

Cascadia General Meeting, October 26, 2013, Toutle River RV Park, Castle Rock, WA

Board members in attendance: President; Jill Pace, President elect; Suzanne Larson, Secretary: Guyla Vann, Treasurer: Penny Hasse, Event coordinator; Barb Spargo and Advisor; Diane Milner

Absent: Registrar; Jo Schilling

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 AM by President Jill Pace

Welcome by Jill Pace. Jill explained that this is the second of two required General Meetings of the year. She introduced each Board member and explained the requirements to be able to vote at the meeting.

Copies of the agenda and Bylaw and Rule change information were made available to all members present.

Reading of the minutes from the Cascadia General Meeting of May 25, 2013 There was a motion made by Christine Taylor to waive the reading of the May 25, 2013 General Meeting. The motion was seconded by Liz Smoot and accepted by acclamation.

Board member updates

President's report by Jill Pace:

Embroidered Cascadia patches were purchased by the club to be used as a fundraiser. Patches will be available for purchase starting today and will cost \$4.00 each. Patches were made available early to members attending the RVW convention.

The club purchased a projector which can be used in business meetings, to show movies or travelogues at Cascadia functions. It will be kept by the club president and be available at events.

The club also purchased a battery operated megaphone to be used in outdoor or noisy environments.

Jill reported that in 2010 an average of 23 rigs attended Cascadia events. In 2013 that number has grown to 39 rigs and an average of 63 people at each event.

President Elect's report by Suzanne Larson:

Suzanne explained that the President elect's job is to find and secure event sites for the following year. She distributed copies of the schedule for next camping season. Locations include; March – Ferndale, April – Port Townsend, May – Mossyrock, June – Toppenish, July – Westport, August – Cle Elum, September – Long Beach, October – National Convention in York, PA and Fidalgo Bay in Anacortes.

Suzanne went on to explain that Cascadia is welcome at every park we have ever attended because our reputation is so good.

Treasurer's report by Penny Hasse:

Penny stated that she will continue as treasurer for one more year. She reported that Cascadia started the year with \$4,970.00 in out account. All figures listed reflect our account reconciliation on September 30, 2013.

Income for the year is \$7,046

Breakdown of income: Dues for the year; \$1,100.00, member reservations not refunded; \$575.05, donations; \$29.00, Sheriff's name tag fine; \$6.93, Interest on account \$0.68, auction; \$3824.95, flea market; \$495.00, 50/50 raffles \$505.00, book club; \$64.90, activity fees; \$95.00

Expenses for the year were \$4,035.91

The expenditure list is lengthy. Please refer to the Treasurer's report on the Cascadia website. Major expenses were the purchases of the projector, the patches and our donation to RVW for the National Convention. The cost of each event is listed as is each expenditure for normal club operations.

Net inflow for the club is \$3,011.00 so we will have a balance of \$7,981.00 to begin next year.

Secretary's report by Guyla Vann

Guyla reported that she will continue as secretary for another year. All Board meeting minutes are posted on the website. She has worked closely with Jill throughout the year and appreciates Jill's leadership.

Guyla read a Thank You note from Dee Johnson and Linda James, co-chairs for the First Timers program at the RVW convention. They were grateful for the \$500.00 donation from Cascadia. The money was used to fund the Meet 'N Greet event which was well attended.

She also reported as Sunshine Girl. She has sent 25 welcome to Cascadia notes, 7 get well notes and 6 condolences or encouragement notes.

She encouraged members to let a Board member know about surgeries, extended illness or the death of a family member so that we can share in the hard times as well as the good times.

Registrar report submitted by Jo Schilling and read by Diane Milner

"Happy Toutle everyone! I hope you have enjoyed the camping season. It has been my honor to serve the chapter for two years as Registrar. I hope I have been able to answer any questions you might have had during my tenure. I'd like to thank the other members of the board for their support, cooperation, and willingness to pitch in and make this a successful season.

I'd also like to thank all those who volunteered this year to serve as event captains, divas, and hi-there girls. These events truly could not happen without your support. Thank you!

We're planning a few changes to the online registration tool for next year that should make date management a little easier for the next Registrar as well as for the park managers we work with. We also hope to be able to further streamline the registration process, so watch for those improvements next season. I'd like to thank each of you for being mindful of our registration process and notifying me of changes in your plans. It has helped us to keep better attendance records and to plan for accurate numbers at events.

I'd like to leave you with this though....VOLUNTEER! It makes your membership even more fun and rewarding when you step up and help out.

Have a great winter wherever you may be and let's do this again next Spring!"

Event Coordinator report by Barb Spargo:

Barb referred to notes as she listed off a long list of events and activities that the club enjoyed this event season. Most of the activities listed can be seen on the write-ups for each event. News to many was that a

group of volunteers hosted Cascadia information booths at two Cabela's Outreach shows this year. She also cited Come-Alongs as an expanded opportunity to share the Cascadia experience with friends and family. Barb says that she is excited to feel a "new energy" in the group. She has enjoyed her two-year tenure as Event Coordinator and looks forward to the future of Cascadia.

New Business

The Board has decided to create the position of Membership chair. Jill and Suzanne explained the complexities of membership cycles between RVW National and Cascadia, each having different membership dates. Event registration is predicated on the fact that a member is in good standing with each organization. Currently, in Cascadia, the President, the Registrar and the Treasurer are all dealing with keeping the records straight on who is in good standing to attend each event. Obviously this is a burdensome situation.

The Cascadia Board has determined that having one person, a Membership Chair, would eliminate much of the confusion surrounding membership and event registration. The Board has further determined that the Membership Chair position will be on a trial basis for one year and will NOT be a Board position during that time. After the year-long trial period, the Board will make a determination whether the Membership Chair should have a seat on the Board of Directors.

Cheryl Edmond asked how the Board made the determination about the Membership Chair being a member on the Board. In answer, Suzanne explained that as she checked with other RVW chapters, as well as National about the Membership Chair position, she found that several other chapters have Membership Chairs. Some are Board members and some are not. Jill explained that there were concerns and discussion by the Board on an odd / even voting structure with the current board of five voting members.

Nancy Gerou commented that in her experience as a Board member, keeping track of membership was a major headache and she was very excited about the creation of the Membership Chair position.

Sharon Fowler was offered the position as Membership Chair and accepted. She is eager to take on the challenge.

Jill has also developed a membership process flow chart demonstrating the improvements that would be in place when the Membership Chair and Bylaw changes are in place.

Bylaw changes

Bylaw changes are necessary to streamline membership recordkeeping.

Article VII section 1 & 2

Currently reads as follows

Section 1. Fiscal year will be from January 1st to December 31st. Each member will pay chapter dues established by vote at a general meeting, provided written notice has been given to ALL members thirty days prior to the voting meeting. A majority of all votes cast, including absentee ballots, will be required.

Change Section 1 to read:

Dues year for chapter coincides with member's National RVW membership anniversary. (Deleting the first line that reads, "Fiscal year....")

Discussion

Jalene Marler stated that she had paid for three years in advance. Would that be a problem? The answer was no since it would show on the membership spreadsheet.

The question arose about why this change is necessary. Suzanne answered that aligning Cascadia membership with that of National would streamline our recordkeeping and make it possible to check eligibility when someone wants to register for an event. Our Membership Chair could notify people when their registration was about to expire in Cascadia and National and hopefully keep members from lapsing. Members could then send checks to National for membership and to the Cascadia Treasurer for dues all at one time.

A motion to change Bylaw Article VII, Section 1 as presented was made by Lynda Byrd. The motion was seconded by Marni Perry. **The motion to change Section 1 was APPROVED.**

Section 2. Dues are payable on or before February 28th and are deemed late after the first Event of each year. Non-payment of dues after this date is accepted as a termination of Chapter membership.

Change Section 2 to read:

Dues are payable within 30 days of the member's National RVW anniversary. Non-payment at the first attended event after the member's anniversary is accepted as a termination of Chapter membership. The member in good standing with National RVW may come to an event, but must pay a \$5.00 event fee per person. (Replace entire section)

Discussion

Elaine Ploegstra asked if a late fee termination could be undone when the fee was paid. Answer: YES

Diane Milner asked if a person is late with dues and come to an event will they pay a \$5.00 event fee plus annual membership dues. Answer: NO just the dues.

A motion to change Bylaw Article VII, Section 2 as presented was made by Cheryl Edman. The motion was seconded by Liz Smoot. **The motion to change Section 2 was APPROVED.**

Because of the Bylaw changes a Rule change regarding dues is also required.

Cascadia Chapter Rule 4

Rule 4 currently reads as follows; Member dues are \$10.00 per year and are not prorated. Annual dues will be payable by February 28th, of each year. Members not paying their dues by March 31st will be dropped from the Chapter roster and have inactive status.

The proposed change to Cascadia Chapter Rules:

Rule: 4

Change second line to conform to Article VII Dues:

Annual dues will be payable on the National membership anniversary date of each member. Members not paying within four months of the anniversary date or by the first attended event (whichever is sooner) will be dropped from the Chapter roster and have inactive status. (Deleting last two lines)

Discussion

There was no discussion.

A motion to change Cascadia Chapter Rule 4 as presented was made by Cheryl Edman. The motion was seconded by Elaine Ploegstra. **The motion to change Cascadia Rule 4 was APPROVED.**

Election of officers

Slate of candidates

President Elect: Lynda Byrd

Event Coordinator: Linda Clark

Registrar: Sage Mac Leod

Returning for second year

Secretary: Guyla Vann

Treasurer: Penny Hasse

Call for nominations for Board positions

There were no nominations from the floor

Marne Perry moved to accept the slate of officers as presented. The motion was seconded by Cathy Phillips. **The motion carries by acclamation.**

Old Business

There is no old business to discuss.

Good of the order

It was announced that Meg Herweier, our member from Aldergrove, B.C. Canada, will have surgery to correct a blood vessel problem in her brain. The surgery will take place this coming Monday.

Our friend and past-president, Mary Schoenfeldt is being honored this weekend at a meeting of the International Women in Homeland Security and Emergency Management where she was inducted into the organization's Hall of Fame.

Barb Spargo thanked all the member musicians that entertained us at so many events.

Liz Smoot reported on her experiences at the RVW convention in Sacramento.

Two event visitors were introduced. They are Donna March from B.C. and Barb Gomez from Olympia. Both ladies announced that they will join RVW immediately after returning home.

Christine Taylor spoke about the Cascadia website and its ever-growing content. She strongly encouraged members to use the website to keep current with chapter business. She also encouraged members to send items of interest such as Come-Along announcements or event photos.

Michele Edwards suggested that popular pot luck recipes be submitted to Christine and posted on the website.

Cathy Phillips will be the Event Captain for the March, 2014 event in Ferndale, WA. The theme will be High School Reunion. She asked members to send pictures of themselves from their high school yearbooks.

Suzanne Larson had a small ceremony honoring Jill Pace as an outstanding Cascadia President. She presented Jill with a very nice jacket with the RVW logo. She also thanked every current Board member and gave each a new Cascadia patch and gift. Suzanne thanked every member who volunteered in any capacity at events this year.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:08 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Guyla Vann

Guyla Vann
Secretary