

Minutes – PVS ExCom Meeting – August 25, 2015

MEETING ATTENDEES: The meeting was held telephonically. Members on the call were: Carolyn DeVilbiss, Bob Kramer, Celia Chen, Marna Blanchette, Herb Bennett, Reg Heitchue, Dick Schwartzbard, Rosemary Schwartzbard, Dave Warthen, Ray McKinley, Nancy McKinley, Mary Ward, Jan Marx, and Ellie Thayer. President, Carolyn DeVilbiss, chaired the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Secretary, Ellie Thayer, submitted the minutes of the June 30, 2015 meeting electronically. The minutes were approved and filed, with corrected edits.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer, Dick Schwartzbard, submitted the Treasurer's Report electronically. The electronic report was updated at the meeting showing a \$532.00 check had been debited. The report was filed, as adjusted. The Treasury amount is \$13,691.28. Bob Kramer queried about the cost to the club for maintaining the domain name and website space. Dick responded that the club had multi-year contracts that cost approximately 148.00 and \$300.00.

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS REPORT: Membership chair, Dave Warthen, submitted the Membership Records Report electronically. The report was filed. Dave provided an update on renewals and dues collection. One hundred forty-two members have renewed; 34 have not responded; and 11 have determined not to renew. Dave said that the response at this point in the biennial dues renewal cycle was good compared to previous years. Dave will send out another reminder on September 1 and Sue Lyon will begin contacting the nonresponders on October 1.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS REPORT: The events and meetings chair, Ray McKinley, gave a status report on upcoming events and meetings.

September 15, 2015 – monthly meeting, Nossuli, Potomac, MD, 7:30pm .

September 22, 2015 - outing to Hart-Miller Island, Celia Chen and Pat Cricenti, 9:45am.

September 29, 2015 – ExCom, Celia Chen, 7:30pm.

October TBD – Riverbend Park hike, VA, Ruth Healey

October 17, 2015 – monthly meeting, Van Nuys, Fairfax, VA, 2:00pm.

November 1, 2015 – PVS Golden Jubilee at Top of the Town, Arlington, VA, 6-10pm.

The Hart-Miller outing has 14 participants and space for six more. A future outing to the Alexandria Black History Museum is in the process of being arranged through Maryann Rozzell.

SKI TRIP COMMITTEE REPORT: Chair, Rosemary Schwartzbard, reported that the number of participants going on the 2016 ski trips is down from numbers on previous trips. At present, 18 have signed up for Snowmass; eight for Snowbird; and 21 for Madonna di Campiglio. Some in the Italy trip are from PVS, but many are from Best of Times.

PVS GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMITTEE REPORT: Chair, Rosemary Schwartzbard, happily reported that 81 people have registered for the Jubilee. The committee's aspirational number is 90 plus.

TOOT REPORT: TOOT Coordinator, Ellie Thayer, reported that Dave is the September editor and that we are awaiting the President's Message and the Knee.

OLD BUSINESS: There were no items of old business.

NEW BUSINESS: There were two items of new business.

Webmaster resignation and appointment: Carolyn announced that Dave Lerner, who had served as the club's webmaster for 10 years, has resigned. She commended and thanked Dave for his valuable service to PVS. Carolyn announced that Mary Ellena Ward, who has been serving as assistant webmaster, has agreed to take on the responsibility. ExCom thanked Mary.

Proposed website changes: password security for website and newsletters: Carolyn introduced the subject by noting that eliminating the need for password security on the website is a policy decision to be determined by ExCom. She queried whether the present policy is a barrier or an aid to members. She also noted that eliminating the password would make it easier for interested outsiders to learn about the club and its ski trips. Mary, the new webmaster, said she did not see the point of the password and agreed with Carolyn.

There was wide-ranging discussion with many views presented. Topics that were discussed included whether eliminating passwords might encourage identity theft, encourage strangers to "crash" our meetings, discourage members from hosting, or make hacking easier. Some members expressed some unease about the change. Others echoed Carolyn's view that eliminating the password would encourage members to view the website more and make it easier for outsiders to learn about the club. It was noted that the Capital Golden Skiers' newsletter and website did not have a password and that club did not experience any problems because of that policy. It was also noted that with Google and other websites it was easier today to find people's home addresses and phone numbers. Dave's research showed that only four out of 17 mid-Atlantic ski clubs had login requirements.

There was discussion about not including addresses and such in the TOOT and disseminating that information to members only in other ways. Ultimately, the view that prevailed was simply to eliminate the password requirement. It was unanimously agreed that the present listing of ExCom members' personal information would be taken off the website before the login setting was eliminated. Reg Heitchue moved that the club's website be accessible to all and not be password protected. The motion was seconded. The President polled the ExCom members: Carolyn, Bob, Celia, Reg, and Ellie voted yes; Herb voted no; and Marna abstained. The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Minutes submitted by Ellie Thayer.