

Spring E Board Meeting for the NSP Northern Division
April 27, 2019
Buck's T4, Big Sky, MT

Meeting Called to Order 9:00

Members Present: Karl Uhlig, Jana Barnes, Jeannette Amrine, Bruce Amrine, Mike Marlow, John Fradette, Brent Brooks, Steven Thompson, Jeff Motley, Dan'l Moore, Troy Walker, Vicki Motley, Bill Lay, Rusty Wells, Ron Wiggins, Dan Schafer, Erik Sakariassen

Eboard Members Not Present: Charles Allen, Seth Larson, Matt Radlowski/Steve Porcella, Justin Data

Other NSP Members Present: National Board Member Mike Huber, Carl Shiner, Trevor Motley, Keith Talley, John Larson

Minutes from 2018 Fall NSP Division Meeting reviewed. Moved to accept minutes as presented Erik Sakariassen. Seconded by Dan Schafer. No discussion. Motion carries.

Introduction - Karl Uhlig.

1. Welcome and meeting purpose.
 - a. Karl proposes to start the Spring Eboard Meeting at 8:00 in the future, no objections.
2. Division Director's report
 - a. National Board Meeting highlights.
 - i. OEC 6 is moving along
 - ii. Bike Patrols: There is a national committee working on how these patrols will work within the organization, both with OEC and OET. There is a question regarding Senior Protocols for the Bike Patrol and this is being studied and worked on through a committee at the National level as well. There is one bike patrol within the Division at this time (Turtle Mountain). Grand Targhee has a professional Bike Patrol.
 - iii. Dues increase of \$5, this is basically a cost of doing business increase. Please see the Polaris article for more information. National dues are now \$60. Alumni dues are \$35 (Up from \$30.) Karl is not proposing a dues increase at the Division level.
 - iv. National Awards Committee: Language in awards applications, etc is geared towards volunteer patrollers and there is a proposal to include and accept applications from Pro Patrollers as well.
 - v. New interface on the NSP website in Late April/early May expected.
 - vi. ICS-100: Need to register courses on the NSP website as a means to log/track patrollers who have completed the ICS-100 program, which is now a requirement for all patrollers.
 1. OEC will be responsible for getting courses closed. Each patrol will need to register a course on the NSP website and have members register for the course on the NSP website and complete the FEMA ICS-100 class. Complete by the end of 2019.
 - b. NSP Organization Planning Board subcommittee.
 - i. Reorganization committee is being formed with 4 prongs. Looking for members from within each division to be included in these committees. The committees will be looking at the business practices of NSP, such as course registration, management of courses and how this interfaces with the national database, registration, etc. Bill Lay, Rusty Wells, John Larson, Steve Thompson, Mike Marlow, and John Fradette have all submitted applications to be selected for these committees.
 - c. National Elections.
 - i. Karl is serving on the National Elections Committee. Applications are due June 1st. As of today, there are 2 applications only. If you know someone who would be a good candidate, please encourage them to apply.
 - d. Members survey from fall of 2018.

- i. Online membership survey from National last year. There was a great response from NSP membership. Contractor is still sifting through 2000 written comments. More information is coming in regards to the survey results.
- e. Mountain Guard Insurance; no errors and omissions or directors and officers insurance.
 - i. Mountain Guard holds the NSP general liability insurance policy. They presented at the National board meeting and do not provide NSP with errors and omissions or directors and officers insurance. Errors and omissions insurance (professional liability insurance) is if someone makes a mistake and there is liability. Directors and Officers insurance (for non-profits): Any entity that is running a checking account, should consider having this insurance in case there was misappropriation of funds. Insurance covers claims against board members for misappropriating funds. Should the board and/or individual patrols purchase this kind of insurance. Brent offered a discussion about these kinds of insurance. He suggests that you find a local agent to determine risk assessment and make individual determinations as to needs for individual patrols. Contact Brent Brooks or Karl Uhlig for more information regarding this. Again, consider a personal umbrella policy for yourself. Mike looked into cost: approximately \$1000/year for the Northern Division.
 - 1. Volunteer ski patrol members are not covered by work comp. This is a State Law. Need to clarify with Mountain Management and get something in writing from management.
 - 2. Make this a discussion topic for patrol representatives at the Fall meeting. Include discussion regarding work comp (State Fund). Consider having Joe Lustik from Snowbowl lead this discussion.
- f. Card for Joann Lacey
 - i. She is stepping down as the creator of the Polaris Newsletter.
 - ii. Mike Marlow has worked with a private contractor to produce the document since Joann has retired.
 - 1. We will be paying for this: \$750 per year (\$250 per article).
 - 2. There will be due dates and publication dates from now on.
 - a. Article Due Dates: April 10, August 1, November 1
 - b. Publications dates: April 20, August 10, November 10.
 - 3. Karl suggests that we get Joann a gift certificate
 - a. Mike Marlow moved to purchase a Visa gift certificate for \$250. Ron Wiggins seconded. Bill Lay will purchase and present this to Joann. No discussion. Motion carries.
- g. Polaris Articles
 - i. Opportunity to communicate directly with the members of the Northern Division. It is important for Eboard members to communicate with the membership and this is a vehicle to do so. Strongly encourage board members to write a short article for the newsletter.
 - ii. There will be an email address and dropbox to send Polaris articles to directly.
 - iii. Karl will be responsible for reminding everyone of deadlines for the publication.
- h. OEC, OET, MTR, AVI continuing education requirements
 - i. Instructors need to recertify every three years. How do we ensure that all instructors get their recertification done? Is there a way to do this through webinars or other means so people do not have to travel to get this done? If instructors are not able to get their recertification done, should they continue to be instructors? It is not too much to ask. Ask ourselves if we really want to be instructors. All programs require continuing education, including ID.
 - ii. John Fradette is concerned with going to each individual patrol, there is no interaction with other patrols/patrollers if everything is done at each individual patrol.
- i. Mentoring pilot project, PPT slides.
 - i. There is a retention problem with NSP patrollers in general.

- ii. Far West Division recognized this and developed a Mentor Program in the years after being a Candidate. Please refer to the PowerPoint presentation for more information. This will be presented at the Fall Division Meeting.

3. National Board of Directors Update—Mike Huber

- a. Great honor to serve on the National Board.
- b. Frustration is that the board tries to fix every little problem, “Down into the weeds, instead of taking a bird’s eye view.”
- c. He will not be applying for reappointment.
- d. Consider having another Northern Division Member apply for board appointment.
- e. Branding: This is a big push for National Ski Patrol and the board.
- f. Lack of voter participation: Encourage people to vote for National Elections.
- g. New National Historian: Consider inviting him to attend the Fall Division Meeting.
- h. By allowing bike patroller and other non-alpine patrollers to become members, it will change the voting membership and there is concern from some members of the board regarding this.
- i. Powderfall was a great success. Capped the attendance at 700. Was a great experience for all.

Meeting Goals

1. Program Advisor Reports

Advisors each gave a brief summary on the 2018-2019 season. Please see the individual reports for complete information.

- a. Director’s Report Karl Uhlig
- b. Assistant Director’s Report Dan Schaefer
- c. Administrative Assistant Jana Barnes
- d. Treasurer, Investment account Jeannette Amrine
 - a. Makes a formal apology to all Patrol Treasurers. Not able to make the fiscal year change as proposed last year. Made an extension for this past year and cannot make a year end change on an extension. July 1-September 30, 2018 information was requested. June 30, 2019 will be the year end again this year and the year change will be in effect for the future.
 - b. Now budgeting by event as well.
 - c. Balances: Checking \$62,204.03, Investments \$140,327.24.
 - i. \$5000 in a money market account in addition to the other investment account. We made about \$18 on the money market account this year.
 - ii. Motion made to move the \$5000 balance in the money market account to the investment account by Erik Sakariassen, Ron Wiggins seconded. Discussion: Why don’t we move more money from the checking account to the investment account? Needs to be a minimal amount in the checking account, however. The purpose of moving money would be that more interest can be made on the investment accounts. This would mean that there is a \$0 balance in the money market account. However, money can be moved to this account again at any time in the future. Motion carries unanimously.
 - 1. Will discuss moving money from the checking account to the investment accounts at the Fall Division meeting.
 - iii. First time attendees to meetings that the Division paid half of the registration for: 4 at the fall meeting, 1 at Winter Tip-Off
- e. Region I Director Rusty Wells
- f. Region II Director Ron Wiggins
 - a. Had a great year. There were 15-20 new OEC candidates. Working on increasing instructor numbers. Ron has been doing a lot of work at individual patrols, is working on getting instructors at these areas, Winter Tip-Off, etc for continuing education.
- g. Alumni Advisor Bruce Amrine

- a. Alumni dues are going from \$30 to \$35. Right now, \$10 comes back to the general fund for the Division.
 - b. More a National Program than a Division Program.
- h. Avalanche Supervisor Matt Radlowski/Steve Porcella
 - a. Plan for a Level 1 Avalanche and Level 1 MTR course this coming season.
- i. Awards Supervisor Erik Sakariassen
 - a. Colleen Finch is going to take over next year.
 - b. The National Awards Committee is not in favor of the RFA to include the Pro Patrollers for awards.
- j. Critical Stress Advisor Seth Larson
 - a. John Larson will step in on a short term basis until it can be determined if there is a need for this position. Will consider sun-setting this position as it has not been utilized the past two years.
- k. Historian Steve Thompson
- l. ID Supervisor Jeff Motley
 - a. Latest instructor manual will be E-published very soon. Will consider a hard copy in the future. There are many changes coming to the online ID course.
 - b. Will be including ADA information and instruction in upcoming courses.
- m. Legal Brent Brooks
- n. Medical Chuck Allen
- o. MTR Supervisor Troy Walker
 - a. Will not be redoing the NSP manual, will be using the Freedom of the Hills resource
 - b. NSP may be getting involved with Lift Evacuation. There is work on a manual between the NSAA and NSP.
 - i. MTR will be responsible for supervising the program for Lift Evacuation. This will have an impact on the MTR Program if this change does get implemented.
- p. Nordic/Backcountry Supervisor Dan'l Moore
- q. OEC Program Supervisor John Fradette
 - a. OEC 6 manual is on track to be out in 2020. There is still a lot of work to be done on adjunct material after the new manual is released.
- r. OET Program Supervisor Mike Marlow
- s. OET Assistant Supervisor Ron Wiggins
 - a. Went to a lot of different areas this year, had a good time.
- t. Polaris Joann Lacey
 - a. JoAnn is stepping down. Mike Marlow has contracted with a company outside of NSP for publication. Cost \$750 per year, \$250 per issue.
 - i. Dates: August 10, November 10, April 20.
 - ii. Articles are due August 1, November 1, April 10.
 - iii. Will set up an email and Dropbox for text and pictures.
- u. Registration Coordinator Bill Lay
- v. Young Adult Program Supervisor Vicki Motley
- w. Website Coordinator Justin Data

2. Fall Meeting dates: September 20, 21, 22, 2019.

- a. Location: Motion made by Dan Schafer to keep the Fall Division Meeting at Buck's T4, Seconded Vicki Motley, Short discussion regarding location: Much more expensive elsewhere, easy to work with Buck's, may be more difficult to work with others, Buck's is a fairly central location. Motion carries unanimously.
- b. Cost: 2018 - \$100, Discussion regarding increasing registration fee, increasing participation, etc. Erik Sakariassen made a motion to keep registration \$100, and that the first 10 first time attendees

to register will have their registration fee covered by the division.. Mike Marlow seconded. Discussion occurred. Motion carries unanimously.

- c. Committee to organize the Division Meeting: Mike Marlow, Jana Barnes, Erik Sakariassen and Colleen Finch, Trevor Motley
 - i. Vendors: Oboz, Duckworth, Titan Straps, Volkl, Mystery Ranch, BCA, Sun Mountain
 1. Please let Mike Marlow know if you have any other contacts for vendors.
 - d. Guest speaker: Consider inviting the National Historian or arranging a webinar with his presentation for the Division meeting.
 - e. Continue to offer to Alumni that the ND provide free entrance to the Saturday evening banquet for themselves and one guest and mention that a free breakfast comes with the price of a room.
 - f. Draft Agenda: Golf, Mini Sessions, OEC Refresher, Banquette, Vendors (who to invite?), Scholarships, etc.
 - i. Mini-Sessions: Will work on the schedule
 - ii. OEC refresher in the afternoon
 - iii. Banquet
 - g. Discussion regarding reimbursement for those participating in stations/activities for the division meeting. Needs to be consistent with all programs/disciplines.
 - i. Pay mileage for 1 vehicle, ½ of room costs for two nights, and ½ registration fee for those participating.
 - ii. Budget for the Fall Division Meeting: \$7000
3. E-Commerce on Division website to pay for some Division expenses
- a. Too expensive to have Ecommerce on the website at this time.
4. 2020 Senior
- a. Lost Trail would like to host a Senior Test this coming season, Showdown will host the Senior Clinic
 - b. See spreadsheets from Mike Marlow for costs associated for all instructors, etc. The proposals do not include costs for those in the Senior Candidates.
 - i. Includes mileage, lodging and food.
 - ii. Proposed 1 Senior Clinic vs an East/West Tip-Off and Clinic
 1. Same costs, but more difficult to organize, etc
 - iii. Important to have local participants for IPs, etc.
 - c. Will do a senior test as long as there are an adequate number of candidates (10).
 - i. Dates: Senior Clinic February 8,9, 2020. March 14,15, 2020 for Senior test.
 1. Will consider doing the OET portion of the Senior Clinic at Winter Tip-Off, allowing for more time for OEC Clinic the second week of February. This does require commitment for three different weekends instead of two for candidates.
 - d. Budget: \$11,000
5. Winter Tip-Off
- a. Dates: January 10, 11, 12, 2020
 - b. Location: Red Lodge Mountain
 - c. Name Change: No change at this time.
6. Communications with Justin Data and postings to the Division web site.
- a. If any board member has information to go out to the Division, just send the information to Justin to send out.
 - i. If there are any concerns, Justin will let Karl know and there will be a discussion regarding the material before it is posted to the website.
 - ii. Folder for minutes on the Division website for access to anyone.
 - iii. Will work on cleaning up the website to include just relevant information.

1. Will create an Archives folder for access to information that has ever been posted on the website.
7. Possible Division sponsored Friday evening dinner for the E-Board before the Spring meeting.
 - a. No change to format for Spring Meeting. Board members will be responsible for their own dinner Friday night before the meeting.
8. Northern Division Facebook page
 - a. Mike Marlow and Justin Data will work on a Facebook and Instagram presence.
 - i. Web designer, who is creating the Polaris, can do this for a minimal fee
 - ii. Will bring this to the Fall Division Meeting.
9. New Business
 - a. Women's Program Advisor:
 - i. Jana Barnes asked if the Division would like to develop a Women's Program. There are Women's Programs in many of the Divisions. The mission statement of the Women's Program is to empower patrollers by advancing skills and developing leadership in a women's-focused program.
 1. Jana Barnes will look into this, try to find an advisor, and present it at the Fall Division Meeting
 - b. Saving Money for patrols: Dan Schafer
 - i. Consider using a buying group: Savvik Buying Group is one that Huff Hills uses
 1. Free to sign up
 2. Could potentially send money back to the Division
 3. They offer some other items that NSP does not
 - ii. Dan will discuss this at the Division meeting
 - c. Promo Idea: Karl Uhlig
 - i. Provide pens to the Eboard and Patrol Reps to be handed out
 - ii. Help with branding: Stickers, Pens, Etc
 1. Bring ideas to Division meeting
 - d. Nuts and Bolts Clinic at Mt. Hood in the Spring
 - i. Consider going to this, \$70 Registration, Lift tickets are \$30/day
10. Beartooth Pass will be open for 5 weekends in May/June, 2019.
11. Powderblast, like our Winter Tip-Off, in Alaska is the third weekend in February 2020

Meeting adjourned: 3:11

John Fradette moved to adjourn the meeting, Mike Marlow seconded. Motion carries.