

**American Volkssport Association**  
**National Executive Council XX Meeting**

**Red Lion Inn**

**Albany, New York**

**June 8 – 10, 2018**

**1. Call to order**

The meeting of the National Executive Council was called to order June 8, 2018 by President David Bonewitz at the Red Lion Inn, Albany, New York

**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:**

Betty Green, West Point, NY; Carl Cordes, Las Vegas, NV, PA DRD; Liz Walsh, Cohoes, NY; Joseph Piffat, Danvers, MA; Barbara Piffat, Danvers, MA; Lea Darling, Albany, NY; John Glass, San Jose, CA; Pauline Mellen, Tyngsboro, MA; Debbie Kruep, Ill; Holly Pelking, San Jose, CA; Chris Zegelin, San Jose, CA; Frank Sayers, Woodland Park, CO; Erin Grosso, AVA Headquarters; Marian DeVaul, AVA Headquarters

**3. Approval of Agenda: (Attachment 1)**

Changes to Agenda:

- a. Add to New Business – Report by Holly Pelking on Canadian Volkssport Federation convention
- b. Block of time following New Business for Review of Strategic Plan and for IT Training.
- c. Budget Review/Approval will be deferred until after review of Strategic Plan
- d. Motion to raise Participation Fees
- e. Motion to direct the ED to renegotiate TAW contract to reduce costs.
- f. Motion to permit/opt to have walk directions put on line

**Agenda approved as changed.**

**Reports of Officers**

**President's Report** (Attachment 2)

**Vice President's Report** (Attachment 3)

**Secretary's Report** (Attachment 4)

## **Treasurer's Report (Attachment 5)**

A motion will be introduced under Unfinished Business to raise club dues to \$75

## **Executive Director's Report (Attachment 6)**

Policy on participation of minors will be discussed during July EIM meeting.

**Bob Morrison made a motion: I move that the NEC authorize the Executive Director to make decisions regarding deadlines for club reporting.**

**Seconded by: Chris Mellen**

**Motion passed.**

**a. AVA Donations (Attachment 7)**

**b. New, Reactivated, and Deactivated Clubs (Attachment 8)**

## **Reports of Standing Committees:**

**Convention Committee (Attachment 9)**

**Information Technology Committee (Attachment 10)**

**Audit Committee (No report)**

**Standards and Evaluation Committee (Presented by Mike Green near the end of the meeting)**

**Publicity Committee (Part of Executive Director report)**

**Bylaws Committee (No report)**

## **Reports of Special and Ad Hoc Committees**

**National Programs** (Attachment 11)

**Awards and Recognition** (Attachment 12)

**Programs Committee** (Attachment 13)

President establishes an Ad Hoc subcommittee for Virtual Online Programs to be chaired by Jan Van Vlack

**Training Development Committee** (Attachment 14)

**Membership Committee** (Attachment 15)

**Fund Development Committee** (Attachment 16)

**Club Development and Support** (Attachment 17)

**Free Walker Study Group** (Attachment 18)

**Strategic Plan Implementation/Coordination Comte** (Attachment 19)

**Special Programs** (Attachment 20)

## **Unfinished Business**

- a. **IVV Olympiad** (Part of IVV Congress in Attachment 21)
- b. **IML San Antonio** (Part of National Programs in Attachment 11)
- c. **IVV Congress** (Attachment 21)
- d. **Crazy Horse 2018** (Attachment 22)

**Bob Morrison made a motion:**

**I move that club dues have effectively been \$50 per year since 1976 and the deleterious effect of inflation during those years, beginning for club membership renewals beginning July 1, 2018, the annual club dues for all clubs and state associations be set at \$75.**

**Seconded by: Nancy Wittenberg**

**Motion passed.**

**New business**

**Report on Canadian Volkssport Federation Convention -  
(Attachment 23)**

**Bob Morrison made a motion:**

**I move that the NEC accept the committee charters as they are in the meeting package. (Attachment 24)**

**Seconded by: Nancy Wittenberg**

**Jerry Wilson made a motion:**

**I move that the Trailmaster Guide and Certification Examination be changed to include the Deputy Regional Director.**

**Seconded by: Bob Morrison**

**Motion withdrawn.**

**Bob Morrison made a motion:**

**I move that AVA Associate members be allowed to electronically self-report updates to lifetime achievement record books to AVA HQ, in a manner prescribed by the Executive Director using an editable pdf form located on the website or other technological means, thereby eliminating the need to submit physical books unless specifically requested by AVA HQ. HQ will continue to maintain lifetime achievement records as they do now.**

**Seconded by: Suzi Glass**

**Motion passed.**

**Andy Bacon made a motion:**

**I move that the Board establish a National AVA Calendar (January-December) listing significant regional, national, and international events. The calendar is presented annually (at least six months prior) to the Board by the Executive Director for review and adoption.**

**Seconded by: Suzi Glass**

**Motion passed.**

**Bob Morrison made a motion:**

**I move that beginning January 1, 2019, AVA member clubs shall pay AVA \$2.25 for each paid event participant and shall be allowed to charge each event participant up to \$4. This policy change shall be reviewed and reapproved after 24 months.**

**Seconded by: Sam Korff**

**John McClellan made a Subsidiary motion: I move that we postpone the decision on the Treasurer's motion for an event fee cap increase, to the September 2018 Electronic Information Meeting so that Regional Directors can gather feedback from the club level.**

**Seconded by: Chris Mellen**

**Subsidiary motion passed.**

**Bob Morrison made a motion:**

**I move that the 2018/2019 budget be approved as presented with the understanding that the board will receive regular financial performance updates and that the budget will be revisited at the January 2019 meeting with consideration toward amending the budget to reduce the anticipated budget deficit.**

**Seconded by: Suzi Glass**

**Motion passed.**

**Bob Morrison made a motion:**

**I move that the NEC direct the Executive Director to reduce costs by renegotiating The American Wanderer contract beginning November 1, 2018 to reduce the publication and distribution costs by 50%. Publication scheduling and other details shall be arranged by the Executive Director.**

**Seconded by: Sam Korff**

**Motion passed. 1 NO vote**

**Mike Green made a motion:**

**I move that AVA ESR support download of directions/map pdf (event pdf) for any AVA sanctioned YRE/SE. The operational details will be worked out by the IT Committee and the Executive Director as per the attached guidelines. (Attachment 25 )**

**Seconded by: Chris Mellen**

**Motion passed. 1 NO vote**

**Susan Medlin made a motion:**

**I move that in 2019 the AVA Centurion Program become a membership benefit; 50% discount for all AVA Lifetime and Associate members. The Centurion Program can be sold to non-members at \$15 for the first book each calendar year, and \$10 for additional books sold within the same calendar year.**

**Seconded by: Suzi Glass**

**Motion passed. 1 NO vote**

**Bob Morrison made a motion:**

**I move that the NEC instruct the President and the Executive Director to take all necessary steps to bring the matter of changing the present accounting fiscal year to a calendar year to the membership for approval at the 2019 Biennial Convention.**

**Seconded by: Tom Baltes**

**Motion passed.**

**Nancy Wittenberg made a motion:**

**I move that AVA do what is necessary to set up Sustained Giving as a donation method.**

**Seconded by: Susan Medlin**

**Motion passed.**

**Nancy Wittenberg made a motion:**

**I move that the AVA be able to sanction walking events on cruise ships that originate in US waters.**

**Seconded by: Bob Morrison**



**Motion passed.**

**Bob Morrison made a motion:**

**I move that the AVA/Executive Director develop a policy for youth participation.**

**Motion withdrawn.**

**The policy regarding minor participation is passed to Standards and Evaluation Committee to propose wording for the Policy Manual.**

**Chris Zegelin made a presentation regarding club ability to change their stamp – especially anniversary walk stamps.**

**Mike Green made a presentation showing improvement in RD and HQ interface.**

**Next Meeting – January 11-13 – Arizona**

**Audience Comments**

**Executive Council Comments**

**Meeting Adjourned 6:00 p.m. edt, June 9, 2018**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Sam Korff**

**Secretary**

