

## **Cascadia RVW General Meeting April 16, 2016**

Present: Elaine Ploegstra (President), Lynda Byrd (Advisor), Sage MacLeod (President Elect), Janet Adolphson (Treasurer), Cindi Strong (Activity Coordinator), and general Cascadia membership.

Absent: Joann Wiszman and Penny Duex

Call to order at 9:31 a.m. President Elaine Ploegstra welcomed and thanked everyone for coming. Called for a reading of the minutes from previous meeting or a motion to accept as posted to website. Guyla Vann moved to accept and Kathy Oxner seconded. Members voted to accept.

Board Updates:

**President**-Elaine Ploegstra thanked each of the board members for their hard work.

**Advisor to the Board**- Lynda Byrd had nothing new to report but will make comments later as the meeting commences.

**President Elect**-Sage MacLeod is working on dates for next year and will have a schedule by our June event. Cascadia events are usually scheduled on the third weekend, March through October; except Easter is the third weekend, and Father's Day is the third weekend next year; so Cascadia's events will be scheduled otherwise for 2017.

**Secretary**-Penny Duex was away and Linda Clark recorded minutes for this meeting. Elaine Ploegstra reported that Penny is keeping up with sunshine and new members.

**Registrar**-Joann Wiszmann was absent. Elaine Ploegstra read a note from Joann requesting that people notify her, as well as the park, if you are registering after the deadline. Cancel as soon as you know you can't come, so we can fill your spot with someone else. When you register online be sure to enter your email correctly so you can get a receipt back. The receipt shows whether you entered everything correctly.

**Treasurer**-Janet Adolphson distributed a budget report. Currently Cascadia's balance is approximately \$6,400. The bottom line includes money received from members for park deposits that we haven't yet paid out to the parks. Janet asks that members pay money when it is due. She is available anytime during events to accept payments. As far as refunds, it's dependent on the park whether they will allow. Janet reminded the members to please register ONLINE so a record goes to the Registrar.

Last month's fundraiser was for a women veterans' clinic and \$140 was collected. This amount was sent to the clinic earlier this week and will be recorded under April's expenses.

Guyla Vann mentioned that patches are available for members to purchase and should be advertised. Cost is \$3 each and may be purchased from board members.

We budgeted \$250 average per event, but event captains can request additional funds for an event. For Fidalgo, additional funds were provided for dinner and other items. It was a kick-off event for the year. Lynda Byrd mentioned that some things were also purchased for the club to use for other events such as white tablecloths. Our Chapter fiscal reserves are more than adequate to fund the events. Cascadia has an auction every other year which replenishes the coffers.

Suzanne Larson moved that we accept the budget as written. Christine seconded. Proposed budget was passed.

**Events Coordinator-** Cindi Strong reported that for Port Townsend we're already saving money, as expenses are well under the \$250 average. Cindi is having trouble getting information up on the web because she's having difficulty getting information back from event captains. She'd like to get information on the web for the rest of the year as soon as possible.

For Mossyrock there will be a pancake breakfast on Sunday, and in the evening there will be a tribute to the fallen, "It takes a hero." A volunteer appreciation event is planned as another tribute to the club, highlighting our comradery, fellowship, community. We still need Divas for a few events to help set up the club house and tear down. Even with health issues there's something you can do to help. We also need Hi There Girls for Ferndale and Kelso. Hi There Girls welcome members as they arrive and distribute the agenda for the event.

**Web Master-** Christine Taylor mentioned that some links aren't working and she'll be fixing them. If you find a broken link please send an email to Christine. Also she needs new pictures for the front page. Send anything about traveling in the Pacific Northwest. Christine will be available to show people how things work on the website. Hit the refresh button on your computer so you are seeing the newest version.

### **Old Business:**

Elaine Ploegstra reported that there is no old business.

### **New business.**

Sage MacLeod handles the Facebook page for Cascadia. Ask her to join. It's informal and not a lot of people currently post to it, so it would be more fun if people would join. Michele Edwards had a book club question and many answered so it was really helpful. The Facebook page is just us, and great for us to be in communication.

Registration, cancellation and forfeiture of deposits. Reminder that when you register online, check a box at the end that says you agree that when you cancel you will forfeit the first night. For parks that don't require a deposit, it's a matter of being courteous. If you're cancelling please inform park. We have limited parks that we can use because of size of park so we want to maintain a good relationship with them. If you can't reach park, call one of the board members. On each of the

event pages, the park contact info is on there. Also, we worry about you if you don't show up.

News from chapter advisory council (CAC). The national board is looking for two new board members for next year. National Board is recruiting at the Chapter level for national board. Basically it is a three year commitment. Cathy Atkins available to answer any questions. Members would be elected as a director, then the board elects four officers. Directors oversee committees and chapters.

Convention this year is in Mesa, Arizona. There will be a lot of information in the next magazine. Clothing items will not be sold at convention. Order clothing online at least a month in advance. There will be gift baskets to be auctioned off so if anyone is going, please talk to Elaine Ploegstra about that.

Dee Johnson, who was a member of Cascadia, is editor of the RVW magazine. She is doing a fun project, planning to publish an e-book listing 25 favorite/great spots to visit in each state. She'd like Cascadia to compile a list of 25 or more including name of place, location, and website. She plans to have most done by end of June. Vicki Para and Mari Benson (for Canada) volunteered to contribute. Please email ideas to either of them. It's a great way to use our Cascadia Facebook.

Scribes. When you finish your write up, send to Andi Abruzzo and she'll edit for grammar and spelling. Andi will send to Christine Taylor for Cascadia's website, then it goes to Dee Johnson for the national magazine.

### **For good of the order:**

Cathy Atkins, (who was on national board for five years including two years as President), encouraged Cascadia members to attend the Mesa convention this year. You can fly or drive, and they have limited park models with reasonable prices. Cathy has contact info. Cathy and Vicki will be hosting the Albuquerque balloon festival, then going to Mesa. Last year balloons flew over the RV park. Also the Seahawks will be playing Arizona, IN Arizona.

In summer of 2017 Cathy and Vicki will be going on an RVW Canadian Maritimes adventure, 58 days. Fall colors, NE corner, then convention back there somewhere. Cost for two people is \$10,500. Includes all parks, admissions to all museums, shows, meals. Trip planning and mechanical assistance is provided. June 30 - Aug 26, 2017. Trip starts in Maine.

Mari Benson mentioned that in 2017 all parks in Canada will have free entry, as it will be their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Cheryl Edman and Lynda Byrd will be hosting a "minute to win it" activity during the May Mossyrock weekend. Everyone will break into teams for games such as a ping pong relay and other fun things will be planned.

Peggy Starr and Marilee Fosbre will be hosting the June event. The weekend will include an "RV hacks" seminar - things you've discovered to modify your rig. This will include hands on examples. Think about whatever clever thing you've figured out. Take a pic with your phone and send to Peggy so she can prepare. Peggy and Christine can figure out a power point for online presentation.

Marne Parry announced that for Westport in July there will be a show and tell event. Plan to bring your collections, or knitting, quilting, paintings, wood carvings, etc. Tables will be set up in the clubhouse so you can show your skills and talents. Or you can contribute by enjoying everyone's stuff. In Westport there will also be

an opportunity to make a walking stick with Cheryl and Peggy. Walking sticks, beads, yarn, leather, lacquer, wood burners, carving tools, and other supplies will be available. You can also applique a picture so bring one if you'd like.

Michele Edwards requested that we set up a sign at the registration office that indicates where the Hi there gals will be located, to greet you when you arrive. Also for the national convention gift basket auction, a simple donation from Cascadia could be a basket donation of PNW items like smoked salmon.

Sage MacLeod checked out Hoodsport. They are doing a lot of improvements including all new electrical and sewers. They worked on the area in front of club house and plan to work on the entire park. The owner is making an effort to clean it up by this June.

Lynda Byrd said that part of problem is that we have limited places where we can go, considering the size of our group. We need a club house. So there are reasons why we have to go to particular places like Hoodsport or Mossyrock. Rather than people splintering off or not attending, Lynda wishes we could solve issues with parks, such as an issue that happened last year with Mossyrock's management, so can we stay together as a group. If you have problems with a park, please talk to the board so they can help resolve the issue.

Marne Parry suggested that if you know of places to go for smaller groups, then post it as a Come Along. Contact Christine Taylor to post on Cascadia's website. These are not sanctioned RVW events, so you can bring kids if you want.

Cathy Phillips requested that Cascadia make a proposal to national, to make membership dues equal. The directory and magazine used to be the reason that solos paid more than couples in the same household. But solos pay \$10 more per person. Cascadia should stand up as a group and request that this be changed. Cathy Atkins explained that RVW dues do not pay the bills. Dues only bring in 55 percent of what it takes to keep the organization going. RVW connects with dealerships, advertisers etc., and there is board liability insurance. She said by all means, ask the questions. Elaine Ploegstra said the board will discuss and consider writing a proposal to national.

Meeting adjourned at 10:41 a.m.