

EASTERN DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
September 16, 2006



In attendance:

Rick Hamlin	Division Director
Burt Mitchell	Connecticut
	Maine – absent
Fred Leukroth	Western Massachusetts
John Shipman	Eastern Massachusetts & Rhode Island
Chris Brodersen	New Jersey
	New Hampshire – absent
Don Weaver	Western New York
Meg Smith	Southern New York
Bert Ebeling	Central New York
Peter Neefus	Eastern New York
Gerit Lewisch	Eastern Pennsylvania
Steve Schopfer	Western Appalachian
Christian Jaquith	Northern Vermont
Terry Randolph	Southern Vermont
Mike Lord	Genesee Valley
Bela Musits	National Board Member
Merritt Willey	Gore Mountain Patrol Representative
Carl Smith	Mountain Trails Nordic Patrol Representative
Henry Williams Jr	Assistant Legal Advisor

Meeting called to order 9:00a.m.

Update on National Issues

There will be a ballot of four with eleven candidates to choose from. The vote was 6 – 2 with National Board Members Dick Everett and Pamm Ferguson voting against the decision to have a ballot of four versus a ballot of seven. Revisions to the National By-laws will be proposed early next year to reduce help to clarify how vacancies will be filled.

Bob Scarlett has been asked to take the Assistant National Legal Counsel position.

The Division expenses used to protect members' rights came to \$56,202.60 out of \$80,000 we had budgeted. The total member's rights expenses were \$94,800.41. The legal fees paid by the national office were close to double that. Perhaps another \$10,000 may be spent by the Eastern Division, still keeping us under budget approved by the Eastern Division Board and Delegates.

Voting for the National Board: 5 in 2005; 4 in 2006 (leaving 3 vacancies to be filled next year), and 4 in 2007. IVS (vote counting company) is not our system of choice. The National Board ballots will be going out mid-October. By the 15th everyone should have a ballot.

Mark Dorsey, the newly appointed National Executive Director. Is there a contract or a golden parachute? That question still needs to be answered.

Since the Division appreciates all the work the National staff (those in the trenches) does for us, we would like to show it by giving them a luncheon.

Motion by Randolph/Neefus to do a luncheon for the National staff.
Carried

Committee Tasks Update Reports

OEC – Mike Lord: All refreshers (IT, Instructor, Region, Patrol) need to be registered with the National office. Course completion records must be sent back within 30days. Over 90 days the Instructor loses their credentials. The Instructor refreshers are separate from the regular refreshers. You also must have an 80% pass rate for written and an 80% pass rate for the practical.

Instructor Development – Christian Jaquith: The E course is out and may be ordered from the catalog. This year people should get used to using this new tool.

Avalanche - Chris Brodersen: We have a meeting here tomorrow.

Mountain Travel Rescue – Burt Mitchell: We also have a meeting here tomorrow. Bringing in new instructors/apprentices. We have an education fee of \$7.50 (\$15 for non-member) to the Division. The fee structure should be revised by the committee to include room charge, food, instructor costs, etc.

Nomination & Election – Don Weaver: If anyone wants “Best Practices” just contact Don.

Legal & Risk Management – Henry Williams: Steve Neal has resigned. We have asked Doug Holler to take over as the Division Risk Management/NSAA Liaison Advisor. Dave Esty will take over Doug’s job as Industry Representative.

Public Relations – John Shipman: Report distributed. Note: List of needs for the Snow Sports Expo held in Boston – NSP banners, posters, brochures, etc; PowerPoint presentation explaining NSP activities, i.e., skiing, toboggan handling and fun stuff centering around patrolling activities. The NSP workers at the Boston Snow Sports Expo may have their parking expenses paid for. John needs to send Jeff Barcus, Division Treasurer, a roster of participants.

Marketing – Steve Schopfer: There is a fine line between PR and Marketing – we work hand in hand. We effectively promote and market NSP programs. We also produce brochures and posters for ski shops, resorts, patrols, etc.

World Wide Web – There is a secure member site. The code is 10thmtn, password is Minnie. Deals, if available, will appear on that site.

Long Range Planning – Meg Smith: There will be a Senior report after she receives all Region information.

National Board Representative – Bela Musits: There are three big issues. Dues Increase - Rescinding \$20 increase for this season. Next year there will be an increase. We are evaluating all programs to make sure there is value to them for the member. Executive Director – We took a vote and decided not to have a search for that position. It was a split vote. At that point Mark Dorsey was appointed. National Chairman Jim DeWeerd did do a very thorough reference and background check on Mark. Vote for Board of Directors – There are areas of the National bylaws that are up for different interpretations. One of the Board’s responsibilities is to revamp the bylaws. Four terms that expire December 2006 will be filled in the 2006 election. The Bylaws Oversight Committee will be getting rid of conflicting verbiage and present their findings at the winter meeting and be voted on late winter, early spring. Members need to express their opinions, know where and how to vote, and then vote! 3,000 members out of 26,000 voted. All emails regarding 4 vs. 7; all emails regarding Executive Director; and all emails regarding dues had an impact on how the National Board decided to act. “Contract” and “Parachute” came across loud and clear regarding Mark Dorsey. Questions and Answers followed.

Bela had a DVD produced by Vail promoting safe skiing. To obtain the DVD, email Julie Rust at jrust@vailresorts.com or Jen Brown at jbrown@vailresorts.com.

Finance Committee – Fred Leukroth: Report Distributed.

Contract to consolidate with Stewart Moscov will be signed by Jeff Barcus, Division Treasurer, and Rick Hamlin, Division Director.

Motion by Brodersen/Ebeling to request the Board’s approval that we convert our current holdings according to the proposal presented by Stewart Moscov and Heritage Financial Services, LLC (National Financial, the institutional arm of Fidelity).

Carried

IRS 501©3 Guidance Document Input: Questions/Answers, please direct questions to the Finance Committee Discussion.

Motion by Leukroth/Randolph to appoint Henry Williams Jr. as the Division Legal Advisor.

Carried

Review of Committee Chairs and Replacements: **Avalanche Chair** Meg Smith (delete Chris Brodersen). Delete Linda Helms. **Finance Chair** Chris Brodersen (delete Fred Leukroth). Delete Bob Scarlett, add Henry Williams Jr.; **By-laws Chair** Bill Cline (delete Henry Williams Jr.). Delete Bob Scarlett, add Henry Williams Jr.; **Legal and Risk Management Chair** Henry Williams Jr. (delete Bob Scarlett). Add Doug Holler. **Long-Range Planning Chair** new WMA RD (delete Meg Smith). **Senior Committee Chair** (Noel Rios or Gerit Lewisch). All changes occur at the Spring Officers meeting in May, 2007.

Directors and Officers Insurance: Henry Williams talked about the Directors and Officers Insurance coverage for \$1 million. This policy will cover Region Directors, Treasurer, and Secretary. The deductible is \$2,500, premium is \$2,295 annually, start date is October 1, 2006.

Motion by Neefus/M Smith to invest in the Directors and Officers insurance.
Carried

Motion by M Smith/Mitchell that the \$2,295 premium would come out of the insurance line in the budget.
Carried

NSAA Initiative: Michael Berry is the National NSAA advisor. Should Eastern Division be a member of the geographic NSAA organization? Rick will make a contact with Doug Holler. NSAA is first then we will look at the other organizations to consider joining.

Motion by Lewisch/Schopfer to move ahead in exploring NSAA for a future join date.
Carried

Industry Partners Initiative: We are a member of FIPS. Perhaps we might make contacts with the Canadian Ski Patrol, Friends of Tuckerman's Ravine, Ski Area Management, PSIA of Eastern Division, and Ski Areas of New York.

Medical Reserve Corps Update: Rick has a list of patrols who are interested in contacting MRC units and has identified the MRC Units closest to those Patrols. **ENY** - Whiteface: MRC of Southwest Vermont, 100 Hospital Drive, Bennington VT 05201, Christian Phelps 802-440-4236; **EMARI** – Bradford: Haverhill Emergency Mgmt., 4 Summit St., Haverhill MA 01830, James Micitson 978-374-2300; Blue Hills: Massachusetts Region 4-A, MRC, 5 Randolph St, Canton MA 02021, Archana Joshi 781-828-1310; Ski Ward – Worcester MRC, 25 Meade St., Worcester MA 01610, Derek Brindisi 508-799-8471; **EPA** – Ski Roundtop: Lancaster MRC, PO Box 209, Manheim PA 17545, Matthew Cashman 717-664-1306; Spring Mountain: Bucks County MRC, 1282 Almshouse Rd., Doylestown PA 18901, Bruce Uqbode 215-345-3325; Pocono Ranchlands: Morris County MRC, PO Box 900, Morristown NJ 07963, Megan Cornish 973-631-5491.

State of the Senior Program: Regions brought up their pros and cons and also some suggestions that may promote the program. The goal is that we have 100% success rate in teaching the program. Lengthy discussion followed.

Division Director Refresher: Director Hamlin will be attending his refresher in Southern New York.

Winter Meeting Location: Motion by Randolph/Neefus to have the Region Directors' meeting at the Student Seminar, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, on Friday and Saturday nights.

Carried

Website's Update: Make sure all program dates are listed on Division calendar. Keep your websites up-to-date.

FIPS: Remember to attend their upcoming conference at Snow Bird. Congress 2007, Utah, April 21 – 28, 2007.

Neefus/Leukroth made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 3:50p.m.

Carried

Respectfully submitted,
Donna McGraw
Division Administrator