

Cascadia RVW General Meeting 4/26/2014, Point Hudson RV Park, Port Townsend, WA

Board members in attendance: President; Suzanne Larson, President Elect; Lynda Byrd, Secretary; Guyla Vann, Treasurer; Penny Haase, Registrar; Sage MacLeod, Event Coordinator; Linda Clark, Advisor; Jill Pace

Adjunct Board member; Membership Chair; Sharon Fowler

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by President Suzanne Larson.

Suzanne welcomed the assembled members. She spoke about the amount of work it takes to make our Cascadia event successful and mention the fine work Linda Clark is doing as Event chair.

Suzanne directed members to copies of the agenda distributed around the room and then asked if there were any changes. None were suggested.

Reading of the minutes from the Cascadia General Meeting of Oct. 26, 2013 at Toutle River. There was a motion made by Christine Taylor to waive the reading of the Oct. 26, 2013 General Meeting. The motion was seconded by Cathy Phillips and accepted by acclamation.

Board member updates

Advisor to the Board by Jill Pace: Jill had nothing to report other than expressing her delight in not having a task to accomplish. Suzanne thanked Jill for her continuous support as the role of president changed hands.

President's report by Suzanne Larson: Suzanne chose to wait until later in the meeting to make comments.

President Elect report by Lynda Byrd: Lynda reports that she is working on next year's event schedule. She informed the group that because of the size of our group the options are somewhat limited. She enticed the membership by saying that everywhere we go there will be water. Lynda will distribute the event schedule later in the year.

Treasurer's report by Penny Haase: Penny directed members to look at the budget handout that was included with the agenda. She informed the group that the financial books are available for review at all Cascadia events.

- As of March 31st, 2014 Cascadia's account balance is \$9,221.44
 - Reserved for park deposits \$1,702.07
 - Available for Cascadia \$7,519.37
- This report reflects records after the first event of the 2014 season.
- The budget for 2014 was designed by the full Cascadia Board at the February meeting. The highlights are as follows
 - a) Increase event activity budget to \$250.00 for standard events with increase for General Meeting events on prior approval.
 - b) No major purchases are anticipated.
 - c) No major auction or flea market fundraiser is planned. (We plan to have biannual fundraisers or as needed)
 - d) Provision for donation to RVW National at 2013 level.

Suzanne thanked Penny and directed members to review the budget hand out. Budget discussion will be take place later under agenda item New Business.

Secretary's report by Guyla Vann: Guyla reported that the Cascadia Bylaws were brought into compliance in March and were approved by the RVW Board of Directors. She reminded members that the chapter Bylaws, chapter rules and minutes of all Cascadia Board Meetings are posted on the website.

Guyla also gave the "Sunshine" report at this time. Nine new member welcome notes and various Get Well and condolence notes have been sent since the October, 2013 General Meeting. Guyla encouraged members to notify her of circumstances that would generate a note of encouragement to one of our members.

At this time Suzanne also mentioned the support she receives from Guyla and gave kudos to Andi Abruzzo as well because Andi edits Suzanne's president's newsletters.

Registrar's report by Sage MacLeod: Sage introduced us to "Planting Peas" as a way to remember our registration tasks.

Persistence: when registering....Many unexpected website problems occurred in January and February

Patience: Thanks for being patient with the process and particularly with this event. There is a big learning curve for the new Registrar and she was not prepared for the "hand holding required for the TV parks.

Process: The Mossyrock event is full. If members still want to register they should notify the Registrar to be added to a waiting list. As the event nears there will likely be cancellations and those on the waiting list will be notified. Try not to register twice for the same event. For those coming to an event a day early or staying a day late notify the Registrar. If you are coming earlier than one day or staying longer than one day notify Registrar AND the park or you may not get what you want. There are links on the Cascadia website to email the Registrar. Please email any questions about your event registration to me at that email address.

Progress: Sage is looking for a new registration program that be more complete and easier to use. That new system could be added to our website in the future. Please stay tuned. Hopefully that will be in place next year and you could actually get an email response that tells you that you are registered.

Painless: Sage is trying to make improvements that will make the process painless and better than ever.

Membership Chair: Sharon Fowler: Sharon explained that there was much labor involved in trying to merge the information on the various membership lists. She displayed a Cascadia RVW membership list and asked attendees to please verify the information listed after the meeting adjourned. Please record corrected information on the back of the page.

Sharon displayed a second "Attendees" list which has some different column headings. This is the list that the Registrar, Treasurer and President use when setting up each event.

Web Administrator's report by Christine Taylor: Christine encouraged members to notify her if they encounter a broken link or incorrect information on the website. She stated that the site is so massive that it is difficult for her to watch every page and link constantly. She needs our help as we encounter problems so please contact her. Contact info for Christine is available in many places on the website.

Event Coordinator's report by Linda Clark: Linda distributed "Sneak Peeks" hand outs with upcoming event details. She immediately cited post-printing corrections (see attachment)

Linda is very pleased and excited about the number of volunteer names listed for events. She encourages everyone to be involved in helping create the fun during events. Linda called for

volunteers for the Westport event (see handwriting in attachment). She believes that those who volunteer to help at events tend to feel more connected to the club.

Liz Smoot, Barb Spargo and Chris Clement have volunteered to work together to photo-journal the events this year in hopes of creating a slide show to present at the September (Volunteer appreciation) event.

Cascadia Book Club has become an important part of each event. Book discussions are led by Michele Edwards and are so popular that the group meets twice in the winter just so members can reconnect.

Suzanne thanked all members for their continued commitment, enthusiasm and support. Board members then gave the membership a round of applause.

Old Business

Membership waiver requirements are slowly going away. We are making good progress in that regard.

Event Scribe: Suzanne thanked Sally Stalnaker for her work as event scribe for March and April. She will not be able to continue as scribe throughout the season. Suzanne asked for a volunteer to assume that responsibility for the remainder of the events. The scribe writes up the happenings at each event. The write up is then posted to the Cascadia website and forwarded to National for possible inclusion in the RVW magazine. At the National level the write up may be modified or abbreviated due to space allowance. A job description is available for this position as well as all Board positions.

Elaine Ploegstra volunteered for May, June and July. Sally volunteered for August. The volunteer for September and October is yet to be determined

Bylaws revision status and compliance: Attached to each agenda is a hand out titled "Notes/References for use in Bylaws and Chapter Rules Discussion". Members had opportunity to familiarize themselves with the notes.

We did vote for a Bylaw change at our October 2013 General Meeting. The Bylaw review by National was a COMPLIANCE REVIEW. The Bylaw reviewer on RVW Board of Directors is Doreen Thomas. She noted three areas in our Bylaws that that required modification to come into compliance. 1) Remove any reference to chapter dollar amounts and due dates. 2) Remove all references to National due dates.(accounting and event dates) 3) There was an article in our Bylaws about how we submit and facilitate our Bylaw changes. The change is because of electronic submissions.

Please refer to Chapter Bylaws on the Cascadia website. Under Article VII, Section 1 now reads; Fiscal year will be from January 1st to December 31st. Annual dues of this chapter shall be determined by Chapter membership. 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 voting meeting. A majority of all votes cast, including absentee ballots, will be required.

Sections 2, 3, and 4 have been deleted from previous Bylaws. Those dealt with dues and special fees.

The other Bylaw change affected Article IX, Amendments to Bylaws, Section 4 (the submission process).

The Cascadia Chapter Bylaws were approved by the National Board of Directors on March 10, 2014 and are in effect. The updated Bylaws are posted on the Chapter website.

New Business

Chapter Rules: Motion to amend

Existing Chapter Rule 4 aligns chapter dues date with the anniversary date of RVW National renewal date.

This method of dues collection proved to be unmanageable when put into practice. The Cascadia Board wants the membership to consider the reinstatement of Rule 4 as written prior to the October 2013 General Meeting.

A discussion followed, dealing with the date dues are required and the guest fee.

Jill Pace made a motion to draft Rule 4 as follows "Member dues are \$10.00 per year and are not pro-rated. Annual Chapter dues will be payable by March 31st or at their first event of the season. The motion was seconded by Sharon Rooney. A vote was taken. One member opposed. The motion passed.

The previous discussion also addressed fees paid by guests at events. The existing Cascadia Rule 8 states "RVW members who are attending a Cascadia rally, who are not dues paying Cascadia members, are charged a \$5.00 per person activity fee."

The discussion continued and we mistakenly called the visitor fee rule "Rule 5". It is actually Rule 8

Michele Edwards made a motion that guests may attend a maximum of two events for free. After two visits they must become a member. Jean Hart seconded that motion.

A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Yearly Budget Review

Penny went through the budget line by line. There was little discussion relevant to line items.

Jan Secor made a motion to donate \$1500.00 to National. There was no second, but there was a serious discussion to follow.

Lynda Byrd explained to the members that the Chapter Board had discussed this issue at the Feb. Board meeting and that the Board had decided that a \$500.00 donation to National was reasonable at the beginning of the season. If chapter finances were healthy late in the season we could make an extra donation of \$500. That is how the budget item was agreed upon.

Jill Pace made a motion to accept the budget as proposed. The motion was seconded by Liz Smoot. Discussion followed

Kathy Oxner asked about the amount of expenses. Penny responded (\$4000) and reserve (\$7500).

Mary Benson suggested that the total donation be made in the spring so that National could plan their budget accordingly. Christine Taylor agreed with that.

Mention was made that last year we earmarked our \$500.00 donation to the First Timer's event at convention.

Christine commented that in the past we have earmarked donations for specific purposes and asked Cathy Atkins what specifically was needed.

Cathy Atkins addressed the group: "The convention is a huge fundraiser. It is not an expense. Chapters often earmark funds and are recognized for doing so. Donations are in two categories; restricted and unrestricted. The Board chooses how to spend unrestricted funds. Donations can be split between restricted and unrestricted. When a donation is restricted it can be spent for no other purpose." Cathy then suggested that if we want to support convention that we should leave the specifics open and let the Board decide where it is most needed. There is the possibility that a donation could be earmarked for something and then not be needed. In that case it would be carried over to the following year.

Lynda Byrd would like to see \$500.00 for convention and \$500.00 for unrestricted.

Cathy Atkins explained that all donations are now made through the Open Road program either restricted or unrestricted.

Cheryl Edman stated that she trusts the National Board to decide how the money is best spent.

Penny spoke as Treasurer, entrusted to manage the Cascadia finances. She urged the club to vote to stick to the proposed budget and then have a fundraiser to increase the donation to National.

Kathy Oxner asked if the motion on the floor could be amended. Suzanne responded in the affirmative.

Kathy made a motion to amend the motion to approve the proposed budget to raise the donation to National by \$500.00. Lynda Byrd seconded the motion.

A vote was taken on the amendment. The amendment was APPROVED.

A vote was take on the motion to approve the budget as amended. The motion was APPROVED.

Good of the order

Cathy Atkins thanked Cascadia for the donation on behalf of the RVW Board of Directors. She also stated that all RVW chapters are now making donations to National

With no other business to conduct the meeting was adjourned at 11:19 Am.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayla Vann

Secretary