Elect.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

**(A) AD HOC REVIEW OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS (REVERSE 911).** Alan Meyer said he was hopefully presenting for the last time on Emergency communications for at least a while. He wanted to summarize where we are going and what some of the next steps are. Alan said he had a great team and expressed thanks also to Kristy Wumkes our USFS Liaison. Alan has had many, many phone calls with Kristy. Alan's presentation showed the range of solutions the team considered along with a specific recommendation and next steps.

One of the questions Alan has had is why didn't the Canyon Lakes Ranger District (CLRD) reach out and communicate with PWV like they do with their employees, assuming they had a well-tested process in place. In actuality, the process isn't as well defined as previously thought. Alan presented the following slide and then went through each point:

### **CLRD actions for employees**

From discussions with Kristy and Katie:

- Very few CLRD employees in the field. Most stay on roads, not trails.
- CLRD employees often have radios in their trucks, can sometimes hear updates if within repeater range (they have to be within line of sight of a repeater tower).
- If a CLRD employee's supervisor is available (9-5 weekdays, not on vacation), near a radio, and in place they can send/receive transmissions ... they will attempt to contact the employee in the field.
- Fire Dispatch focuses on communication with fire crews, not others (not even other parts of CLRD)
- For Cameron Peak Fire, Larimer County Sheriff's Office methodically checked trailheads for cars or other signs that people need rescue from the trails.

For fire dispatch, working with NOCO alerts or LETA definitely has possibilities to do a better job in communicating. The committee started out thinking about having dedicated staffing to reach out to people on the trail. This would be very complicated and would require a 24x7x365 team. This would also require regular tracking of any changes to member's 2-way devices or of technology. We would need contact info for all our members and need to have all technology (InReach, SpotX) information. PWV members aren't always so good at keeping personal data up-to-date. And if PWV had a team, that team would constantly need to be updating, system testing and checking technology. This would be a very big ask.

Alan said, that for now, the recommendation is to focus on actions that individual members can make. When the fire occurred, the Corbins were on Big South, Robert Blakely and Lori Wiles were on Trap Park, Steve Musial and Randy Ratliff were in Comanche and Alan was in the Rawah. In every case, if we had better technology or had been better trained everyone would have benefitted. Regardless of which path PWV takes, we need to focus on using what we already have.

Alan presented a picture from his presentation. We have people on the trail and then we have a responsible person at home. The responsible person needs to know there is a fire. When members were on the trail, they could have sent a message saying we see smoke, what's going on? As PWV members, we know we take risks when we are patrolling. The two parts of the

problem are being aware there is a fire (or other emergency) and then having the ability to communicate. PWV needs to make sure our members can mitigate risks. The committee is going to propose offering incentives for two-way devices only. Alan said PWV members should have at least one person who would not be on the trail with them as an emergency contact. A lot of training is needed. Encourage that patrollers on the trail send check-in messages more frequently. The more often a patroller sends messages the easier it would be to communicate with them. In summary, from Alan's presentation:

**Recommendation: Focus on member actions Overview:**

- Members always assume some risk when patrolling
- Encourage members to get 2-way devices (incentive program)
- Put responsibility on patroller to manage risk by having (preferably 2+) Responsible Persons (RPs) who could communicate with patroller in the field
- The RPs could be friends & family, or PWV colleagues
- Member and RPs will be trained on how to communicate with 2-way devices
- The patroller should send CheckIn messages to the RPs (and CLRD) at the start and end of each patrol to provide an easy way for RPs to respond
- Training!!! Regular training should be available to members (and their RPs)

On the information side, an email came out from Katie Donahue at 8:47 on Aug. 13th. Many members appreciated the message but it didn't do anything for people who were on the trail. Unfortunately, the contact at home does not usually receive these messages. Alan showed in a slide how to sign up for NOCO alerts or LETA (Text NOCOALERT to 888777 to receive text alerts for all of Larimer County emergencies, or sign up at [nocoalert.org](http://nocoalert.org) to receive text alerts or emails based on your address). Alan said one can sign up to see about ONLY a specific fire but it is best to sign up for every alert in Larimer County. Hopefully, the responsible person at home is aware of emergencies through the news.

Alan said the team will start focusing on training as one of the next steps. Face to face training is difficult not just because of the pandemic but to get 250-300 people together. The committee is looking at some short zoom videos, or putting together some good PowerPoint slides. This ad hoc group is not taking over the responsibility of training for all features of using InReach or SPOTx – that is up to Supplemental Training to find other trainers or take advantage of the good online training provided by Garmin and SPOT.

Alan presented the incentive program.

Device Incentive Program Proposal to provide (another) incentive program for members to purchase their own SPOT X or InReach device.

For 2021 budget we will submit:

- \$2000 budget for 2-way device incentives (not for 1-way devices)
- \$100 incentive for each proof-of-purchase
- Member will be responsible for subscription cost Few members took advantage of incentives in the past. With emphasis on emergency communications, perhaps more will this time

This will come up next month in the budget meeting. In the past only had a handful of people who bought the devices asked for reimbursement through previous incentive programs. The expectation is that as we emphasize and offer training on emergency communication that more members may buy a 2-way device and ask for the incentive.

For next steps, Alan thinks we need to strongly encourage members to update their member profile information that is important for emergency communication. Members can now

put in their 2-way devices and record the InReach address or SpotX phone number and keeping that information current will be important. There are a lot of couples in PWV. Many list their spouse as their Emergency contact which won't work if they patrol with each other. Alan pointed out that we can list as many emergency contacts as we want. So we need more training, we will offer incentives, but we have a lot of details to figure out. We have a decision on the direction we are going to take.

Celia Walker thanked Alan for this. Celia said Dennis Helmer was out on Rawah North and they hiked out in the dark when they saw the smoke. Celia asked if a message that is sent out to PWV members could also be sent out to the PWV emergency contacts? Emergency contacts for couples, we need to alert whoever is handling the application next year for new recruits, so that they list someone in addition to their spouse. Celia asked if it would make sense to contact Garmin and see if they have a way to alert all units within a given area. Alan said that in such an emergency, the Ranger sends a message to the webteam. The webteam doesn't have a list of emergency contacts from the database. Because this can be updated at any time, the webteam would have to pull the emergency contacts dynamically. Alan has talked to Garmin several times, explaining that SpotX is so much easier to use. Garmin has said it is working on some good features but won't say what they are. The only option Garmin offered is for PWV to buy an InReach Professional plan that PWV would own and all members to then give up their individual plan. Alan didn't think this would work for a lot of practical reasons and pricewise.

Jeanne Corbin said the average member doesn't have access to the contact persons. Individual profile is not accessible for the average member. Alan confirmed. Perhaps on the member listing we need an emergency contact field. Discussion continued. PWV members need to use the emergency contacts we have at home and take more responsibility for this. For example, the patrollers at Comanche Peak could have sent messages home asking about the fire, thus making it easier to respond. PWV's have a false sense of security thinking that their 'OK' messages are monitored more closely than they are. Alan explained that these messages are not constantly monitored by the CLRD liaison who receives them – instead, CLRD will only look back at the OK messages if someone asks them the last time some member checked-in. The ad-hoc team did consider having a dedicated set of PWV members who would receive the OK messages and monitor them– but again this is a very big ask. Karl Ritters recommends that everyone find 3 PWV members and put them on all the messages he sends.

USFS Jared Smith said PWV is headed in the right direction. This is all good information, and a synopsis of how the USFS works contact-wise. Having the home contacts is a great idea. Jared recommended having a duty supervisor and a sign-up calendar.

Elaine asked Linda Reiter if she was OK with the training implications of this process. Linda and Alan have talked. For training, Alan Meyer said he thought a short video or two would be better for training than a big long training session. Gerry Cashman had recommended a PowerPoint presentation also. The question was asked if a SpotX device would be needed to do the training. Alan said not necessarily. Alan said there are four targets of training: a member who owns their own InReach, a member who owns their own SpotX, a member who checks out one of the CLRD SpotX devices, and training for the person back home to know how to contact the patroller. The AGL's will hopefully explain how important a 2-way device can be. Alan mentioned one other thought, which is the non-patrolling committee might be a very interesting role for that group to take on. Jim Zakely brought up that requiring members to buy a device, if that occurs, might have an impact on recruiting.



## NEW BUSINESS.

**(A) NORDIC RANGERS.** Mike Corbin gave an introduction for PWV possibly having the Nordic Rangers folded under PWV. Mike explained that the Nordic Rangers are not independent like PWV and don't have their own charter and budget. They are a USFS volunteer program, but not a formal volunteer group. Since Kristy is leaving, management of the Nordic Rangers may become a problem. Quite a few of the Rangers, about 40% are PWV members also. They have very similar activities. The Nordic Rangers have a small number of trails, and they use the database. Mike thinks that if PWV needs to pick them up, it would be a practical thing to do. They would not be required to attend Spring Training, they have their own training. PWV would likely form a Nordic Ranger committee with a budget and a Chair and they would manage their process.

When Kristy and Mike talked about this a few years ago, Kristy did a poll of the Nordic Rangers and they weren't ready to join PWV yet. They now don't want to see the Nordic Rangers go away and are very dedicated. She polled the membership again recently. This doesn't mean it's going to happen but Kristy thought it would be a good thing to bring up. Kristy has tried in the past to get them to form a non-profit group but they have too much fun skiing and don't really want to get into what PWV does to function. Consequently, the USFS has managed them internally. The USFS should get more staffing but they don't know what that will look like yet. Kristy did poll them as going under PWV as a stand-alone committee. They would still have their own training and would have a voice on the Board since they would have a committee Chair. There is someone in Nordic Rangers and PWV, who might be interested in filling that role and be a spokes person. They could submit budget items to PWV and wouldn't have to depend on the whims of the USFS budget. Kristy said they were just bringing this up as a possibility to think about. Their season is actually year-round, but pared down in the summer and fall. Patrol season is December through late March. Elaine said due to lack of time that this could not be discussed at this time but at the next meeting.

Elaine asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed. Elaine congratulated the new Board members and thanked everyone for a great meeting. Thanks was expressed to Elaine also for a good year in challenging times. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Janet Caille, Secretary

Next Board Meeting: **November 19, 2020, 6:30 p.m.**