

**EASTERN DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 16-17, 2007**



In attendance (3/16/07):

Rick Hamlin	Division Director
Ron Ellison	Connecticut (representing RD Mitchell)
Darryl Trafford	Maine
Terry Randolph	Southern Vermont
Peter Neefus	Eastern New York
Christian Jaquith	Northern Vermont
Trish Watson	Western Massachusetts (incoming RD)
Fred Leukroth	Western Massachusetts
John Shipman	Eastern Massachusetts & Rhode Island
John Caron	Eastern Massachusetts & Rhode Island (ARD)
Don Weaver	Western New York
Henry Williams	Legal Advisor

Mid-winter meeting of the Eastern Division BOD at Bretton Woods, NH called to order 6:50 p.m.

Agenda

Rick Hamlin said that some of the topics would be affirmations of past actions that he needed to have confirmed. He also asked that Board members get familiar with the National Board Mid-winter Meeting Minutes by the following night's meeting. The goal is to insure that the Board understands what the National Board is doing.

Miscellaneous follow-up items

- We will be making a modest donation to the New England Ski Museum and Tuckerman Ravine. We want to build a good friendship with them. Does anyone oppose? Friends of Tuckerman encompasses many different organizations and people in the ski industry and we should support them. There were no objections. We will be donating \$150 to each.
- We have just shipped four NSP films (three color, one black and white) to have them preserved. Digital images will be created and the files will be provided to Rick Moulton, ski movie producer in Vermont.
- Don Weaver would support the donations above but suggested that the amount go up. A second call for assistance goes for the film and preservation. Costs will be about \$2000 to preserve the films. We need another \$8000 to do the film length that Rick Moulton wants with interviews. He could bring \$4,500-5,000 so if each region gave \$300+ we could meet the financial target. Darryl Trafford said that Pat Murphy at Sugarloaf has a large collection of film. Following are donations from Regions for historical film. They will go to Jeff Barcus.
 - Connecticut - \$300
 - Maine - \$300
 - Western Massachusetts - \$300
 - New Jersey - \$300

- New Hampshire - \$300
 - Southern New York – polling
 - Eastern New York - \$500
 - Western Appalachian - \$300
 - Northern Vermont – polling but probably yes
 - Southern Vermont - \$300
 - Genesee Valley - \$300
 - Western New York – \$300, waiting for vote but might up
 - Eastern Massachusetts & Rhode Island - \$300
 - Western New York waiting for vote 300 but might up
 - Eastern Pennsylvania - \$300
- Dartmouth College is the location of choice for the archiving of Eastern Division records. We would like a \$1,500 donation for record keeping. The next step is for someone to take on the task of coordinating and getting our records to Dartmouth. It was suggested that Gregor Trinkaus-Randall be contacted to see if he would be willing to take on the mantle as the Eastern Division Archivist. We will start shipping documents to Dartmouth. Looking for a volunteer who can delegate but will take on the responsibility that things happen. We also need a board person to be a coordinator. John Shipman volunteered to be the coordinator. The Archivist will be an appointment/advisorship slot. We will not be sending anything newer than seven years. Dartmouth does not want folks to purge their files. They will take everything and anything that's in a box that you don't want to throw away. Just files, not hard goods. We would like documentation of how the Eastern Division operated. Gregor will be asked to coordinate with Ellie Jessum.
 - We have no more pins and maybe only one-half dozen patches remaining and should order some more. Some wanted bigger patches. The consensus was no. We will put in an order for another 250 each. The \$750 order will be ready in time for the Officers' Meeting. We charge \$2 per pin and \$1 per patch.
 - The NSP Recruitment Posters have been mailed out but Rick Hamlin has more in the car. Chris Jaquith agreed to an autograph session. John Shipman asked if there would be some available for next year's Boston Show. Rick said we would switch it up and be giving out stickers. The sticker concept has been discussed...I ♥ NPS with a Band-Aid.
 - Chris Jaquith said that Vermont has an action on the in the legislature trying to get something in motion that medical information be released about contagious issues since if we have the duty to respond we should be protected with information (HIPPA an issue). There is no mechanism to obtain information about exposure to caretakers. The ACLU has objected to some language. We are looking for implied consent. It will be confidential between patient, doctor, and rescuer and not a full submittal of records. Rick Hamlin said that Dave Estes, the Division Envoy is a key ramrod on this. It is meant to just close the loop for rescuers but will not give any information to the general public.
 - Rick Hamlin stated that with regard to other state legislative actions, Virginia has granted total immunity to patrollers

Succession Planning

Everyone needs to train their replacement. Make sure you have someone to fill your job. Rick Hamlin said that he would have enough at four years as was discussed by the Board. Terry Randolph and Mike Lord are the current assistants in the wings, each for one year. Is that the plan we want to have? Rick's desire to be on the National Board is very slim; they are constantly putting out fires and haven't been able to move forward. The Eastern Division runs very well. In another year the NSP Board will be fully member elected. There are external forces operating that they have very little control over. Fred

Leukroth asked if Rick would accept another two years as ED Chair and Rick said he would. He also said that if the best shot was for him to go to the National Board he would but that if the Division wanted him to stay he would. Rick said that the key point was that everyone needs to be continually thinking about replacement of Division leadership.

Darryl Trafford said we should take the same approach we did a year ago and see how Hamlin could best be utilized. Think about it locally and globally and talk among yourselves about what you want for the Division. Chris Jaquith said that the two years would provide an opportunity for two more years of training for the next person. Henry Williams suggested that possibly we should appoint a committee to assist us in finding a new Division Director.

Replacement of S&T Supervisor

In accordance with the bylaws the Division Director gets to appoint supervisors but the Board gets input on appointments especially on major programs. Keith Pomeroy wants to step down. He presented his resignation on March 6th to Terry Randolph and Rick Hamlin. He apparently polled members of the Division S&T Steering Committee to see who might be interested in taking over. Interest was expressed by Bob Bluff, Jeff Burgess, and Frey Aarnio. Those names were brought forth with a strong recommendation to the Division S&T Committee from Keith Pomeroy that Frey Aarnio, a longtime member of the Steering Committee, be appointed. The S&T Committee unanimously endorsed that Frey Aarnio take over at the SOM. Rick Hamlin is looking forward to support for Frey.

Motion by Neefus/Leukroth that Frey Aarnio be appointed S&T Supervisor.

Carried

Rick Hamlin said we need to touch base with the rest of the board to inform them since they could not all be at the March 16th meeting because of inclement weather. We will tell them how we voted tomorrow night and ask for their votes.

Replacement of Avalanche Supervisor

Chris Brodersen has meet with his committee and voted. Two candidates, Phil Galka and Carl Smith, were interested. The Committee voted 3-2 in favor of Phil. Phil comes highly recommended. Currently Butch McQueen is serving as the interim supervisor since the resignation of the previous supervisor. Phil Galka, from Whippany, NJ, has been an NSP member since 1987 and is an alpine senior patroller, holding National Appointment #10260 skiing at Camelback, Asked for any discussion of Phil.

Motion by Randolph/Jaquith that Phil Galka be appointed Avalanche Supervisor.

Carried

Rick Hamlin said that we will get input from the absent directors at the March 17th meeting.

Finance Committee Report tabled to Saturday night

National BOD Call for Candidates

The call will go out on April 1st. Rick asked that RDs get the word out and to encourage qualified members to apply.. You can self nominate. The form is available on the NSP website and must be filled out and sent in by the June 1st deadline. Rick Hamlin is this year's Nominating Committee Chair and he said that they were discussing streamlining the application. There are no incumbent slots and this election will bring the board to full strength.

Rick believes that there are four brand new board members who will be elected at this cycle. The first year 20 people put their names in and last year there were 30. Hopefully there will be more this time. Anyone who put their paperwork in late last year, after the June 1st deadline will automatically have their names submitted to the Nominating Committee for this round. We need good team workers, communicators, and producers of work. People must have the time to travel and do conference calls. The minimum requirements are that you have to have been a member of NSP in good standing for five years. We would like to have at least two nominees for each slot. If we get 24 applications my charge to my committee will be to look at them to see if there is any evidence that would clearly make someone not eligible. The Nominating Committee's first job is to make sure there are enough candidates. If we only get seven as candidates then the Committee has failed its mission. We must have a minimum of two and a maximum of four per open seat. Don't let my committee fail its mission.

Division Director Report

I have talked about the films and Rick Moulton and I have great hopes for the final product that will support the New England Ski Museum NSP exhibit. Moulton is sensitive to the ski world and NSP. The good news is that he lives 10 miles from my house and is easy to meet with and talk to. He's looking to do interviews with key folks in the Division. Polling the BOD produced the following ideas of who he can talk to: Don Page, George Wesson, Al Pels, Stub Taylor, Herb Lehman (Swain), Howard Martin (Mad River), Pat Murphy (Sugarloaf), Floss Kirkner (Kissing Bridge), Marvin Peck (Powder Ridge), Dot Hoyt Neble (Belleayre), Dick Gardner (Sundown), Vince Patane (Bristol), Walter Harrington (Hogback/Alumni SVT), Dave Esty (Sugarbush), and Tom Potter (for the Dinosaurs). But we need some new faces not just old-timers (3rd generation patrollers - Alli Hamlin, Dustin Neefus?). Recommendations will go to Moulton.

As mentioned I'm the Nominating Committee Chair. That will take up the late summer and fall. Working through the list of needs, it's an ongoing process. I'm also on the Governance Committee chaired by Pamm Ferguson. This year we're rewriting the P&P. When all done they will be single column width to fit a computer screen. The process will probably take another year to year-and-a-half. If there's anything you like or don't like send me the comments.

I am also a member of the Executive Director Search Committee. As you know, we share staff with the ASEA. They own 1/3 we own 2/3 of the building and we share much of the staff. Each year this agreement comes up for review and there's a clause that says that if it is not reviewed it goes on. Because ASEA has hired Mr. Dorsey to be their full time Executive Director, the Board met and has decided to keep Mr. Dorsey until June 1st and look for a new Executive Director. The ASEA and NSP will meet to see how to proceed with the remaining staff. Approximately 30 people have applied to be Executive Director and it needs to be narrowed down to a short list.

Motion Neefus/Randolph at 8:35 p.m. to recess until the following night when the following will be addressed:

- Quick updates on national issues (a recap for those not here tonight)
- Finance
- Mid-winter meeting minutes
- Planning for officers' meeting

Carried

Additional Attendees (3/17/07)

Gerit Lewisch	Eastern Pennsylvania
Bert Ebeling	Central New York
Meg Smith	Southern New York
Chris Brodersen	New Jersey
Rick Knight	Connecticut (Finance Committee)
Noel Rios	Central New York
Dave Childs	Western Massachusetts

Meeting called to order at 6:54 p.m.

Follow-up Items

There are two follow-up items from last night – replacement of the Avalanche and S&T Supervisors. Phil Galka and Frey Aarnio were appointed respectively. We didn't have a quorum last night. Eight voted positively last night but we need another vote.

For Phil Galka, polling those who were absent: CNY, yea; EPA, nay. Final vote 9/1.

For Frey Aarnio, polling those who were absent: CNY, yea; EPA, yea. Final vote 10/0.

Frey Aarnio – CNY yea, EPA yea 10/0 for appointment of Frey

Finance Committee Report

Fred Leukroth, Chair of the Finance Committee handed out copies of his report. He recognized the tremendous talent on his committee. Chris Brodersen is assuming responsibility as chair at the SOM. A discussion of the Eastern Division needing an audit followed. A formal audit is very expensive but it hasn't been done in a long time. The difference between a proper review and an audit is that an audit is more expensive because there is that much more guarantee insurance from the auditor. The Committee feels a properly performed review is more than adequate for our purposes. The cost of a review is approximately \$2000. It could run more if it's the first time this reviewer looks at the books. The Committee would like to get permission to solicit bids for this review with an outside person not affiliated with NSP.

Motion Randolph/Smith that an audit be conducted after the SOM. It's already a line item for approval in the budget but would like the Board to say it's a good idea. There was no discussion.

Carried to set aside funds for an audit.

John Tuttle will oversee a review of investments.

Fred Leukroth then discussed the first version of the IRS guidelines. He would like to publish these guidelines on the Division website and distribute them throughout the Division. The document goes a long way to show we are aware of our responsibilities and are attempting to do the right thing. Rick Hamlin said that National has said that Divisions are jeopardizing our 501©3 tax-exempt status yet has not given us any guidelines. He recommended that we provide these guidelines to the National leadership so that we know we are concerned about this issue. For the record, does anyone object to disseminating this report? All were in favor of publishing it. Fred will send to Bill Gamble to post on website.

For the budget for 2007-2008, Jeff Barcus needs requests in a uniform format. An Excel spreadsheet is available on line. The Finance Committee needs to pick an earlier date for next year so Jeff has ample time to get everything together to present to the Board prior to SOM.

The Board thanked Fred for his attention and told him that it has been a pleasure working with him. Terry Randolph wanted to acknowledge the outstanding work this committee has done. On behalf of all the Board Terry extended thanks for a job well done. Rick Hamlin then made a special presentation to Fred.

Tax exempt letters were the last detail in the Finance Committee report. The following Regions, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Rhode Island do not have tax exempt letters on record with our Treasurer . They were asked if they would like Jeff Barcus to pursue this. All agreed that they would and Jeff will look in to getting the appropriate letters.

Everyone will get a copy of the budget ahead of time and should be ready for the SOM. We do not want requests from the floor at the SOM for massive increases over and above what's been budgeted. Program folks and advisors must put budget requests in several months ahead of the SOM..

Mid-winter Notes and Minutes

Rick Hamlin asked if there were any questions about the minutes from the National Board.

Page 4 – there was a question about NSP and EMT. There is a push at the National level to have our OEC program recognized by the DOT,. Some preliminary steps have been taken. It is agreed that we are higher than first responders but not EMT level. Would it be prudent for NSP to create another module or chapter that would provide for those things not covered now to elevate us to EMT level? Then we could be recognized by DOT as EMT equivalent. OEC is much more transportable than EMT. For the potential to market our program farther a field to others we that need portability, but will we start stumbling into regulation by states. Most say we don't want to be regulated by those boards. Once you're under their regulation you could be required to act under their command and that is one of the concerns of this approach.

Page 5 – TIMMS – last June we found out that our Executive Director had pulled all the software the staff had been trying to use for over a year and a half saying it wasn't working and slowing them down. In April of 2006 the staff stopped using the new software. In June we heard confirmation that it wasn't working. In August we heard a lot of money had been spent and it wasn't working. At the end of August Rick Hamlin contacted Chairman DeWeerd asking for a task force to contact the company and ask for our money back. Names were offered of people who could do the negotiation. Chairman DeWeerd directed that negotiations commence, but Executive Director Dorsey did not pursue trying to get our money back. At the mid-winter meeting , a consultant confirmed thatthe software company did not perform as planned. The Board told the Executive Director that we would like a copy of the contract. He said that will take awhile. More than 60 days passed. A Task force has been assigned, including Bob Scarlett. They are poring over the information. Authorization has been given to Bob Scarlett to launch the first letter to the company saying we want our money back. We await the status of this activity.

Planning for SOM

We need to invite a guest. Bela Musits would like to come to talk to us. Chairman DeWeerd has also expressed an interest. We will invite Chairman DeWeerd and Assistant Chairman Musits to the meeting. We will have the standard Region Director and Section Chief meetings on Friday night. At some point that weekend we also need to restructure the committees. The committee list has to be

populated by the close of business Sunday. There will be a new officer orientation meeting that Friday at 2 p.m. Please inform your new folks.

Motion Neefus/Brodersen to adjourn.

Carried