

EASTERN DIVISION CERTIFIED ANNUAL MEETING
HELD ON ZOOM
April 19, 2021, 7-9 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM with 65 in attendance.

- 2020 Meeting Minutes accepted:

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

- National Board Members – John Kane, Bob Bernatos, Wendy Aarnio, Marc Abend, Paul Kelly, Bob Scarlett
- ED Board – Cal Goldsmith
- National Chair – Chris Brodersen
- Division Certified Chairs – Sal Mascarenas, Lance Vaughn, FWD for Marc Barlage

BEREAVEMENT NOTES

- Don Hansen, Rob Tracy, Rhoady Green.

FOLLOW UP REQUEST OF CERTIFIED MEMBERS

- Wendy Neefus email: neefus@verizon.net,
- Ehrlenbach - gofundme.com - \$6180 of 10K goal.

CHAIR REPORTS

Avalanche – Helms

- No report.
- Shout out to Peter Neefus helping with candidates through Covid.

Low Angle – Zink

- Looking for instructors.
- Spend time to look at exam becoming more scenario based.
- Look at patroller schools to staff them; see who is qualified to do it.

Lift Evac – Wallin

- No report

OEC – Laitala

- Need to know if instructors have not updated and any who have become an OEC examiner to add to the list.

ORM – Petrozzi

- No report.
- Report for NSP development of program. Content we've been using is the basis of the ORM content for the general membership. Several the topics will not be as in-depth. Some topics will be included in certified but not for the general membership. If members take ORM they will be exposed to 95% of content.

OET – Mills

- Certified terrain great right now!
- In 10 months (Feb. 10) we'll have a pretest and encouraging all to stay for the patroller school that weekend.
- More will be planned in the fall and announced.

CREDENTIALS – DeSesto

- No updates. No applications.

RECERTS – KRECKEL

- No recerts this year.
- The list of recerts due has grown to be huge. 58 will be due in 2021-2. Will be offering at all events. Plan ahead to make them not wait for exam. Priority will be given to those due not those who want to do it.
- List will be forthcoming in a week.

Lifetime – Kushner

- Announced a special trip to Ski Liberty to award Bill Sachs his lifetime. It was worth the trip to see the look on his face.
- Welcome Ken Kelly to Lifetime.

Nominations – Speedy

- Wilson only candidate.
- Motion to close nominations: Cline, second Brodersen. Motion carried.
- Move to cast one vote by the secretary: Speedy, second Kushner. Motion carried.

Awards – Wilson

- Gordie Bell Certified Patroller of the Year – Peter Neefus
- Nickerson asks that committee nominate Gordie Bell for Hall of Fame. Peter Neefus will take the lead.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Certified Test dates:

- 2022 - Sugarloaf March 14-20
 - March 14 is a Monday; asked to extend the rates for full week.
 - \$35.00 tickets per day, per person.
 - Lodging - COVID19 dependent
 - I would like to change of location. Vail properties are difficult to work with.
 - Members probably have a vaccine requirement
- 2023 – Stowe
 - Have a discussion or list alternatives.
- 2024 – Nominations for locations – think about it.
 - Brodersen – where are welcome? Which areas are most welcoming to our presence. Some more than others.
 - Jordan – what is the issue with Stowe.
 - Vail has eliminated volunteers – pro only. Stowe, Liberty, Hunter.
 - Issue is not putting money in their pocket when so many of our people are volunteers which Vail does not support.
 - Cline – play cards close to our vest. National Board is trying to build bridges. Would like to table it but look for options. Report back to membership by October.
 - Maley – Can I help, I'm a Vail employee. Powderfall is going to Breckenridge which is Vail.
 - Wallin – we know Sugarbush, Killington, Jay Peak, Smuggs are all supportive of the program. What other areas that have the terrain are within the division, so we don't go back to the same place all the time.
 - Gore? Off the table because of liability aspect?
 - Whiteface – Kreckel says they are viable.
 - Grant – can't say whether or not we can bring the program back or not. Try to revisit it with them when possible. I would not rule it out. If interested, I will continue to try to keep it alive with senior management.
 - Mascareñas said Intermountain Division running into the same problem. We are in the same situation the last few years. Used to be able to run tests. Snowbird, Solitude, Park City, Deer Valley all off the table. Comes down to dollars. Use their instructors, pay their rates.
 - Powder Mtn. Snow Creek, Beaver Mtn. are still on the table. Choices growing smaller.
 - Guth not sure Sugarbush will still roll out the red carpet. John Hammond is there and a great asset for us.

Training Bootcamps

- Hunt Hollow - Aug. 1, 2021 - One Day Sunday needs help.
- HurriKane Cove - Aug. 27-29, 2021 - Weekend
- Blue Mtn Advanced Patrollers School - Sept, Oct -third weekend in Sept.

Recert dates – Kreckel

- Patroller Schools on Thursday and Fridays and add to patroller school weekend.
- Fridays and Pretest dates: TBD
- Nebzydoski wants to push everyone out a year, so it spreads out.
- Motion to push ahead: Keating, second Zink.
 - Former recert chairs agree. Neefus if it's within our boundaries national requires a recert every three years. Can we do this? Brodersen. Each division has their own rules and regs. We have had extraordinary circumstances the last two years. Move the motion.
- New motion: Everyone from their actual due date moves forward two years as of 2019. Second, Kelly.
 - What happens to those due in 2023? Are they pushing through also? 2020 goes to 2022. 2021 goes to 2023. Need to push all out two years from the year they were due to fix the problem. Second, Neefus. Yes/No vote. Motion carries.

Patroller Schools

- Killington Feb. 5, 2022, plus two additional schools TBD.
- Plus two additional Schools: TBD
- Everything Covid dependent state-by-state and national.
- APS open to all from wannabees up.
- Hurrikane Cove for candidates first.

Discussions

- Retention of Certified Patrollers
- How to keep members involved.
- Getting new candidates. Looks like 5 new candidates
- Baker APS will help to bring in people. Do a video at APS.
- Maybe have more than 10 new people coming in. Could have a bottleneck at the exam. Helms 11 candidates for beacon.
- Membership classifications

Diversity, Equality, and Inclusiveness – Cline

- Per norms our expectation is for this group to lead. National board is struggling with this issue. Comes down to our membership needs to be the people to be supportive to lead these things. Whatever the board sets out in front of us. Entering a new phase in society as to how we behave and conduct ourselves. We are one of the last performance-based group.
- Abend – one of the things brought to the board is that this is an issue that we all must be aware of. When local level people say 'I don't want this woman taking me down when men are there' we joke about it and our clientele. We've glossed over it. We're addressing it at a board level and seeking professional guidance. I'm learning a lot. You become very aware of it when you sit there with your ears open and hear.

National Certified Credentials – Brodersen

- Good news is that after past years more at large people joining the call.
- Working most recently on the national credential credentials. Still a work in process. Challenge around avalanche being clarified.
- One year from now I term out. New national supervisor will be needed. Anyone interested join the calls. Don't want the next person to start from zero as I did. Needs to be seamless.

Chuck's Team – Gabler

- Need some help. Want to spread this out since interesting is increasing. Need more people involved.

Candidates

- Double the interest.
- Program chairs online; Laitala requested addition of active links.
- Those that wrote your letters of recommendation should be on your saved phone list.
- Neefus – plan to start the email train up again in the fall (check with Peter). If you're interested drop Peter a line.

General

- Peter says Wendy sends a shout out to all. He looks forward to this and his fishing buddies. Send emails to neefus@verizon.net.
- Maley– How is Gordie doing? Living with his son. Talked to him. Pretty lucid. Having problems getting around. Contact info is only his son's phone. Trying to alleviate that. He's a member of the PA HOF.
- Kane – Congrats to Bill Sachs on Lifetime; long overdue. Good to see him back.
- Boot camp – we've been inundated it; has to be regulated.

Motion to adjourn at 8:16 PM: Keating, second Brodersen. Motion carries.

Submitted by Bob Bernatos, Secretary