



Maryland Volkssport Assn.  
Minutes  
April 23, 2016

The meeting came to order at 12:40 p.m.

**Attending:** Robert Schmick, President; Darrell Neily, Treasurer and Columbia representative; Marie Wisner, Secretary and Annapolis Amblers representative; Frank Kupres, Baltimore Representative; Marie Kupres, Baltimore; Carolyn Thurber, Seneca Representative; Yvonne Pennington, Greenbelt Representative; Bob Wolfe, Free State Representative; Jim Pasquale, Annapolis Amblers; Alice Filemyr, Seneca; Jeff Giddings, Seneca; and Jack Nieberding, Baltimore.

1. **Greeting.** Bob extended greetings to those in attendance
2. **Reports.**
3. **Minutes.** Copies of the December 31, 2015 Minutes were distributed to everyone. The Motion to accept the minutes was passed.
4. **Treasurers Report.**

Darrell Neily stated that the Hagerstown Conference was a financial success. The Silent Auction income was \$3,919. Without the auction, MVA would have lost around \$1,000. Instead, MVA netted just under \$3,000 after paying all conference expenses. Please see the attached PDF File containing the Conference financial information.

Current MVA bank balance is \$6782.60, up from \$2,253.66 at end of last quarter. Current MVA book inventory value is \$2,455, up from \$1,570 at end of last quarter. **Note:** AVA books are now valued at \$6 each rather than \$4 each. Reminder that each club is responsible for ordering books for their members.

Darrell gave a brief summary of IRS restrictions for 501c3 charitable non-profit organizations such as MVA and many of the Maryland clubs:

1. Forbidden activities: INUREMENT (unreasonable compensation to insiders, allowing insiders to exploit the charity with “sweetheart” deals), EXCESS BENEFITS (compensation for expenses must be fair and fully documented), POLITICAL ACTIVITY (no partisan support to candidates for public office ... some non-partisan educational activities are permitted).
2. Permitted but limited activities: LOBBYING (no more than 5% of annual expenses), UNRELATED BUSINESS INCOME (UBI)(no regular business activity if unrelated to our

mission ... note that the Silent Auction might be considered unrelated to our mission, but the Silent Action was a one-time or infrequent activity, not a regular activity).

**Web Master.** Our website is: [mdvolks.org](http://mdvolks.org). WE are hosting 6 clubs. Yvonne Pennington will assist Jim McDonald with web related tasks, such as posting events and brochures. Club Presidents: Be sure to send your event information to [areventslist@gmail.com](mailto:areventslist@gmail.com). Also, each club maintains and pays fees to protect their internet domain name.

**Tom Jackson Regional Director.** Tom was unable to attend the meeting, however, he requested that Bob tell everyone that we are working on establishing a new walk club in the Hagerstown area. The interested folks have chosen the name "Antietam Pathfinders". Ann Shilling is the club Secretary. Four persons attended a recent meeting. The next meeting will be on May 7th, after a walk in Hagerstown.

Tom requests that clubs get the word out for volunteers to help the U. S. Freedom Walk Festival Club for their Freedom Walk on May 7, 2016.

## **Old Business**

**Facebook & Meetup.** Now “680”. Bob stated that Free State is paying the Meetup fee of \$70.00 per six months subscription.

**AVA CheckPoint.** It was noted that five clubs have not finished submitting participation reports for the First Quarter.

**Hagerstown Conference.** Bob extended thank you to volunteers who devoted countless hours and resources in making the Atlantic Region Conference a successful event. John Dye -- for his excellent Brochure. Linda Hassell, Joyce Conroy, and Sandy Lynch for their remarkable organization of the Silent Auction. Jone Parr, Carolyn Thurber, Tom Jackson, Jim Farley and Frank Kupres for the walk events. And thank you to many other volunteers who contributed their skills and time in other areas of the Conference.

## **New Business**

**Start Cards.** Bob stated that Start Cards costs 7 cents apiece. These cards consist of two parts, and contain the AVA's insurance specifications. Bob passed around a sample do-it-yourself start card that can be used in conjunction with the YRE signup sheet. A club in Pennsylvania is using DIY cards, and the Baltimore club used DIY cards at a recent Event. Each club should discuss the DIY card option or the traditional printed card among your members.

**New Club.** As mentioned in the Regional Director report above, the Antietam Pathfinders held their first Meeting on 4/17/16. The club will need to pay a Fifty Dollar Charter fee to the AVA. Additional fees of @ \$170.00 must be paid to the State of Maryland to become incorporated.. The club must prepare Articles of Incorporation and By Laws. A Motion to use MVA funds to pay these fees was approved. Bob stated that no funds will be disbursed until the club has elected their Officers and have a fully executed By Laws in effect.

**Donations.** Bob stated that another donation event has been initiated by AVA, comparable to 2015's "Big Give". Folks may give a tax exempt contribution to AVA. Visit the website and click on "Donations".

**Request for Auditor:** Please ask members of your club if anyone is willing to volunteer to audit the MVA finances. Thank you.

Bob extended a thank you to Yvonne Pennington and Pat Astill who will continue to work with the Greenbelt Club.

**Club Reports.** Events Sanctioned to date for 2016: **Note:** Brochures for the Events may be viewed on the mdvolks.org.

1. **Annapolis.** Marie Wiser stated that the Annapolis Amblers will host an Event in Piney Orchard on May 21, 2016, in conjunction with a street festival. On June 18, there will be a guided walk at the Arboretum. A flyer will be prepared soon. On Sunday, September 25, the West Annapolis Oktoberfest. This year marks the twenty-fifth year the Amblers have hosted this Event. On December 10, 2016, we will again host the Boat Parade Event in Eastport and Annapolis.
2. **Baltimore.** Frank Kupres stated that Baltimore will host the following Events: On August 13, the Belair BBQ Bash. On October 15, the Havre de Grace Oktoberfest, and on November 19, the popular Conowingo Dam Event
3. **Columbia.** Darrell Neily stated that Columbia will host the following Events: on May 14, at the Roger Carter Com. Center in Ellicott City; on July 30, at Nightmare Graphics, in Columbia; on August 20, Dorsey Search Village Center, in Ellicott City and on November 12, at Savage Park.
4. **Washington DC.** Sandi Cahill was unable to attend, however, she forwarded the following report for inclusion in the Minutes:

As most of you know Ken Wilson was recognized at the recent Atlantic Region conference for having completed 100,000 KM. He was quite pleased with the attention and gained a few new walking companions, as well. We are still looking for folks to take him to events they are going to. WDCAVC's Monday night walks in Alexandria start on April 25 at the Barrett Library in Alexandria. Start time is "any time after 4 pm", *or whenever I get set up*. The first walk of the season will be along the Potomac River. For those looking for SNOB stamps, RD Tom Jackson *will not* attend this event, though he usually tries to get to our night walks. Additional walks will be 5/23, 6/27, 8/22, & 9/26. Summer & fall events are still "iffy."

5. **Greenbelt.** Yvonne Pennington stated that the recent Bladensburg Water Front Event had 114 walkers. The club will host seasonal swim events at the Aquatic Center in Old Greenbelt, only available during the weekdays, until Labor Day. Additionally, the club is hosting three night walks: June 15, July 20 and August 17, at the Greenbelt Community Center. On August 27, the club is hosting an event at the Greenbelt Community Center.
6. **Freestate.** Bob Wolfe stated the Freestate will host an event on April 30 at Montpelier. On June 11, the club will host an event in North Laurel honoring AVA's Fortieth Anniversary. If you bring a new walker to this Event, you will receive a patch. On December 31 and January

1, the club will host an event in Savage. Bob stated that Brookside Gardens has officially reopened. Please enjoy the YRE there.

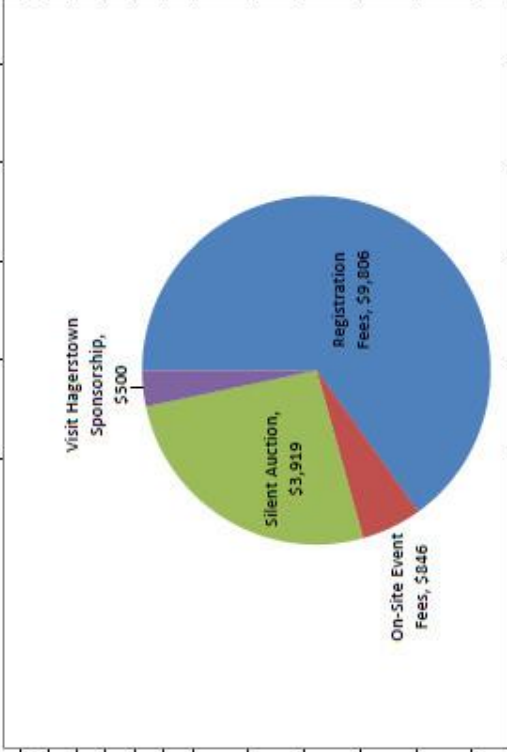
7. **Seneca.** Carolyn Thurber thanked everyone for walking today in Gaithersburg, despite the weather. There were 100 walkers. The club will host an event on June 4, in Germantown, an Oktoberfest event pm October 1, in Frederick and on November 12, Moonlight in Seneca Creek Park, Gaithersburg.

Next MVA Meeting will be on July 9, 2016, at the Severna Park, MD Community Center. Orders will be taken for box lunches from Honey Baked Ham to be enjoyed during the MVA meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

## Atlantic Region Conference Income and Expenses

10/5/2015 through 3/22/2016	Memo	Amount
	Registration Fees	\$9,806
	On-Site Event Fees	\$846
	Silent Auction	\$3,919
	Visit Hagerstown Sponsorship	\$500
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$15,071.00</b>



10/8/2015 through 3/22/2016	Memo	Amount
	Sanctioning Fees	-\$110
	Hotel Costs	-\$8,124
	Speaker fee	-\$75
	Printing & Supplies	-\$1,437
	Awards Costs	-\$1,602
	Refund	-\$40
	Participation & Processing Fees	-\$721
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>-\$12,109.08</b>
	<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$2,961.92</b>

