

Keystone State Volkssport Association
6 May 2017
Bedford County Library, Bedford PA

KSVA President Marcy Lucas called the meeting to order at noon, by thanking the Penn Mary Walkers for hosting at today's Bedford Walk. Other officers present were: Treasurer - Pat Eby; Secretary - Carol Talaga

Club representatives & members present were: Cumberland Valley Lead Foot Club – Lorraine Jackson; Liberty Bell Wanderers – Dave Brown, Betty Green; Nittany Nomads – Pat and Fred Welch; Penn Mary Walkers – Sarah Garcia; Susquehanna Rovers - Bill Rhoat, Robert Gambert; York White Rose Wanderers – Pam Copenhaver; Atlantic Regional Director - Tom Jackson and Regional Director elect – Mike Green

Secretary

The February minutes were emailed the week after the meeting for review and comment. Corrections were submitted and changes were made. The revised minutes were sent earlier this week. There were no additional corrections today; Pat moved to accept and Dave seconded

Treasurer

February through April reports were circulated and filed for audit. The balance as of April 30 is \$5,999.05. A PayPal account has been opened to receive payments for the Appalachian Trail Special Program.

Vice-President

Marcy introduced an idea from Jane Holmes who was unable to attend today. Jane would like us to consider a “Keystone State Volkssport Walkers” account with Meetup. She would be willing to do one week a month, but would like volunteers from other clubs in the central PA area for the other weeks. Betty Green noted successful implementation by clubs in New York. Discussion is to be continued. Jane will explain more and her experience she had with Meetup in California. Visit Meetup.com to learn about this networking option.

President

Outreach – Marcy represented KSVA and AVA at National Park RXs promotion at Steamtown National Historic Site in Scranton. They may want us back next year.

Business cards – generic cards promoting AVA and KSVA have been designed and printed and were offered to those attending today.

Cost Effectiveness of 2018 Year-rounds and Seasonal walks – Consider the fixed costs of AVA sanctioning [\$20.00] and quarterly fees [\$20.00], as well as KSVA per page printing [\$37.50]. Example: A Year-round event, with only one event on the page, would cost \$77.50. After AVA's \$1.25 and KSVA's \$0.10 fees, the club will keep \$1.65 per each paid walker. The walk would need 47 paid walkers to break even. If your walk has been getting enough paid walkers and you think it will continue to do so, then re-sanction it. If it is costing the club money consider not re-sanctioning or making it different so you get more walkers.

Updating the Special Program checklist for next year is on Marcy's to-do list.

AVA Convention Voting Decisions – As KSVA delegate, Marcy is open to our opinions and guidance regarding bylaws and the contested elections for President and Treasurer. There was no objection to her adhering to the NEC recommendations for AVA bylaws revisions.

The Big Give – There is no recent record of KSVA contributing to this annual AVA fundraiser. Pam Copenhaver moved that we donate to the 2018 campaign, amount suggested is \$100.00; motion carried by consensus.

KSVA Sponsored Events

Event / PoC	#	Comments
20/10 / Marcy	48 = 2016 total	Program discontinued for 2017 but may resume next year, we may have a volunteer to manage it.
State Parks & Forests completed	68	1 st award – last one January 23
	14	2 nd award – last one November 26. Completed books will be honored until we run out of patches which are not dated.
State Parks & Forests participation	9	Michaux State Forest year-round walk
	6	Biglerville – Michaux State Forest – Piney Ridge Road snowshoe Pay per Participant Sanctioning
	4	Fayetteville – Michaux State Forest – Smoke Zimmerman XC Ski Area snowshoe Pay per Participant Sanctioning
	6	Pine Grove Furnace State Park
	2	Waterville Tiadaghton State Forest seasonal walk
	2	Waterville Tiadaghton State Forest seasonal bike
Shepherdstown, WV Jane Snurr	2	
Erie Presque Isle State Park Pat Eby	2	
Harper’s Ferry, WV Jane Snurr	5	
67 Counties Sharon Miller	0	
Appalachian Trail Jane Holmes	21	All were credit walkers. There were 24 booklets and 5 patch sales as of May 5

Unfinished KSVA Business:

By-Laws ad hoc Committee – Carol Talaga, Joan Lampart, and Bill Rhoat – met once in person and four times by three-way calling. The proposed changes were electronically circulated via the KSVA distribution list on May 3 and reviewed today. Dave Brown moved to accept the revisions to Article IV –Purpose, V – Membership, and VI - Officers, together with improvements suggested today and Lorraine Jackson seconded. Motion carried. The table with today’s three improvements emphasized in larger print follows. Revisions for the remainder of the bylaws [Articles VII to the end at XIV] will be discussed at later meetings.

Article	Current	Proposed change	Rationale
I II III		No changes to Name, Residence, Affiliation	
IV <u>Purpose</u> _Sec 1 (c) Carol	To increase communication among members and volkssport participants through the publication of a Volkssporting in PA brochure and the distribution of information to member clubs and available to the public.	To increase communication among members and volkssport participants through the publication of a Volkssporting in PA brochure and the distribution of information to member clubs and available to the public. Examples include: the annual Pennsylvania Events booklet, the KSVa website and brochure.	<i>Recognize other publications that promote KSVa. Note: brochure needs revision.</i>
V <u>Membership</u> Sec. 1 (b) Associate Carol	Sec 1 [b] definition Sec 2 [b] how to apply Sec 4 [a] dues Sec 5 [b] expiration	Delete this category and references to it in Sec. 1, 2, 4, 5	<i>AVA defines Associates as individual, family or Business wanting to provide financial support to AVA. Collecting dues regularly would be burdensome. If we established this category to recognize contributions from non-profits or businesses , there is no evidence in minutes or memories of long timers that we ever conferred this status.</i>
V <u>Membership</u> Sec. 1 (c) Honorary	Sec 1 [c] May be conferred by the KSVa on individuals, clubs, or organizations whose actions have assisted or promoted the aims of volkssporting.	<i>Add The regional director and the deputy director of the AVA whose territory includes the KSVa is an ex-officio honorary member for the duration of their term.</i>	Gives official recognition to these positions.
V <u>Membership</u> Sec 2 (c)	Honorary membership shall be conferred by a two-thirds vote of the regular membership.....	Honorary membership other than for the regional director shall be conferred by a vote of the regular membership.	
VI <u>Officers</u> Sec. 2 (b) Bill	Nominations shall come from and be voted upon by the regular KSVa membership at the annual meeting of the regular KSVa membership.	<i>Change annual to third quarter; add held in even-numbered years.</i>	
VI <u>Officers</u> Sec. 2(c)	Terms of office shall be two years, beginning on the first day of January following the annual meeting in even-numbered years, not to exceed two consecutive terms	Terms of office shall be two years, beginning on the first day of January in odd-numbered years, not to exceed two consecutive terms.	<i>Clearer and not tied into an annual meeting</i>
VI <u>Officers</u> Sec. 3 Duties of President		<i>Add #8 Represents KSVa as a delegate to both AVA Conventions and Regional Conferences. .</i>	<i>Eliminates need to approve motion to appoint President, as we have usually done.</i>
VI <u>Officers</u> Sec. 3 Duties of Vice-Pres		<i>Add #3 Assume the duties of the president in the event the president is unable to fulfill the duties.</i>	

Club Reports

Combined club event Susquehanna River Towns weekend was held on April 28-29. The walker registration counts were: Columbia [Pacers] = 206; Marietta [Susq. Rovers] = 142; and Wrightsville [York] = 161. The bike option attracted 28.

Chester County Red Rovers: Marcy reported for Jeanne Clancy

Their club's first traditional event will be July 8 at Hibernia County Park; brochure is online and at the today's event display table.

Cumberland Valley Lead Foot: Lorraine Jackson

The traditional event in Fayetteville was a success, due in part to the weather and the famous Fayetteville Fire Company chicken dinner.

Lorraine was interviewed for a news article and it was just released: "York Woman who developed a self-guided walking tour of Renovo...", as chronicled in *The Record online – Voice of Clinton County*. Lorraine is point of contact for this new walk sponsored by YWRW. Found online at <http://therecord-online.com/site/?p=33007>

Liberty Bell Wanderers: Dave Brown

Last week of April we were visited by three buses doing six of our walks in nine days: Tater Tours, Wandering Wheels (OH / IN), Seneca Valley Sugarloafers (MD)

Upcoming events:

May 21 – Kingston D&R Canal – Bike Event – Garden State Wanderers and LBW

September 9 – LBW Annual Picnic at Norristown State Farm Park

October 7-10 – LBW Three Capitals bus trip on Columbus Day weekend, now has a waiting list. Stops at Harrisburg, Flight 93, John Glenn house Columbus OH, Charleston WV, Harpers Ferry

October 20-22 – State Parks Weekend II with Chester Country Red Rovers. Walks are planned in: Nolde Forest State Park; Hopewell Furnace / French Creek State Park; Marsh Creek State Park; and Warwick County Park.

Nittany Nomads: Pat Welch reported for Alma Mathis

The next traditional event is in Huntingdon on May 20 and 21. The Nomads now have a website, designed by Alma's husband: www.nittanynomads.weebly.com

Penn Dutch Pacers: Marcy reported for Maria Roshon

Pacers are planning a traditional event in August or September. They are also planning their annual holiday walk in the E-town area, probably on December 16.

Penn Mary Walkers: Sarah Garcia

Total for today's Bedford walk is 47. The Wandering Wheels tour group of 33 recently completed the walk at Shawnee State Park. And on a personal note, your KSVA Secretary was surprised and delighted to win an REI backpack - for traveling the furthest distance from her home in Glenside to today's event. She beat the competition, Betty & Mike Green of Souderton Pennsylvania by a mere mile: 199 vs 200!

Susquehanna Rovers: Bill Rhoat reporting for Sharon Miller

Next event is in Mifflintown on August 26. On September 16 the Rovers will celebrate their thirtieth anniversary at Veterans Memorial Park near the Capitol Area Greenbelt. Date for the annual Hershey Walkfest is November 24-25.

York White Rose Wanderers: Pam Copenhaver

Thanks to everyone who walked and volunteered at the Susquehanna River Towns Weekend.

The club is doing monthly walks on the Heritage Rail Trail on the first Thursday of the month, with info posted on Facebook.

Club picnic will be held June 21 at Rudy Park.

Keystone State Games is July 29-30. We are listed on the event website under "2017 SUMMER STATE SPORTS". Registration for the Games [\$10.00 with t-shirt included] is recommended as a show of support; the organizers gave us a visible location for the walk start table.

For the Haunted Gettysburg Weekend, the Hotel is taking reservations. If you plan to join us for dinner on Saturday, send payment to Gloria Rudacille. See event brochure.

We are working on walks for 2018 and a bus trip.

Regional Director

At the Atlantic Region Meeting on March 17, Mike Green was elected as RD and Dolores Grenier was elected as Deputy RD for the term of office from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2019.

Due to the implementation of the new Electronic Sanctioning Request (ESR), you will not be able to sanction the 2018 YREs until July 1.

The On-Line Start Box works! I have used it to register for the Appalachian Trail and Milford. The Penn Dutch Pacer's walk at Rickett's Glen State Park also uses OLSB. Both the ESR and the OLSB will be demonstrated at the Convention at the AVA Tech Bar by Mike Green.

May 8 is the deadline for mailing in the AVA Form 500, "2017 Delegate Selection and Proxy Designation". Make sure you let Marcy know who is going to be your club's Delegate or Proxy.

The Liberty Bell Wanderers and York White Rose Wanderers are the only Pennsylvania clubs to nominate a club member for the AVA Commendable Service Award. USE THE AVA'S RECOGNITION PROGRAM!!!!!!

AVA's Annual Fundraiser, Big Give-SA, was on Thursday, May 4. You can still make a donation through the end of the month.

AVA will launch an awards program for the Appalachian Trail which requires participants to walk in each of the 14 states, Maine through Georgia. We have the whole AT sanctioned as a year-round event, but should set up some traditional events for next year.

Open Issues

KSVA website – we are seeking your suggestions to update and improve KSVA.net

Atlantic Regional Conference March 2018 – We agreed by consensus to help with assignments such as evening activities, meet & greet, meals, speakers, as requested by Conference organizers.

Closing

Due to the 2 p.m. Library closure, the meeting moved across the street to the walk start point where we completed the last, but not the least important item on the agenda. Marcy presented Tom with a Mason-Dixon Distillery gift certificate, in recognition of his three years of exemplary service as our Regional Director. Adjournment was at 2:15 p.m.

Submitted by Carol Talaga, Secretary

Amended 7/22/17