



## Minutes of the Fall 2023 Meeting

- Date:** October 28, 2023
- Location:** Wintergreen Resort, VA plus Zoom access
- Host Club:** Richmond Ski Club - Karen Noakes coordinator
- Attendees:** The attendance list is available on [this link](#).

### Call to Order

Steve Peirce, (Pentagon) President, called the meeting to order at 9:11 am. Steve welcomed the 30 delegates representing the 13 clubs and the two tour operators attending: Mike and Sheri Agnew of Group Travel Simplicity (GTS/WSS) and John Frasca of Ski.com. Maxine Jensen, Alpine Adventure and and Doug Horstman, Encompasse appeared via ZOOM.

### Executive Committee Reports

- **Secretary's Report:** Susie Pumphrey (Pentagon) previously emailed the minutes from the spring meeting to all representatives. There were minor corrections made and the minutes were again sent out prior to the meeting. There were no additional changes or corrections requested. Linda Steele (GEOINT) moved and Ron Kaltenbaugh (Frederick) seconded to approve the minutes from the May 6, 2023 Spring meeting as e-mailed to the council. The motion passed.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Gary Rubens (SCWDC) Treasurer, reported he sends out the bank statements and ledgers to the board monthly. There have been no major expenditures. We are using a BRSC credit card to pay for the meetings. Dave Karczmarek (Baltimore), Vice President BRSC, applauded Gary for work well done and reminded the representatives to copy Gary Rubens when contacting Ken Eng (SCWDC) to sanction the trips.
- **Website Report:** Ken Eng (SCWDC) Webmaster relayed his work on the website, trimming it up a bit to ease navigation. He has added "History of Trips" under CONTACTS for now. He reported he has posted 36 ski trips and four cultural trips sanctioned by the cubs. He reminded the representatives to write the name of the trips to sanction on the check submitted to Gary Rubens, Treasurer.

## Old Business

- **2024 Western Carnival Update (Lake Tahoe):** Mark Jones (Baltimore) and Doug Horstman (Encompasse) via ZOOM. Doug Horstman reported 236 participants from 8 clubs. The clubs are Baltimore, Columbia, Harford, Mogul, Peninsula, Pentagon, SCWDC and Sun, Snow and Surf. 2/3 of the participants are staying at Harveys and 1/3 are staying at Forest Suites. All BRSC events will be held at Harrahs which is connected to Harveys by a tunnel. Day trips to Northstar and Kirkwood will cost about \$68 apiece. All participants will have to purchase an Epic product as there will be no group lift pricing offered.
- **2024 Eurofest (Kitzbühel):** Mary-Jo Swinimer (SCWDC) and John Frasca (ski.com) were pleased to report that three clubs, Richmond SCWDC and Baltimore were signed up and Frederickburg is now partnering with Richmond. The trip is March 15-23, 2024. SCWDC is doing an extension to Innsbruck and Richmond is doing an extension to Vienna. Clubs may still join and may also may partner up with SCWDC.
- **2024 Winterfest (Sunday River, Maine):** Dave Karczmarek (Baltimore). The program has been very successful and seven clubs are signed up this year. The clubs are Baltimore, Club Crabtowne, Columbia, GEOINT, Pentagon Salisbury and SCWDC. Joe Ferrara of Banchi has 50 rooms reserved at the Jordan Hotel. There will be a northern bus and a southern bus. Presently pick up points are the White Marsh Mall north of Baltimore and the Park and Ride at Adelphi, MD. 2025 Winterfest's venue will be Mount Tremblant with Sugarloaf as back up.

## New Business

- **2025 Bids for Park City Western Carnival** - Bill Ferguson (Columbia), Trip Coordinator. Bids were solicited from Encompasse and Group Travel Simplicity and Ski.com. Ski.com and Group Travel Simplicity provided bids. The vendors were given 15 minutes to highlight their bids and answer questions. Bill Ferguson then presented a bid comparison spreadsheet and allowed for discussion. Steve Pierce (Pentagon) BRSC President conducted a vote by a show of hands. Mike and Sheri Agnew of Group Travel Simplicity (GTS) were chosen to be the Tour Operators for Western Carnival Park City 2025 to be held February 1-8, 2025.

- **2025 Bids for Chamonix Eurofest** - Susie Pumphrey (Pentagon) Trip Coordinator. Bids were solicited from Alpine Adventures, Ski.com and Group Travel Simplicity. All vendors presented bids for Chamonix. John Frasca of Ski.com also presented a wild card bid for Crans Montana and Massif. Each vendor was given 15 minutes to highlight their bids and answer questions. Susie then presented a bid comparison and allowed for discussion. Sheri and Mike Agnew of GTS were chosen to be the Tour Operators for Eurofest Chamonix, France 2025 to be held March 1-8, 2025
- **Election Committee for President at Spring Meeting 2024:** Dave Karczmarek (Baltimore) volunteered for and was accepted to chair the the Election Committee for President. Anyone wishing to run or to nominate another should contact Dave.
- **2026 Western Carnival:** Banff and Breckenridge were the preferred destinations for the Western Carnival 2026. Mike Agnew relayed Ski Big Three's interest in supporting councils and recommends the Banff Park Lodge for its location and ability to hold the entire council. By a show of hands Banff was chosen to be the destination for the 2026 Western Carnival.
- **2027 Western Carnival:** Breckenridge was chosen by a show of hands to be the destination for Western Carnival 2027.
- Discussion: BRSC Trips: Selection and Voting Process. Dave Karczmarek (Baltimore) explained the voting matrix and encouraged people to participate. He would also like clubs to abstain from voting if not going to participate in a council trip. He asked that clubs be aware of their schedule and try not to schedule club trips where the BRSC is going to be the following year.
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- **2026 Eurofest/Asiarest:** Japan remains the preferred destination for the Eurofest/Asiarest 2026. This was voted on by a show of hands at the fall meeting 2022. Steve Pierce offered other destinations to consider. Sestriere, Italy, Aosta, Italy and Madonna di Campiglio, Italy. Dave Karczmarek suggested sending out a letter to club members to find if there is enough interest to hold a council trip to Japan. The last trip to Japan was in 2020 and took 113 people. Dave would like clubs to report back with interest in Japan or not by the end of the year. He suggests one response per club with three scenarios. Japan, Europe or Neither.

- **Spring Meeting 2024:** Mountain Branch Golf Course, Saturday May 18 2024. Dave Karczmarek (Baltimore) and Mary Cook (Baltimore) coordinating.
- **Topics from the Floor:** Peter Porton (Pentagon) suggests sending someone to the National Ski Council Federation meeting in late August, early September. There you can meet people from other councils and find out what other councils are doing. At the request of Steve Pierce (Pentagon), he volunteered to gather more information for the spring meeting.
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- **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:10 pm

### **Decision Summary**

- Tremblant, to be the venue for Winterfest 2025.
- Sheri and Mike Agnew (GTS) were chosen to be the Tour Operators for the BRSC Western Carnival Park City 2025. February 1-8, 2025
- Sheri and Mike Agnew (GTS) were chosen to be the Tour Operators for the BRSC Eurofest Chamonix 2025. March 1-8, 2025.
- Dave Karczmarek to chair the Election Committee for President.
- Banff was chosen as the preferred venue for the Western Carnival 2026.
- Breckenridge was chosen as the preferred venue 2027.
- Japan remains the preferred Eurofest/Asiastest venue in 2026
- Spring meeting to be held May 18, 2024 at Mountain Branch Golf Course, 1827 Mountain Rd., Joppa, MD. 21085, Dave Karczmarek and Mary Cook (Baltimore) coordinating.

Respectfully submitted,

*Susie Pumphrey*  
 Secretary BRSC  
 November 7, 2023