

NRLHF Phone Conference Dec 13, 2015 minutes

Jim Penland, Co-Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Vicki Johnson called the roll as follows:

Roll call: NEPR Delegate	Jim Penland - Chairman - Present
NEPR Delegate	Jean Heschke - Co-Chairman - Excused
ONW Delegate	Vicki Johnson - Secretary- Present
	Jerry Heister - Temp Treasurer - Present
	Andy Huey- Treasurer - Present
ONW Delegate	Henry Felder - Present
EPR Delegate	Ms. Adams - Present
EPR Delegate	Mr. Hensley - Present
CoD Delegate	Daniel Cain – Present (Arrived 7:10)
CoD Delegate	Mark Rebres - Excused
SEPR Delegate	Greg Bagshaw Director Public Relations – Present (Arrived 7:04)
SEPR Delegate	Robert Woody - Present
	Jerry Middendorf NMLRA Rep. - Excused
	Jim Fulmer NMLRA Rep. - Excused
	Mark Adamik, Jr. Parliamentarian - Present
	Dan Duhamel Quartermaster - Excused
	Beverly Heister Business Office - Excused
	Karen Fuller Temp. Recording Sec. – Present

Approval of the “Minutes” of the last Meeting (October 1, 2015)

Ms. Johnson indicated there have been changes suggested by Ms. Heister, of the Business Office as well as other members and noted she was unable to make the changes prior to the meeting. Mr. Penland spoke of the change regarding the Quartermaster report. Following a brief discussion it was decided to delete the partial sentence referring to Mr. Duhamel’s incomplete statement. Mr. Penland called attention to the discussion regarding absentee ballots and Ms. Johnson noted her original notes were still within the document and she will strike them.

Following a brief discussion by members the minutes were TABLED until the next meeting to allow time for the corrections to be made.

Treasurer Report Change over / Bank Accounts / Taxes – Andy/Jerry

Mr. Heister, Temporary Treasurer provided the following report:

Booshway Bucks – as of December 11, 2015 - \$15,664.44. He said this is in line with the previous report showing just over \$4,000 being in circulation and noted that he was informed that the correct amount for the Booshway Bucks is \$20,000 and not the \$25,000 that had been thought was correct.

Operating Account – as of December 8, 2015 - \$34,325.70. Between September 10, 2015 and December 8, 2015, the account had deposits totally \$37,502.58; the total paid out over the same period was \$42,861.03, indicating the operating account lost approximately \$5,400 over that period.

Profit and Loss for Events, which are not final, show the following: Corps of Discovery \$73 profit, Northeastern \$490 profit, Old Northwestern \$2,167 loss, Eastern \$1,700 profit, and the Southeastern \$1,271 profit.

Mr. Heister expressed his personal opinion, noting it was not to be taken as negative to anyone, is how things like the Old Northwestern having had the land for free and half the visitors gate funds a lot of money was lost. He spoke of the Eastern having a difference between the estimate and actual amount of \$62,000 income and a difference of estimated and actual expenses of \$18,000. He believes the problem is that people are estimating attendance too high, causing a problem in the bottom line.

Mr. Felder asked how to correct this problem and improve estimates. Mr. Heister said more attention needs to be paid to past attendance, particularly since attendance has declined over the past five to seven years.

Mr. Adamik said one issue was when the location changed from Doddridge and that it was anticipated there would be a high attendance, the change in location reduced numbers. Mr. Heister said he was aware that was the case and said there has not been attendance at an Eastern of more than over 900 since 2009.

Mr. Woody said he agrees with Mr. Heister and that they look at the past three years as a standard to determine potential attendance.

Mr. Bagshaw spoke about saving funds if ordering from Dynabuckle is possible by not over-ordering. If the order is on a low number and attendance is noted to be high enough to run out on Sunday Dynabuckle can be contacted and medallions would be received by Thursday of the week.

Mr. Penland said the pre-registration numbers is a good starting point and that Mr. Heister has a good formula to determine numbers that is very accurate; the medallions could be ordered thirty days prior to the event when a more accurate count is known. He also said when renting hooters a standard of one per twenty people should be used since they are a very expensive item.

Mr. Penland asked for an update on when the books would be changed over to Mr. Huey. Mr. Heister asked that his report first be acted on.

It was MOVED by Mr. Felder, seconded by Mr. Hensley, and unanimously adopted by members present, to accept the Temporary Treasurers report. MOTION APPROVED.

Mr. Penland said that when the books are turned over to Mr. Huey he would like to have him bonded. Mr. Heister asked Mr. Huey if his current bonding would cover the Foundation. It was not thought it would.

Mr. Cain arrived at this time.

Mr. Heister noted that there would be the need for Mr. Penland, Mr. Heister, and Andy to meet to complete the required signature cards. It was thought that in the early part of February the books could be exchanged.

Mr. Penland will look into bonding the Treasurer.

Mr. Heister noted the 2014 taxes were done by an accountant in Texas and anticipates she could once again be called upon for the 2015 taxes. It was asked to be sure to have contact information.

Mr. Bagshaw said he looked online and bonding expense could be up to ten percent of the amount of the bond and can be changed at any time. He also suggested that the new Treasurer prepare a Profit and Loss statement for the Foundation.

Secretary Report – Vicki

Ms. Johnson said she will make the changes to the minutes and distribute them for review and consideration at the April meeting.

Ms. Johnson reported on inclusion of articles and stories for Muzzle Blast and the need to schedule them. She can include articles for review when minutes go out if desired. The articles would need to be completed two to three months in advance and will include previews of upcoming events. Suggestions include what is happening in Yadkinville, state of the Foundation, finances, biography of delegates, etc. Mr. Penland said all articles need to go through Mr. Bagshaw as the Public Relations officer. Mr. Bagshaw said he has already reviewed two that have been

sent to the office to be forwarded to Muzzle Blast. It was noted by Ms. Johnson that it is important to know what has been covered to avoid duplication.

Reports on past and future Rendezvous – Delegate in Charge

CoD-16 Dan Cain Toronto, OH May 19-22 Booshway – Mark Rebres

Mr. Cain said work is progressing well and there are some site improvements being done. Ms. Johnson reported having talked to Mr. Rebres about the purchase of hooters for this site. A discussion followed regarding the expense of purchasing the units. It is believed it would save cost in the long-run. A decision was made to provide Delegates with the information in order to have a clear understanding of cost.

ONW-16 Vicki Johnson Hopkins, MI June 24 – July 1 Booshway: Mr. Felder

Mr. Felder reported a new road has been made and there are twenty new sites opened for overflow. In addition skunks on site are being removed and wood is being cut. The sycamore area has been mowed and stumps will be removed with a grinder. He is saving money on medallions due to having a mold made and he will pour the lead.

ONW-17 Henry Felder Kentucky June 24- July 1 Booshway: Larry

Ms. Johnson reported this will be the same site as the previous year, however, will be on the higher location. There are two bulldozers coming in to complete the necessary work to provide easier access. Mr. Felder spoke of the problems associated with having the event in ½ week intervals and spoke of the difficulties campers expressed as a result. Mr. Penland thanked Mr. Felder for the information.

NEPR16 Jean Heschke Orrington, Maine July 15-22 Booshway- Perley Urquhart

Ms. Heschke said all is under control and as of April 3 have 30 members registered, 11 non-members, 2 commercial and one

Mr. Penland said that the work for this event is going smoothly and Perley is taking care of everything. He has dates of when events will happen and the only concern is that the public days are scheduled for a period that vendors and campers would still be setting up. He will send out more information on this aspect.

NEPR 17 Jim Penland Pawlet, VT July 14-22 Booshway – Sarah Fisher

Mr. Penland said that Ms. Fisher has everything set with the exception of water. She is very excited about the medallion design that incorporates Native American tribes of the region.

EPR 16 Mr. Hensley ***Coopers Lake, PA Sep Booshway Ed Stout

The agreement is the same as previously, however, does not include wood in the cost. It is anticipated the budget would be reduced to ensure there is not a budget designed for more than what the attendance may be. Mr. Penland noted there needs to be a vote for the site since it did not occur at the previous Eastern. Mr. Hensley said Dynabuckle sent a medallion to him since they did not have contact information for Mr. Stout; he forwarded it on and staff is very happy with the progress.

EPR 17 Ms. Adams East Smithfield, PA Sep Booshway – David Wells

Ms. Adams asked for information on contacting Mr. Wells. Ms. Fuller provided information on Mrs. Wells to assist in speaking to him. Mr. Penland spoke of having visited the site with the owner and Mr. Heister and that the site will be very easy to work with.

SEPR 16 Greg Bagshaw Yadkinville, NC Oct. 24 - 31 Booshway – Bleu Reavis

Mr. Bagshaw said work to view this as a permanent site is on hold at the moment. There is work to stack the remaining fire wood and secure it. It is expected the first work party will take place in February and everything is going well.

Approve Coopers Lake Site

Mr. Penland asked members to express their approval of the Coopers Lake, PA site for the 2016 Eastern for the dates of September 24 through October 1, 2016. All members voted in favor of the site. SITE APPROVED.

Old Business

Question of Delegates for the Corps of Discovery – Mr. Penland spoke of the confusion regarding the number of delegates for the Corps of Discovery. He reviewed minutes and said that only one delegate was approved by a vote of nine to zero; meaning that Mark is not a delegate of that event. Ms. Johnson asked Mr. Can if he could explain to people that there is only one delegate. Mr. Can did not know that there was a question regarding this matter. Mr. Penland reiterated having reviewed all minutes and only found the vote to approve one delegate, which was Moved by Mr. Heister, seconded by Mr. Bagshaw and unanimously approved by the nine members present. Ms. Johnson believed the topic was discussed in October 2014, however no action was taken at that time.

Mr. Felder asked if there is a need for two delegates. Mr. Penland said due to the size he does not believe so. Mr. Cain said he had thought there were two delegates and now knows there is only one.

Treasurer bonded, how soon?

Mr. Penland said this was discussed previously.

Rules and regulations for use of BB guns

Mr. Penland said he has not yet seen any rules for BB Gun events at events and has not been able to find any rules and regulations associated with their use in NMLRA documents. Mr. Felder said his local club runs BB Gun events and have some rules and regulations; he will provide the information to Mr. Penland. Mr. Penland expressed appreciation and will review them when received to determine if any modifications should be done.

Question from Mr. Bagshaw – He asked for the town the Coopers Lake event would be held and was informed it is Slippery Rock, PA

Booshway Bucks

Mr. Penland asked if any delegate would be willing to consider taking oversight authority for Booshway Bucks. No one responded at this time. Mr. Penland said if someone would like to consider it to contact Andy. Andy said he would keep track of the Booshway Bucks and determine whether there are any difficulties in doing so.

Creating a permanent site at Yadkinville, NC

Mr. Bagshaw reported he had spoken to Mr. Woody regarding the matter and said at this time the issue of a permanent site should be put on hold. It has come to light there are two individuals that are the landowners and although one individual is supportive of the recommendation the second landowner is not yet willing to move forward with any agreement. Although the one landowner feels there may be a way to resolve the matter through private agreements with the other party at this time it is best to table the matter until additional meetings take place. Mr. Woody agreed with Mr. Bagshaw's comments and recommendation. Mr. Bagshaw believes a meeting can take place early in the year and can be reported on at the next meeting. It was acknowledged that no final action on a long-term lease can take place without the full Board's approval.

Recording Secretary and interaction with Secretary

The Board was informed that Ms. Johnson is recording the meeting with Ms. Fuller completing minutes. Draft minutes would be forwarded to Ms. Johnson to be included at future meetings.

Three meetings instead of four?

Mr. Penland spoke of people having many meetings and suggested reducing the number of meetings from four to three. He suggested leaving the meeting at the Eastern and one in either November or December and one in April.

Mr. Woody disagreed and said although people have many meetings in other areas of their lives having four meetings for the Foundation is not too many. He believes the work of the Board takes a long time and it is necessary to keep all the meetings to move things forward. He would not want to reduce the number.

Mr. Bagshaw agreed with Mr. Woody and said if a five to six month period existed between meetings things that are important may not be completed.

Mr. Penland said the number of meetings would be maintained at four per year and Mr. Felder thanked everyone for their input.

New Business

Personnel who get out of line. Fighting & agitating people to fight (letters)

Mr. Penland reported on having received letters of complaint and an awareness of individuals choosing to fight and agitate other participants at events. As a result he discussed the matter with a lawyer to determine what action can be taken. He said due to the time lapse he is recommending a letter of probation be forwarded to the parties and inform them that if there is any continued action of this sort at future events more stringent restrictions would occur. In addition, as follow-up to the letter all future Booshways and Delegates would be informed of who the individuals are to enable a close watch on the situation.

Mr. Bagshaw was in agreement and said when situations like this occur immediate action should be taken by staff in order to clearly show other participants that it is taken seriously and would not be tolerated in order to provide peace at the event to allow them to enjoy it. Mr. Penland said the lawyer noted the time-lapse does not allow for more stringent restrictions.

Mr. Felder believes the Booshway should immediately speak to the Delegate and if necessary remove the person(s) immediately with the assistance of the local authority when necessary.

Mr. Penland will prepare the letters to send out to clearly indicate the Foundation will not tolerate this type of behavior and follow-up with notification to Booshways and Delegates.

Ditto asked if any additional information was necessary and was informed that due to information from other participants it is not at this time.

Losing money:

- Gate fees not being charged properly – Mr. Penland reported on having too many errors at the gate, particularly due to use of the improper registration forms. Dan said sometimes when people have the wrong form it causes difficulty and suggested having only one price to eliminate the problems. Mr. Penland has asked Ms. Heister to print up the new application to have on hand and request the destruction of any old forms that may be in existence. It was also noted that people often grab old forms from Muzzle Blasts or other places and do not realize the error.
- Too many medallions being ordered (no return) – Mr. Penland noted that the medallions from Dynabuckle only offer the sale of them for zinc scrap. He reiterated the pre-registration count should be used to determine how many medallions are ordered. Mr. Bagshaw said the pre-registration normally indicates 2/3 of the attendance at events. He is taking the medallions ordered from Dynabuckle and plans on selling them for \$3 for the older ones and \$5 for current medallions. Mr. Penland said if not sold the price of zinc should be determined and any sales go back to the Foundation.
- Do not buy bulk as items loose shelf life before being used up and pilfering – Mr. Penland advised against ordering in bulk due to limited shelf life and potential pilfering. He spoke of the suggestion made about purchasing necessary items for the First Aid Kit at the dollar stores, limiting the expense and potential loss of use due to storage between events.

Moving the medallion approval to the Office & Public Relations

Mr. Penland asked if there is any objection to moving the medallion approval to the Foundation Office. Ms. Johnson did not have any objection and other members approved of the recommendation to do so. It was noted the approved medallion design needs to be sent to Mr. Bagshaw for use on the web.

For the Good of the Foundation

Mr. Cain said he will obtain the cost of purchasing port-a-jons and forward the information to other members.

Inclusion of all Office Staff at Foundation Meetings

Mr. Bagshaw felt that all office staff, not just Delegates should be included at all Foundation meetings.

It was MOVED by Mr. Bagshaw, seconded by Mr. Felder, and unanimously adopted by voice vote of members present, that the non-voting members of the Foundation, including the positions of Parliamentarian, Quartermaster, Business Office, Temporary Recording Secretary, Temporary Treasurer, Public Relations Officer, and Treasurer be included to attend all business meetings and provided the information to do so. MOTION APPROVED.

By Laws

Mr. Woody said he has been reviewing the document and noted there are areas that need revision based on current practices. He anticipates having a report completed by the next meeting.

Recommendation regarding use of cannons at events

It was recommended that donation of powder be used when having cannons at events.

E-Mail

Mr. Felder provided members with his e-mail.

Adjourn

On unanimous motion the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – Karen Fuller