# Ski for Light, Inc.

# Executive Committee Teleconference

# November 13, 2014

# Minutes

Scott McCall, President, called the meeting to order at 9:02 P.M. Eastern Standard Time.

**Roll Call**. Judy Dixon, Secretary, called the roll.

Present:

Scott McCall, President

Julie Coppens, Vice-President

Judy Dixon, Secretary

Brenda Seeger, Treasurer

Cara Barnes, Director-at-Large

Bob Civiak, Director-at-Large

Marion Elmquist, Immediate Past President

Nicole Haley, SFL 2015 Housing Coordinator, joined the meeting to contribute her perspective and expertise.

Scott outlined the purpose of this meeting. It now appears that the Inn at Silver Creek has an inadequate number of available, accessible rooms to house the number of mobility-impaired participants (MIP’s) who have applied. For several months, viable alternatives have been explored that would be convenient and nearby but at this point, no commensurate accommodations have been identified. Scott advised that we must make a decision now so that we can get on with planning the event. Earlier today, Scott sent everyone an outline of the situation. In it, he outlined four possible options:

1. House everyone at the Inn, assign two MIP’s to the accessible room, accept other MIP’s who do not require an accessible room, and limit the number of MIP’s.

2. Same as one, but accept additional MIP’s that require an accessible room and house the overflow at SMR.

3. As mentioned above, house the entire MIP group at Snow Mountain Ranch.

4. House everyone at the Inn and rent two accessible rooms at SMR for the entire week to be used by MIP’s during the day for rest, showers, changing, etc. Assign the accessible room at the Inn to the MIP group and house those needing an accessible bathroom near this room.

Scott asked Nicole to share her thoughts about these options. Nicole reported that the 7 mips who have applied have been consulted about this situation as well as several regular mip guides. Her observations on the four options as presented are as follows: 1. Offer only the one accessible room at the Inn. This would exclude four (and possibly more) people from the event. 2. Same as 1, But house the overflow at SMR. The rest of the group would probably also stay at SMR so the group could be together for safety and community reasons. 3. House the entire mip group at SMR. Even though it is not ideal, of these options, This is the one preferred by the mip group. 4. House everyone at the Inn, ren two rooms at SMR for the use of the MIP group during the day, and use the only accessible room for everyone who needs it. This would require five wheelchair users to share one marginally-accessible bathroom and they would need to leave their rooms to access it. There are only two rooms near the accessible room.

The preference of the MIP group would be for Ski for Light to move the entire event to SMR. Nicole believes that all other possible local options have been exhausted. It was generally agreed that moving the entire event to Snow Mountain Ranch is not practical at this late date.

For purposes of this discussion, the “MIP group” is defined as the 7 mobility-impaired participants who have applied, their roommates, at least some mIP guides and their roommates. If the entire mIP group were to be housed at SMR, it is estimated that this would constitute about 18 to 20 people. the housing and breakfast costs would be substantially lower which would probably offset the additional transportation costs to bring the MIP group to the Inn for dinner and evening programs. At this time, there is no hard information available for the additional transportation cost.

Bob expressed the opinion that the Inn should bear some responsibility for this situation and help defray our unanticipated costs. Cara pointed out that a requirement for accessible rooms is not in our contract with the Inn.

The issue of the package price to charge to people who use the SMR option was discussed at length. If the charge was substantially less, would others in the community want to stay their as well? Would there be a perception that the MIP group, even though not being with the rest of the group at all times had an unfair price advantage? Scott pointed out that transportation would only be provided for members of the MIP group. A number of the MIP’s have requested triple rooms which would be unavailable to them at SMR.

Julie asked Nicole if there was anything else the organization could do to help the group mitigate the psychological impact of being housed in a separate location. Nicole suggested that there be a clear and posted shuttle schedule.

After considerable discussion of all the issues surrounding this decision, Bob moved that Cara and Scott determine exactly who would constitute the MIP group for this purpose and that SFL offer housing to this group at Snow Mountain Ranch. Each person would be charged the triple room rate to reflect the lower cost of accommodations at SMR and to partially make up for the inconvenience. Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed with Scott, Julie, Brenda, Cara, and Bob voting in favor. Judy and Marion voted against the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 P.M. Eastern Standard Time.