



Maryland Volkssport Association

Minutes

April 01, 2017

Attending: Tom Jackson, Regional Director; Bob Schmick, President; Darrell Neily, Treasurer; Marie Wisner, Secretary; Bob Wright, Guest Speaker and Candidate for AVA President; Sandi Cahill, WDCAVC; Carolyn Thurber, Seneca and Antietam Pathfinders; Bob Wolfe, Freestate; Tom Dehetre, POC Cedarville YRE; Susan Dehetre, guest and member of Amblers and Freestate; Jane Steele, Guest, member of Amblers.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m., after twenty plus walkers walked the trail at Cedarville State Park. Thank you to Tom Dehetre for leading the walkers on the trail. And thank you to Bob Schmick who grilled delicious brats for the group's lunch.

1. **Greeting** – Bob Schmick welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Reports:**
3. **Minutes** – Marie Wisner stated MVA minutes are available on the MVA web site, usually within two weeks of the meeting. Additionally, Bob Schmick passed written copies of the December 31, 2016 Minutes to the group. A motion to accept the minutes was passed.
4. **Treasurers Report** – Darrell Neily distributed an accounting of MVA Net Worth, with break down covering Quarters 7/1/2016 through 3/3/2017. Total Assets, including cash, bank accounts, inventory as of March 31, 2017 are \$9,670.52 Overall Total expenses are \$1,114.17. Darrell discussed On Line Start Box, which is No. 4b on today's Agenda. Darrell checked the website Friday March 31, and did a comparison of a C & O trail of online registrations compared to box starts. It is too early to determine the full impact of online registration; however, he will continue to follow the progress during the year. Darrell said that Salisbury and Crisfield may be good choices for future online start opportunities. If anyone cares to set up an online account, please email Darrell at dneily333@gmail.com, and he will email you the directions.

5. **Web Master** – mdvolks.org – We are hosting 6 clubs, and our continued appreciation goes to Jim McDonald, Webmaster.
6. **Tom Jackson, Regional Director.** Tom's term of office will end June 30, 2017. We thank him for his excellent contributions to our sport; for his informative Atlantic Region Ramblings; for promoting bike events; for attending countless events throughout the Atlantic Region; for his leadership and helpfulness. Today is Tom's last presentation to the MVA. Well done, Tom. See you and Lorraine on the trail.
 1. Tom stated that this year three clubs will have milestones: Seneca, Baltimore and Greenbelt will celebrate anniversaries. AVA has issued a commemorative slug for each of the clubs.
Tom thanked Yvonne Pennington and the Great Greenbelt Volksmarchers for hosting the Atlantic Region Meeting on March 17. Mike Green was elected as RD, and Dolores Grenier was elected as Deputy RD for the term of office from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2019.

2. AVA's Annual Fundraiser, Big Give-SA, will be Thursday, May 4. Please encourage your club to donate – both as a club and as individual members.
3. The On Line Start Box works! I was able to register for an event, pay for it, print off the walk directions, indicate when I did the walk, and print off an insert card.
This is your only option for the C&O Canal events, Myersville-Appalachian Trail, Frostburg, and Grantsville in Maryland. In Pennsylvania, the OLSB is used for the Appalachian Trail, Milford, and Rickett's Glen State Park in Pennsylvania.
4. The IVV stamps are being replaced! Look for the new stamps at the AVA Convention. They will be used for the 2018 YREs and they may be issued for traditional events this Fall. The new stamps are cheaper for AVA to mail. Clubs do not have to return anything to AVA. The stamps will identify the name of the event.
5. AVA Convention will be held June 3-11, 2017, in Billings, MT.
 - a. You can now register for the convention. May 1 is the deadline.
 - b. Sam Korff, AVA Secretary, mailed on March 3 a letter titled "Call to Convention". The letter was mailed to each Club and State Association. Enclosed was an AVA Form 500, "2017 Delegate Selection and Proxy Designation". Per the instructions, the AVA Form 500 needs to be completed and all three copies mailed to AVA by May 8. Let Bob Schmick know who is going to be your club's Delegate/Proxy.
 - c. Necrology Report. This is a reading of the names of all AVA members who died since the last convention. AVA asked for this in the March Checkpoint – send the names to Karen.
 - d. Publicity Contest – Submit photos, club newsletters, brochures, and club web sites. Rules are in the current TAW. Deadline is April 14.
 - e. Bike rentals (with helmets) will be available at the Red Lion Hotel during the three days we are in Billings. Cost will be \$25 for a three hour period. You will be able to start making reservations after May 7. Details will be provided later.
6. Since the 2015 Convention, Maryland clubs have only nominated four people for an AVA Meritorious Service Award, and one person for an AVA Commendable Service Award. No businesses were nominated for a Certificate of Appreciation. **RECOGNIZE YOUR CLUB MEMBERS!**

NEW BUSINESS.

1. Facebook. Reminder to clubs to post news and walk event information. Meetup is currently “705”.

Linda Hassell, Freestate, posts all Maryland walks on the Meet Up web site. Help grow our sport. Check it out and join. There is no cost. Once you have logged in, you can review walks and pictures. www.meetup.com/Maryland-Walkers-Hikers-Volksmarchers/AVA

2. Financial Report (Form 102) and IRS 990-N Postcard. Bob said he is awaiting information from Greenbelt and Antietam.

3. New AVA Commendable Service Award and Meritorious Award. Please nominate club members. Bob suggested to consider your POC’s, and officers, and those members who contribute to your club.

4. YRE’s – Post First Quarter. Are all bills from AVA Paid? Maryland has New onLine Start Box events for 2017, C & O & western Maryland.

5. 2017 Billings, MT Convention. Please do not schedule events during June 3– June 11. Who is voting for your club? Let Bob Schmick know who is going to be your club’s Delegate/Proxy. Publicity Contest. Who is submitting? Submit your photos, articles, to AVA.

6. Bob Wright – Candidate for AVA President, and presentation of **How to Make Half Page Event Brochure**. Bob distributed copies of instructions on how to make a half page brochure. Many clubs are already using this format, while including all of the AVA’s 36 distinct requirements. For further information/directions, please email Bob Wright at rcwright_va@comcast.net Bob Schmick thanked Bob Wright for his informative presentation, and reminded folks please send to Bob Schmick your brochures for approval.

7. Club Reports – Events Sanctioned to date for 2017.

a. Annapolis. Marie Wisner said Amblers will host the Oktoberfest event this September. **Note:** at the time I submitted these Minutes to President Schmick, the West Annapolis website still does not list a specific date for the event. The Lighted Boat Parade event will take place on December 9, 2017.

b. Baltimore. No representative present. Bob Schmick said the club will host at event on May 13, in Churchville.

c. Columbia. No representative present. Bob said Columbia will host an event on April 8, in Catonsville; an event on June 24 in Clarksville; an event on August 5 and September 9 in Columbia.

d. Washington, DC. Sandi Cahill said that folks have inquired about Ken Wilson. He is celebrating his 89th birthday. Feel free to contact Sandi at sancahill@gmail.com and she can give you Ken's address and phone number. Sandi said that during thirty-seven years of hosting events in a variety of adverse weather conditions, the first-ever cancellation will be the May 6

and 7 C & O Canal events, due to several obstacles. Sandi said there is a possibility the club may host an additional event before the end of 2017, however, that decision will be decided at a future club meeting. Also, Sandi announced her upcoming retirement.

e. Greenbelt. No representative present. Bob said Greenbelt will host an event on April 15, at College Park Airport.

f. Freestate. Bob Wolfe said that the club is hosting an event and memorial for Lynn Hafner on April 29 at Montpelier Mansion. On June 3, an event at Kinder Farms; on August 19, an event in Savage; September 10 the club will host an event commemorating 9/11, and on December 30 and 31, events at Savage Mills.

g. SVSL. Carolyn Thurber said Seneca will host an event on April 22, in Rockville. On May 20, the club will host an event at Lake Frank & Meadowside Nature Center. September 30, Oktoberfest in Frederick, and October 29 an event in Derwood. This year the club will celebrate their Thirtieth Anniversary. They are offering a special program of walks. You can walk 10, 20 or 30 events/YRE's. Awards will be given for each level you achieve.

h. Antietam. Carolyn Thurber said the club will host an event on August 26, in Hagerstown.

Next MVA Meeting July 8, Group Walk, Severna Park YRE.

Meeting adjourned 1:45 p.m.