

American Volkssport Association
National Executive Council XIX Meeting
Fairfield Inn and Suites
Bentonville/Rogers, Arkansas
January 20-21, 2017

1. **Call to order**

The meeting of the National Executive Council was called to order January 20, 2017 by President Dennis Michele at the Fairfield Inn and Suites, Bentonville/Rogers, Arkansas.

2. **Introductions**

a. National Executive Council members present: Dennis Michele (President), Holly Pelking (Vice President), Sam Korff (Secretary), Lawrence Lehman (Treasurer), Henry Rosales (Executive Director), Tom Jackson (Atlantic RD), Linda Neu (Mid-America RD), Jerry Wilson (North Central RD), Chris Mellen (Northeast RD), Nancy Wittenberg (Northwest RD), Suzi Glass (Pacific RD), Frank Sayers (Rocky Mountain RD), Glen Conyers (South Central RD), David Bonewitz (Southeast RD), Susan Medlin (Southwest RD)

b. Guests signed in:

Bonnie Johnson, MN; Lucy Yother, KS; Pauline Mellen, MA; Missy McBride, MO; Deb Kruep, IL; Bob Wright, VA; Suzanne Wright, VA; Roger Bohm, AR; Bobbie Bohm, AR; Doris Conyers, MO; Diana

Mighells, MO; Retha Thomas, MO; Linda Swaim, AR; Paul Swaim, AR; John Glass, CA; Doug Evett, AR; Sandra Evett, AR; Sherry Sayers, CO.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Dave Bonewitz: I move to accept the agenda.

Motion seconded by: Suzi Glass

Motion passed.

Reports of Officers

4. President's Report (Attachment 1)

Motion made by President Dennis Michele: I move that the Awards Committee define the standards for a proposed award to be named for Jackie Wilson.

Motion seconded by: Nancy Wittenberg

Motion Passed.

5. Vice President's Report (Attachment 2)

6. Secretary's Report (Attachment 3)

7. Treasurer's Report (Attachment 4)

Motion made by Treasurer Lawrence Lehman: I move that we accept the mid-year budget modifications.

Motion seconded by Dave Bonewitz.

Motion Passed.

8. Executive Director's Report (Attachment 5)

a. AVA Donations (Attachment 6)

b. New, Reactivated, and Deactivated Clubs (Attachment 7)

Motion made by Treasurer Lawrence Lehman: I move that we go to Executive Session. NEC voted in the affirmative.

Open session reconvened.

Reports of Standing Committees

9. Convention Committee Report (Attachment 8)

10. IT Committee Report (Attachment 9)

11. Standards and Evaluations Comte Report (Attachment 10)

12. Audit Committee Report (Attachment 11)

13. Publicity Committee Report (Attachment 12)

Meeting reconvened January 21, 2017

14. Bylaws Committee (Attachment 13)

a. Bylaws Change #1. We move that the NEC recommend that this change be adopted. The bylaws change will change the name from National Executive Council to Board of Directors effective July 1, 2019. A recorded vote was requested.

Vice President - yes Northwest - yes Atlantic - yes

North Central - yes Mid America - no Pacific - yes

South Central - no Treasurer - yes Secretary - yes

Northeast - yes Rocky Mountain - yes

Southeast - yes

Southwest - yes

Motion passed.

b. Bylaws Change #2.

Motion made by Chris Mellen: I move that the Bylaws change regarding Evaluation of Candidates for National Service be given to Standards and Evaluation Committee to place this material in the AVA Policy Manual.

Seconded by: Holly Pelking

Motion passed.

Motion made by David Bonewitz: I move that the NEC recommend to the membership that this change be rejected.

Seconded by Nancy Wittenberg.

Motion passed.

c. Bylaws Change #3. Separate National and Regional Responsibilities of Directors.

Motion made by Dennis Michele: I move to recommit this back to the Bylaws Committee for change and brought back to the NEC by March 20, 2017. The NEC will have an online meeting to determine whether the NEC will recommend approval/disapproval of this change.

Seconded by: Chris Mellen

Motion passed.

d. Bylaws Change #4. Standing Committees and Their Orientation

Holly Pelking made a motion: I move to recommit this back to the Bylaws Committee for change and brought back to the NEC by March 20, 2017. The NEC will have an online meeting to determine whether the NEC will recommend approval/disapproval of this change.

Seconded by: David Bonewitz

Motion passed.

Reports of Special Committees and Ad Hoc Committees

Special Programs Committee (Attachment 14)

Bonnie Johnson made a motion: I move that the South Bay Striders "Walk Like an Olympian" Special Program be approved.

Seconded by: Lawrence Lehman

Holly Pelking and Nancy Wittenberg made a motion: We move that the following changes be made to the original motion:

- a. One event may be repeated 2 times in one year**
- b. Change walkers to participants**
- c. The Qualifier section last sentence be change to eliminate "or Roma" and add the sentence "However, cities, with names spelled the same as in a foreign city's language are acceptable."**

Motion seconded by David Bonewitz.

Motion passed.

Bonnie Johnson made a motion: I move that the South Bay Striders "Walk Like an Olympian" Special Program as amended be approved.

Seconded by: Lawrence Lehman.

Motion passed.

National Special Programs (Part 1) (Attachment 15)

National Special Programs (Part 2) (Attachment 16)

Susan Medlin made a motion: I move that any AVA club may submit a request through the Regional Director to AVA HQ for approval of an event in a non-IVV country.

Seconded by: Suzi Glass

Motion passed.

Susan Medlin made a motion: I move that paragraph 4.05 of the AVA Policy Manual be reinserted with the addition of the word "previously" inserted into the paragraph "The AVA Executive Director has . . ."

Seconded by David Bonewitz

Motion passed.

Dennis Michele made a motion to amend the Agenda in order to present the Training Committee material at this point.

No objections.

Agenda amended.

Training Committee (Attachment 17)

Convention Bidder Checklist (Attachment 18)

Dennis Michele made a motion: I move that we accept the proposal with the following date changes: Committees bid by April 15 and then the committee would return to the committee by April 25.

Seconded by: David Bonewitz

Motion passed.

Awards Committee.

Moved to Executive Session.

Returned to Open Session.

Nominating Committee Report (Attachment 19)

Program Committee Report (Attachment 20)

An ad hoc committee was appointed by President Dennis Michele with IT (Frank Sayers) taking the lead. Other members are Program Committee (Debbie Kruep) and Membership Committee (Jeanne Miller). Purpose is to tie the recommendations of the Program Committee together.

Motion passed.

Awards Committee Report (Attachment 20A)

AVA Bike Committee Report (Attachment 21)

The Bike Committee made a motion: We move that AVA policy be changed to allow 10km routes. Policy should read "A minimum 10km trail is required. Clubs are encouraged to offer longer distances (recommended distance is 25km). A shorter trail should be offered in conjunction with a longer distance trail."

Seconded by: David Bonewitz

Motion passed.

The Ad Hoc Bike Committee made a motion: We move that the Policy Manual be changed to eliminate the sentence "for a two year period starting April 1, 2015. AVA will conduct two pilot biking programs" and renumber paragraph 2.a as paragraph 2 and renumber paragraph 2.b as paragraph 3 and renumber paragraphs 2.b.1 through 2.b.8 as paragraphs 3a through 3h. Eliminate paragraph 4.02II.b.3

Seconded by: David Bonewitz

Motion passed.

Ad Hoc Membership Committee Report (Attachment 22)

Report sent back to the Membership Committee for reformatting so that NEC can consider the action items.

Ad Hoc Fund Development Committee Report (Attachment 23)

Unfinished Business

Discussion on IVV Guidelines for 2018 (Attachment 24)

David Bonewitz made a motion: I move that we approve the recommendations from the AVA National Office.

Seconded by: Frank Sayers

Motion Passed.

AVA Privacy Policy (Attachment 25)

Nancy Wittenberg made a motion: I move that that we change paragraph 4 to read "We may share your name, address, telephone number or email information only to local or regional AVA clubs . . . we will not share your information . . . with any third party."

Seconded by: Frank Sayers

Motion passed.

David Bonewitz made a motion: I move that we accept the AVA Privacy Policy as amended.

Seconded by: Susan Medlin

Motion passed.

AVA Mascot Committee Report (Attachment 26).

President Dennis Michele made a motion: I move that we submit the 5 mascot entries to the membership at convention for selection of the AVA Mascot.

Seconded by: Glen Conyers

Motion passed.

New Business

Agenda item #1

Holly Pelking made a motion: We move that AVA headquarters change stamp production and distribution to the proposed new event stamp.

Seconded by: Suzi Glass

Motion passed.

Agenda item #2

Nancy Wittenberg made a motion: I move that effective with the 2018 calendar year, year round and seasonal events for approved clubs be allowed to be automatically renewed for the next year.

Seconded by: Frank Sayers

Motion passed.

Agenda item #3

Nancy Wittenberg made a motion: I move that effective with the 2018 calendar year, when any year round or seasonal event is renewed, the Special Programs assigned to that event that are still valid for the new year are carried forward to the renewed event. This includes Special Programs that are no longer being sold, but whose books can still be officially turned in.

Seconded by: Tom Jackson

Motion withdrawn as capability requested will exist in new database.

Agenda item #4

Nancy Wittenberg made a motion: I move that AVA Policy and Procedures be permanently changed to support the Per Participant Sanction Fee (PPSF) method.

Seconded by: Jerry Wilson

Motion passed.

Agenda item #5

Nancy Wittenberg made a motion: I move that for a two year period starting April 1, 2017 AVA will conduct a pilot program for a "Traveling Guided Walk" event with a unique IVV stamp that can be used for multiple guided walk events. At the end of the test period, the NEC will assess the impact on AVA and determine if the program should be continued.

Seconded by: Holly Pelking

Motion passed.

The next meeting will be on June 7, 2017 in Billings, MT

Audience comments

NEC comments

Adjourn