

The board of the National Rendezvous and Living History Foundation met at 7:07 p.m. via telephone conference Dec. 19, 2013.

Roll call:

Chairman Jerry Heister - present

Vice Chairman Jim Penland - present

Treasurer Rodd Pederzani - present

Secretary Vicki Johnson - present

Greg Bagshaw - absent

Eric Davis - present

Dan Duhamel - absent

Jean Heschke - present

Ruth Py - absent

Jim Fulmer - absent

Jerry Middendorf - present

Mark Adamik Jr. - absent

Quorum of 7 people present.

Jerry H welcomed everyone to the meeting, saying he thinks everything has gone well during the year and no lawyers were required.

Jerry M made a motion and Jean H seconded it to approve the minutes of the annual meeting in September and the special meeting in October as presented. Motion approved 6-0.

However, after the vote an error was noted regarding the wording on public admission fees to events. Vicki was directed to check the recorded copy of the minutes for clarification and the board will review it at its next meeting.

In his treasurer's report, Rodd P said overall funds are down, and he is concerned about that trend. The only account currently open is the SEPR 2013 account.

Rodd P said there is \$79,526.96 in all accounts, and he transferred funds to Booshway Bucks account to keep it at \$25,000.

Jerry H asked why he transferred that money, and a discussion took place regarding how the Booshway Bucks program should be working. Rodd said the foundation is giving out more Booshway Bucks than it is redeeming. Reasons discussed included people saving them for larger purchases; people saving them as souvenirs instead of using them to pay for items from vendors, ice or camp fees; people losing them; and vendors not redeeming them in a timely fashion.

Jerry H said each the booshway of each event should be budgeting the amount of Booshway Bucks the event needs for prizes, and the redemption process is foundation business and completely separate from each individual event. He said the delegate in charge should be sent money to be used solely for Booshway Bucks redemption. For example, if a delegate receives \$2,000 for redeeming Booshway Bucks redemption, the delegate should return to the treasurer the amount of Booshway Bucks redeemed plus and leftover money.

Eric D said one problem is that there's nobody who knows how many booshway bucks have been minted, but Jerry H said there are \$25,000 worth of valid Booshway Bucks in existence.

However, Rodd said the foundation has only \$6,010 in the Booshway Bucks account to start the 2014 rendezvous season. And Jerry H said for every Booshway Buck that is not there physically, there should be dollars in the account. Eric D said it should be no different than backing a dollar bill with a gold coin.

The board discussed the right-ness or wrong-ness of vendors taking Booshway Bucks at non-NRLHF events, but Jerry H said the situation can be addressed later.

Continuing with his treasurer's report regarding overall funds, Rodd said we are spending more than we're bringing in and he urged clerks to complete profit and loss statements.

Rodd said the Old Northwest 2013 made a profit of \$1,700.07. The Northeastern 2013 had a loss of \$4,034.36 (due at least partially to lost checks). And the Eastern 2013 made a profit of \$3,787.80, minus a recently-submitted \$300 bill.

Expenses have included \$13,000 on payroll, \$3,000 for insurance, and several mileage expense reports from delegates.

Rodd P also said there are several avenues for making money at events that staffs could look into.

Eric D made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Seconded by Jerry H. Motion was approved 7-0.

During her report, secretary Vicki J said she will be looking into buying a new recorder for recording minutes because former secretary Dan D said the old recorder no longer works. Jerry H said he would check with Dan D on the matter.

No approval needed on secretary's report.

During reports in individual rendezvous:

Jerry H said the Corps of Discovery 2014 is set for May 15-18 at the Toronto, Ohio, site.

Vicki J said Old Northwest 2014 is in good shape and boosway Gary Flegel has contracts in place. Vicki and Rodd are going over the budget.

Vicki J said boosway Wayne Badida is excited about Old Northwest 2015 and has requested past ONW budgets to assist in creating his budget. Site has been approved.

Eric D said he has no news about getting the Midwest started again in 2014, but he has talked to a group in Illinois that might be interested. Vicki J said the Cap N Ballers group in Michigan might also be interested.

Jean H said boosway Alan Kraft and the staff of NEPR 2014 are working on getting a budget together.

Jim P said NEPR 2015 is scheduled for right after Bastille Day, and boosway Karen Fuller and the staff are excited about hosting it. Dates are July 15-25, 2015, which includes early setup. He said there is a potential issue with alcohol consumption in the state park.

Jim P said there's the potential for a 2016 NEPR in Maine. He plans to go look at a site.

Rodd P said boosway Mike Jamison is waiting for a quote on wood for EPR 2014 at the Tory, Ohio, site. Everything else is on track. He said the budget will go through Rodd and Jerry H because Rodd is both delegate in charge and treasurer.

For EPR 2015, Jerry H said he hasn't talked to boosway Ditto (Mark Adamik Jr.) since EPR 2013, but Ditto has the backing of the Tomahawks for the event to take place at Doddridge, W.Va.

Jerry H said SEPR 2014 is again at the Yadkinville, N.C., site and boosway Micky M. is very enthused and already has a good group of people on staff.

Nothing is known right now about SEPR 2015.

OLD BUSINESS

Quartermaster/trailer

Jerry H said there's nothing new of the quartermaster/trailer issue. He still doesn't have a title for the big foundation trailer. Former quartermaster JD Simmerman sent the title, but it was not in JD's name, so Jerry H said he is waiting for JD to get the title in his name so he can transfer it to the foundation. He said the foundation has not yet paid for the trailer.

Jerry H said there's no quartermaster right now, so the equipment and repair is up to the boosway of each event. He doesn't if or when there will be another quartermaster.

Eric D asked what equipment Dan D has together for the ONW trailer. Jerry H said he has the title for that trailer and plans to re-register it in Pennsylvania when he gets the title to the other trailer.

Eric requested an inventory and list of items that have been purchased with the \$3,000 the board authorized to equip the ONW trailer. He said he would like to see an equipment report every year all foundation-owned items so the board can do needed updates a little at a time as needed.

Sutler license

There has been a universal sutler license drawn up to be used at all foundation events.

Foundation budget

Jerry H said he needs to do a foundation budget because the board stresses budgets for each event, but doesn't have an overall budget. Rodd said he is working on one and he will coordinate with Jerry H.

Directors and Officers insurance

Jerry H said office manager Beverly Heister has contacted an insurance company and has been giving them information as requested, but has not yet received cost quotes. He said the company has requested information on payroll, bills and utility funds and internet service so the company has an idea about the amount of money that flows through the foundation. He is expecting a price soon.

Training seminar

Vicki J said she and Dan D are still in process of getting a final version ready for approval.

Board members discussed training needed for other positions also.

Eric D described his ideas for scribe training, including selling ads in the gatebook, getting publicity and advertising events. Vicki J agreed we need a training program for scribes.

Jerry H said it's part of the delegates' job to make sure the booshway's is getting job descriptions to each of the staff members, and to find out if staff members need help with anything.

Vicki J said she and Bev are working on an updated scribe job description for the new version of the delegate/booshway book.

Updating by-laws

Jerry H and Jim P are planning to get together as soon as possible to review the outdated by-laws and recommend needed changes.

Length of term for officers

Rodd P proposed changing the length of term for chairman, vice chairman, treasurer and secretary to two years instead of the current one year. He used himself as an example, saying it has taken him his first year to learn how everything works, and now that he has a good understanding, he could be voted out as treasurer and a new person would have to start the learning process.

Jerry H said lengths of terms for officers is set through the by-laws and could be considered during the by-laws review.

Eric D said the positions of secretary and treasurer would not have to be a delegate. He agreed that continuity is important.

Jean H made a motion that people reviewing the by-laws check into what changes would be required to the bylaws to make the treasurer and secretary non-voting positions unless they are filled by a delegate. Seconded by Eric D. Motion approved 6-0.

Jim P suggested he and Jerry H create suggested wording and send it to board members. The board agreed that would be a good idea.

Jerry H announced a break at 9:02 p.m.

Roll call after returning from break at 9:18 p.m.

Jerry Heister - present

Jim Penland - present

Rodd Pederzani - present

Vicki Johnson - present

Dan Duhamel - absent

Greg Baghshaw - absent

Eric Davis - absent

Jean Heschke - present

Ruth Py - absent

Jim Fulmer - absent

Jerry Middendorf - present

Mark Adamik Jr. - absent

Quorum of 6 people present.

NEW BUSINESS

Facebook event pages

Informational item to let boothways and scribes know they should not create a Facebook page for an event until 30 days following the end of the event. For example, if an event ends July 30, wait until Aug. 1 to create a new event page for the following year.

No sutlers as trade captains

Rodd P said he and Greg B have been running into an issue when sutlers are trade captains because sutlers are not able to visit other vendors as often as they should because they are running their own

stores. For example, Rodd P said there was a high-dollar gun for sale as EPR. When he and Greg B asked about it, they were told it was for sale. But when the trade captain asked about it, he was told it was not for sale. Rodd P said a non-sutler would have more time to get around to visit vendors more often.

Jean H asked if a vendor being trade captain was a conflict of interest.

Jerry H said he could see the point, but trade captains have traditionally been sutlers, and professional sutlers take suggestions better from other sutlers. It is up to the booshway to appoint a trade captain that can handle the job.

Rodd P said it's supposed to be a committee, and having more than one person might help.

Jerry H said delegates have the right and the duty to make sure rules are being followed, and a delegate can enforce rules at any event and not just the ones they are in charge of. For example, if a delegate see plastic uncovered, he or she should talk to the trade captain. If the problem is not handled, he or she should talk to the booshway about it.

Rodd P made a motion that trade captains may not be sutlers at the event where they are trade captain. Seconded by Jerry M.

Jean H said she preferred the idea that the delegates, through the trade captain and booshway, help keep sutlers following the rules.

Jerry H said enforcing the rules better would do more good than making another rule to enforce.

Rodd P withdrew his motion, and Jerry M agreed to the withdrawal.

Blanket traders not paying proper fees for the value of items

Jerry H said this point is similar to the previous issue. Current rules must be enforced. He said again, the duty falls to the delegates to make sure everybody knows their job and follows through.

Jerry H said the rules are written in the booshway/delegate book, including each job description. Jerry H said he will check as Bev is redoing the books that each job description includes the rules pertinent to the job.

Early sutler setup Monday or Tuesday

Rodd P said he and Greg B had talked about the idea of allowing sutlers to set up one day in advance of early setup for campers. The change would allow the sutlers to camp in one area, which would make it easier for the vendor area to be open to the public all week without having the entire camp open. That would increase revenue by allowing more public people to visit camp, might allow more people to visit camp and become interested in becoming campers, and would make the vendors happy by increasing public attendance numbers.

Rodd also said the change also would allow food vendors to be ready to feed people on the first day of early setup, which would make the campers happy.

Jean H suggested public hours after dark also be encouraged to allow the public a glimpse of camp in the evenings.

Jerry H explained how the early setup wording to be stated.

Jerry H made a motion that, from this point on, pre-registered sutlers be allowed to set up on Tuesday prior to the start of the each event. Seconded by Rodd P.

Vicki J suggested an amendment to the motion so it includes "if they set up in a designated sutler area." Seconded by Jean H. Jerry J accepted the amendment, and Rodd P accepted the amendment.

Wording for amended motion: From this point on, pre-registered sutlers will be allowed to set up on Tuesday prior to the start of the each event if they set up in a designated sutler area. Motion approved 5-0.

Jerry H said booshways must set aside a specific sutler area, and it's up to the delegates to make sure they know that.

Job description for the PR position

Rodd P said he would like to clarify the duties of the PR person, but board members decided to wait until Greg B (the PR designee) is present at the next meeting.

Destruction of ballots

Jerry M said Roberts Rules of Order state ballots should be destroyed after an election, but he didn't see any reason they couldn't be held for a year and then be destroyed.

Rodd P made a motion that voting ballots for site and delegate elections be retained for one year after the event before being destroyed. Seconded by Jean H.

Jerry H suggested an amendment to include the ballots be kept at the foundation office. Rodd P seconded the motion and accepted the amendment. Jean H also accepted the amendemnet.

Wording for amended motion: Voting ballots for site and delegate elections will be retained for one year after the event before being destroyed, and ballots will be kept at the foundation office. Motion approved 5-0.

Booshway Bucks

Rodd P asked if the foundation needs to make more Booshway Bucks. He said vendor attendance has dropped and events are giving out more Booshway Bucks as prizes than people are redeeming.

Board members decided Rodd P should redeem Booshway Bucks by mail this winter so there are more available to start the rendezvous season. He will work with office manager Bev to send out a letter to vendors who attend foundation events.

Jim P suggested the board contemplate retiring the current Booshway Buck colors of green and blue.

Jerry H said the program was originally designed as a benefit to the sutlers, and only 70-some percent of Booshway Bucks are ever get cashed in.

More discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

Rules and regs for BB guns

Eric D was working on BB gun rules and regulations, but he had to leave the meeting at the break.

Jim P said New York events use them and have instructors available, and he recommended use of the "Benjamin" because it looked most historically accurate.

Jerry M said Becky Waterman, president of NMLRA, is working on getting donations so the guns donated might be the ones used.

Quartermaster position

Jerry H said Dan D has expressed interest in taking the position of quartermaster, but he isn't at the meeting so the subject will be revisited at the next meeting.

Public that visit in garb

Rodd P suggested members of the public who attend for the day in period dress be allowed to stay later in the evening or stay overnight.

Jerry H said the insurance company requires people to be registered participants to be covered.

FOR THE GOOD OF ...

Jerry H said the officer manager reminds everyone that all gatebooks must be sent to the office for review before being printed to make sure the rules are included.

Rodd P reminded all clerks they should be including a profit and loss form at the end of each event. Jerry H said P&Ls are a very important tool for future booshways.

Jerry H noted 2009 was the last time an Eastern had more than 1,000 participants.

Jerry H said delegates may choose to submit gas receipts for reimbursement instead of using the mileage reimbursement form that pays 45 cents per mile. This would save the foundation some money. Also, he asked that delegates use common sense when choosing motels when they are traveling on foundation business.

ADJOURNMENT

Jim P made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Jean H. Motion was approved 5-0.

Meeting ended at 10:36 p.m.