

Western Michigan Region Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2017

Present:

Chip Knappen	Jackie Bottomley	Pat Livingston	Adam Medema
Sue Brann	Kyle Jones	Jason Kovacs	Lourie Hurley
John Donnelly	Gary Bottomley	Dennis Menke	Doug Mesara
Mike Oliver	Scott Waddell	Shawn Rhoda	Martha Nowak
Rog Brands	Don Smith	David Menke	Greg Hayes
Chip Hurley	Kathy Brennan	Maddie Dodson-	
	Erica Krol	Garrett	

- I. Call to Order
6:32pm J Donnelly
- II. Introductions – new attendees/new positions

Went around table and did self-introductions

- III. Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings:
 - a. March 21, 2017
 - b. May 6, 2017

Motion was made by R Brands and 2nd by David Menke to approve both sets of minutes **Passed**

- IV. Agree on agenda or adjust as needed.

Agreed and no changes where needed

- V. Treasurers Report - Adam Medema/John Donnelly
Motion was made by C Knappen and 2nd by L Hurley to accept treasure's report
Passed
 - a. Year-end financial summary – Region Board
 - Looking for simpler voucher system
 - Will continue to use old way until new is established

b. Current Financial Position

Region is in OK shape for now John and Adam will work closely to insure smooth change over

c. Upcoming Audit

Is coming from Central due to new Region Director

VI. Update Contact/Program Information – Website – Advisors and Patrol Reps

a. Review content and advise Jon Kelder of changes

Send any changes to John Donnelly to revise

b. Contact info and Program info (and anything else)

Hand out was given to attendees to make corrections on and returned back to J Donnelly

c. Recommendations for changes – set date and process

No discussion

VII. Old Business:

a. Revisions to Calendar (if any)

None made, but if need E-mail to J Kelder

b. Set Budget for 2017-18

Carried over similar numbers for last year only added \$300 for YAP, \$300 - \$500 for Women's Program, and \$1000 for PSIA credentialing with total proposed budget of \$11,525 **Motion** was made by David Menke and 2nd by D Smith to accept **Passed**

VIII. Section Reports

a. Section I Martha Nowak

Region Banquet scheduled for 5/5/18 at Timber Ridge

b. Section II Kevin Barrons via email

1. WM II SECTION REFRESHER, OCT. 8 – very successful this year with 152 participants and 22 volunteers.
2. WM SECTION OEC (7 new candidates) - class started in August and will finish mid-November.

3. WM II SKI SWAP – On pause for this year. We are redesigning our business model to improve sales for 2018. Vendors are very supportive.
4. WM II CPR REFRESHER, OCT. 7 – 52 active participants so far. Few more small sessions to follow.

c. Section III Lourie Hurley

- Moved Financial Account to GR Based Institution
- Spending more time at Caberfae for the 2017-18 season
- Putting together recruitment material for Section III.

IX. Patrol Reports

a. Crystal Mt. Chip Hurley/Jackie Bottomley

Our patrol refresher was held Oct. 14 with over 60 patrollers and 10 mountain hosts refreshing their skills in the morning. The afternoon was CPR refresher and chair evac refresher. We held our annual meeting/awards dinner that evening. Service awards, Merit Stars, Critical Care Certificates and other awards were presented to our patrollers. It was a long, but fun day.

We have 9 candidates in the OEC class. Their midterm was held on Oct. 15. We held a mock final as their midterm so it gives them and us an indicator as to their progress/learning, and a sample of what to expect for their final. We are doing a joint venture with Mt. Holiday in Traverse City. They have 2 candidates, and we are mentoring 3 new OEC instructors from Mt. Holiday. This is working very well and gives us additional resources to pull from for our final and to teach subjects. We are also mentoring 3 new OEC instructors for our patrol. We will need OEC IT staff to come up and sign them off when they are ready. The final practical for the candidates is November 19 and we can use HELP. Contact Jackie if you can help.

Crystal will host the Region's SES, TES, Sr. Hill Test and Women's Clinic this season. We'd also like to do a low angle rescue session at Crystal too. We will need to get that scheduled. Please encourage your patrollers to come join us for these events.

b. Caberfae Peak Dennis Menke

Caberfae is rostering 52 patrollers this season, including 7 candidates preparing to take the OEC final on October 29. We are still going to have three patrollers out on medical for most of the season due to knee injuries. Refresher was completed

October 7th & 8th using the traditional format, Thanks to Lourie Hurley for being our QA.

We had three patrollers retire, Cathy Jacobs (40 years), Deann Jenkins (32 years) and Dave Worfel (22 years) with Deann's retirement we lost our OEC IT, and are in the process of trying to find a replacement, we also would like to find a toboggan IT as well. We have four patrollers interested in becoming hill trainers, and had six patrollers take instructor development this summer.

We will hold Senior on snow scenarios on Dec 9th & 10th, and other patrollers are welcome, but need to contact in advance.

The area has spent the summer updating the balconies on the hotel and they look great. Snow making system updates include, larger piping and installed more permanent towers and new snowmakers. They also have moved a lot of dirt this summer, building what they will call East Peak off the side of Smiling Irishman. There seems to be a big delay in getting our instructor recertification and classes taught to show up on the NSP site, wondering if anyone else has had the same issue.

Most of us that have paid our dues have the wrong paid thru date on our cards says 2017 not 2018. Member records was contacted and they are working on a solution

- c. Cannonsburg Don Smith
 - Refresher went well
 - Recruiting for day shift patrollers
 - No Sec II ski swap may try one just for Canonsburg's
 - Starting to charge \$10 for patrol dues

- d. Bittersweet M Nowak
 - Have capped the number of patrollers
 - Working on #6 Chair to improve
 - 9 to 10 candidates in OEC class and it is running smooth

- e. Timber Ridge Jason Kovacs
 - No OEC class is running
 - L Grant received a Purple Merit Star *Congratulations*
 - Chair evacuation had to be rescheduled due to weather

- f. West MI. Nordic Mike Oliver
 - Getting a new antenna for VASA to improve communication at race

X. Advisor Reports

a. ARD Pat Livingston

1. Instructor Development/Elections

RECENT CLASSES HELD:

- Hybrid Class – June, Crystal Mountain
- Face-to-Face Class - August, Caberfae patrollers, in GR

ELECTIONS:

2017-2018 ELECTION: SCHEDULE: WMI SECTION CHIEF

- Nominations Open: December 1, 2017
- Nominations Close: 11:59 PM December 31, 2017

2. OEC Doug Mesara

- All patrols have completed Cycle A refresher. Majority using the 'hybrid' format.
- OEC classes are preparing for their final evaluations. Timber Ridge did not hold a class this season.
- 4 IT retirements occurred within Region. 3 IT candidates are completing their training. 1 new IT needs to be identified, appointed and trained. Reviewing OEC instructor numbers across the Region to determine if an additional IT needs to be appointed.
- 6 new instructors have been added since July 1. Expect this number to increase slightly.
- We had several patrollers listed as instructors in the Region records that were not on National's instructor roster, and patrollers in National's records who are not in ours.
 - o Clean-up on-going and includes:
 - ☐ Paperwork tracked down and resubmitted
 - ☐ New observations were completed
 - ☐ "Instructor" status revoked
 - OEC 6 is being worked on, last known release date is 2019
 - *Please get a list of persons who have not completed refresher A to do a make up

3. Woman's Jackie Bottomley

We are gearing up for this fun filled women's weekend on February 2-4, 2018. It will be held at Crystal Mountain. The WM Region's Women's Clinic is the weekend after the Division Women's Clinic which is being held on the other side of the pond. The festivities will begin Friday night with a meet and greet.

Three half day options will be provided for the women to choose from. We are still working out the details and pricing.

More to follow. Please encourage your women patrollers and candidates to sign up for this event.

4. Awards Rog Brands

-Looking for replacement

-New forms on Division website all needing to be submitted in Word

-All forms need to be in one document and are due by March 1, 2018

5. Legal Steffany Dunker

-No Report

-P Livingston and T Wolfer are working on P & P with S Dunker

6. Safety David Menke

-Lots of confusion from Division on direction

-Region is going to start with responsibility Code and Terrain park safety

7. Web Master - Jon Kelder

1. Website contact info by title: Staff and advisors to verify their email and contact information that will appear on the Region website. Please initial the sheet to approve or (in the case of open info) add information necessary and return to John Donnelly by 10-22

2. All the emails for the staff and advisors have been changed to be more generic – see hand-out. I'm hoping to solve possible spam and privacy issues. The hand-out shows Region board advisors new email address and the personal address it will be forwarded to. As an example: If some one sends an email to Director@NSPC203.com, it will be automatically forwarded to jfdonnelly002@aol.com. If you respond from your account, your email recipient will then have your personal email. Which I think its OK, if you really want to respond to them.

Updates to the web site may include an email response form that the staff/advisors could use to keep their email personal and still respond to any inquiries sent to them.

Other site updates may include a way to send out one email and have it reach the Staff, Advisors, PR, etc without the need to copy and paste everyone's email address into your email. Need a list of potential changes so we can put together a list and priorities to send out after the meeting.

8. YAP – Maddie Dodson-Garrett

There are not really any updates so far from the YAP position. As this position is so new, I have mostly just been talking to people at my home patrol about what to do with the position. At Caberfae there aren't any patrollers besides myself that fall into this category at this time, but we have many patrollers with children who are very interested in ski patrolling but too young to take the test yet. One thing that I could do with this position would be to start a sort of shadowing program for these individuals so that they could follow patrollers around and help with things like traffic control for accidents without causing liability issues by providing treatment until they have gone through the proper training when they are old enough. This would help them to become familiar with the program early on and then allow us to recruit them when they are old enough. I am also hoping that I can get some information at the meeting about what patrols in our region have young patrollers so that I can get in touch with those patrollers and see what would be most beneficial for them in terms of support and development. I just recently found a document from the division about the Young Adult Program and start up, so I am going through that and trying to get in touch with some other YAP advisors to get more information.

b. ARD Chip Knappen

1. Senior Program Sue Brann

Working with C Sutton from Northern MI Region to make it easier to track senior elective patrollers have taken

2. NSPC Ski School Erica Krol

-Wanting a list from all patrol reps of PSIA trainers from your patrols to coordinate training.

Currently we have 4 SES's scheduled for the upcoming season:

1/6/18 WM1- Timber Ridge

1/14/18 WM2-C-burg- need to connect with PD and area trainers to see what their needs are

2/3-4 Women's clinic Crystal

2/10/18 WM3-Crystal

There will also be a Ski Trainer's workshop along with the Toboggan trainer's workshop at Caberfae 12/17.

Waiting to hear back from Division Advisor about potential pre – certification workshop on this side of the lake sometime this winter. He did approach Chip about having one in our region. He was encouraged to see about having one at one of the Northern Michigan resorts since our schedule is already set. May be something we would want to do next year in conjunction with an SES or STW.

Also hoping to get a list of all the PSIA cert. patrollers in the region.

Open to suggestions from areas as to what they would like to see from our "Ski School".

3. OET Shawn Rhoda

-Wanting a list from all patrol reps of Lead toboggan trainers from your patrols to coordinate training

4. Alpine Snowboard Kathy Brennan

-Will be working at PSIA, Women's, and OET events to improve snow board involvement

5. Telemark John Mallett

I will coordinate with the alpine SES schedule to run a Telemark clinic in WM2 on Jan 13

I have a work conflict on Jan 7 so will not run a clinic for WM1 on that date. I think that Sunday, Jan 14th may work well for a WM1 Tele Clinic

I also have on the calendar:

Jan 20-21 Sr. Graders Hill Calibration & Sr. Candidate Hill Clinic

Feb 24-25 Sr. Bump Clinic & Sr. Hill Test

6. Certified Hal Froot

-Have a possibility of 2 candidates from Canonsburg

7. MTR/Avalanche Michael Walenta

-No Report

XI. New Business

- Need succession plan as leadership is starting to move on
- Need to recruit for Section I Chief
- Going to try to have one Blue & Gold per month in the ski season
- Try to do some recruiting at upcoming Warren Miller film fest in West Michigan. All thought it would be a good idea and tasked the section chiefs to work on this effort. Lourie Hurley agreed to take the lead.

XII. Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at Brann's on Division.
(Discuss options and day of week for meetings.)

8:53pm

Motion to adjourn made by D Smith and 2nd by L Hurley **Passed**