

American Volkssport Association
National Executive Council XX Meeting

La Quinta Inn

Tucson, Arizona

January 11 – 13, 2019

1. Call to order

The meeting of the National Executive Council was called to order January 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. by President David Bonewitz at the La Quinta Inn, Tucson, Arizona

2. Introductions

a. National Executive Council members present: David Bonewitz (President), Nancy Wittenberg (Vice President), Sam Korff (Secretary), Robert Morrison (Treasurer), Henry Rosales (Executive Director), Mike Green (Atlantic RD), Andy Bacon (Mid-America RD), Jerry Wilson (North Central RD), Chris Mellen (Northeast RD), Tom Baltes (Northwest RD), Suzi Glass (Pacific RD), Sherry Sayers (Rocky Mountain RD), Lucy Yother (South Central RD), John McClellan (Southeast RD), Susan Medlin (Southwest RD).

b. Guests signed in:

Kathryn King, Louisville, TN; Dennis Standridge, Spokane, WA; John Glass, San Jose, CA; Mary Ptacek, Las Vegas, NV; Al Korejwo, Las Vegas, NV; Carl Cordes, Las Vegas, NV; Pauline Mellen, Tyngsboro, MA; Sheila Morrison, Lacey, WA; Brenda Harris, Las Vegas, NV; Betty Green, West

Point, NY; Butch Spalding, Omaha, NE; Derrill Rothermilch, Las Cruces, NM; Bonnie Johnson, Fridley, MN; Sandy Spaulding, Council Bluffs, IA; Fred Barton, Tucson, AZ

3. Approval of Agenda: (Attachment 1)

Changes to Agenda:

Add to New Business

- a. Bylaws changes
- b. Possible changes to ACE
- c. Policy on disposition of equipment for closed clubs

Agenda approved as changed.

Reports of Officers.

President's Report (Attachment 2)

Vice President's Report (Attachment 3)

Secretary's Report (Attachment 4)

Consensus vote on approval of EBM Minutes 11 Dec 18, No objection

Treasurer's Report (Attachment 5)

- a. Funds Transfer
- b. Midyear Budget Modifications
- c. Motion to change accounting year

Bob Morrison made a motion: We move that AVA Bylaw Article III, Paragraph 3.5 be changed to:

“The fiscal year of the AVA shall be from January 1 through December 31 of a given year for the year 2020 and for all future years”

Previous wording: “The fiscal year of the AVA shall be from July 1 of a given year through June 30 of the following year”

Item will be passed to Bylaws Committee to be presented at the General Membership Meeting.

- d. 2017-2018 Audit Report
- e. December 31, 2018 Financial Statement

Bob Morrison made a motion: I move that AVA move to a biennial audit beginning in Calendar Year 2020 ending 2021 in years that do have a convention.

Seconded by Andy Bacon.

Motion passed.

Executive Director’s Report (Attachment 6)

- a. Recognition of Donations (Attachment 7)
- b. Acceptance of New and Reactivated Clubs & Declaration of Deactivated Clubs (Attachment 8)
- c. Executive Director’s Report (Attachment 6)

Reports of Standing Committees

Convention Committee – Chris Mellen (Attachment 9)

Information Technology Committee – Chris Zegelin (Attachment 10)

IT Committee made a motion: We move that the IT Committee makes the web site changes necessary such that an account with the electronic waiver signed is required before the start box location is visible in the sanction.

Motion Passed.

Standards and Evaluation Committee – Jerry Wilson (Attachment 11)

Audit Committee – Bob Morrison (Report included in Treasurer's Report)

Publicity Committee – Henry Rosales showed a video presentation by Mass Media. Discussion followed.

The Executive Committee made a motion: We move that the board ratify the proposal to move forward with Mass Media.

Motion passed.

Bylaws Committee – Lucy Yothers (Attachment 12)

Reports of Special and Ad Hoc Committees

Special Programs Committee – Bonnie Johnson (Attachment 13)

Sam Korff made a motion: I move that we accept all three special programs as proposed.

Seconded by: Chris Mellen

Motion passed.

National Programs Committee – Susan Medlin (Attachment 14)

Awards and Recognition – Suzi Glass will pass out a nominations packet to be considered by individual board members. Tomorrow we will go into Executive Session to discuss awards.

Programs Committee – Debbie Kruep (Attachment 15)

Instructions to NEC by President regarding three proposed Bylaws changes to be discussed tomorrow.

Meeting recessed January 11, 2019 at 10:02 p.m.

Meeting reconvened January 12, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

Meeting moved to Executive Session.

Moved back to open session 8:40 a.m.

Training Development Committee – Tom Baltes (Attachment 21)

Membership Committee – Holly Pelking (Attachment 16)

Nancy Wittenberg made a motion: I move that the Bylaws be changed so that for every 10 club members that are currently AVA Associate (Annual and Lifetime) members, their primary club gains 1 additional vote for each 10. Proxies may not be used.

Seconded by: Chris Mellen

Bob Morrison made a motion: I move that we change the requirement from 10 to 5 on the previous motion.

Seconded by: Tom Baltes

Motion failed.

The question was called.

The original motion passed.

Fund Development Committee – Nancy Wittenberg (Attachment 22)

Club Development and Support Committee – John McClellan (Attachment 17)

John McClellan made a motion: I move that the NEC approve the policy manual additive on Club Development and Support, to include AVA staff developing the necessary application form to be used in applying for assistance.

Motion passed.

Free Walker Study Group – Sam Korff (Attachment 18)

Sam Korff made a motion: I move that we refer the decision of whether we require that everyone pay for participation in AVA events to the club membership at convention.

Seconded by: Suzi Glass

Motion passed.

Strategic Plan Implementation/Coordination – Nancy Wittenberg (Attachment 19)

Unfinished Business

The Executive Committee made a motion: We move that the board ratify the proposed TAW contract extension.

The Executive Committee made a motion: We move that the board ratify approval of General Liability Insurance for clubs.

Motion passed.

Nancy Wittenberg made a presentation regarding The Big Give.

Jerry Wilson made a presentation regarding National Promotional Events - Crazy Horse and the potential for one at the Mackinaw Bridge.

New Business

Tom Baltes made a motion: I move that a cruise walk, similar to a mall walk, be sanctioned through the online start box.

A consensus vote was taken to defer this issue to the next Electronic Business Meeting, February 19, 2019. No objections.

Andy Bacon made a motion: I move that we create a Club Greeter position for clubs. John McClellan briefed that his Committee had considered the proposal and recommended that the position be added to the Club Operations manual. A consensus vote was taken to refer this back to the Standards and Evaluations Committee for development. No objections.

Awards and Recognition Committee – Suzi Glass

The Awards and Recognition Committee moves that a new award for volunteer effort be available to those who continue to serve at the local, state, or regional level. To be eligible, a nominee must have already received both the Commendable and Meritorious Service Awards. Additionally, since their last recognition, they have taken on different responsibilities and fulfilled them exceptionally well.

Motion failed.

Sam Korff made a motion: I move that we eliminate the national service requirement from the Distinguished Achievement.

Seconded by: Chris Mellen

Motion failed.

Sam Korff made a motion: I move that we create a Volunteer of the Year Award so that more than one could be awarded at convention.

Seconded by: John McClellan.

Motion passed.

Discussion of policy on disposition of equipment from closed clubs.

Discussion on potential changes to ACE events.

Discussion of potential Bylaws changes (Attachment 20)

- a. Establishing criteria for selection of National Directors – pass to Standards and Evaluations Committee for possible inclusion into the Policy Manual – Consensus vote. No objection.**
- b. Modifying Standing Committees – moving many committees to control of Executive Director (many of our committees are operational rather than strategic) instead of the NEC/Board of Directors.**

Nancy Wittenberg made a motion: I move that Bylaws changes 10.1 through 10.5 (as attached) effective January 1, 2020 be sent to the Bylaws Committee to be edited as needed and returned to the board at the February 19, 2019 Electronic Business Meeting.

Seconded by: Tom Baltes

Motion passed.

- c. Separate national from regional duties, Bylaws Article VI.
President will re-work these changes and bring to the Electronic Board Meeting of February 19, 2019 for approval recommendation.**
- d. At-Large members of the Board, Bylaws Article VII.**

Sam Korff made a motion: I move that Bylaws Article VII changes be passed to the Bylaws Committee for clean up and submit to the February 19, 2019 Electronic Business Meeting for approval recommendation.

Seconded by: Chris Mellen

Motion passed.

Andy Bacon made a motion: I move that we rescind the motion about a referendum regarding free walkers “I move that we refer the decision of whether we require that everyone pay for participation in AVA events to the club membership at convention. “

Seconded by: Jerry Wilson

Motion passed.

Andy Bacon made a motion: I move that we implement an information/education program on participation cost for AVA events to run through 2019 Convention.

Seconded by: Jerry Wilson

Motion passed.

Meeting recessed at 5:30 p.m. January 12, 2019

Meeting reconvened at 8:00 a.m. January 13, 2019

Question/Answer period with Mass Media

Meeting adjourned 11:30 a.m. January 13, 2019

