

American Volkssport Association
National Executive Council XIX Meeting
Sunday House Inn
Fredericksburg, Texas
June 10 - 11, 2016

1. Call to order

The meeting of the National Executive Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. June 10, 2016 by President Dennis Michele at the Sunday House Inn, Fredericksburg, Texas.

2. Introductions

- a. National Executive Council Members present:** Dennis Michele (President), Holly Pelking (Vice President), Sam Korff (Secretary), Lawrence Lehman (Treasurer), Henry Rosales (Executive Director), Tom Jackson (Atlantic RD), Linda Neu (Mid-America RD), Jerry Wilson (North Central RD), Betty Green (Northeast RD), Nancy Wittenberg (Northwest RD), Suzi Glass (Pacific RD), Frank Sayers (Rocky Mountain RD), Glen Conyers (South Central RD), David Bonewitz (Southeast RD), Susan Medlin (Southwest RD).

b. Guests signed in:

Chris Mellen, MA; Bonnie Johnson, MN; Leon Childers, TX;
Karen Winkle, TX; Candace Purcell, TX; John McClellan, FL;
Jose Cortinas, TX; Mike Green, NY; Ganelle Wingren, TX;
Wayne Holloway, CA; Grace Holloway, CA; Delores Grenier, VA;
Karen Winkle, HQ; Hector Hernandez, HQ; Samanta Sanchez,
HQ; Christine Handy, Guest Speaker; Erin Grosso, HQ

3. Approval of Agenda:

The President changed the Agenda to consider Items #2 and #7 together under New Business.

Motion made by David Bonewitz: I move to accept the agenda as changed.

Motion seconded by: Suzi Glass

Changed agenda accepted.

4. President's Report (Attachment 1)

Motion made by President Dennis Michele: I move that we change the Youth Committee to Programs Committee.

Motion seconded by: Holly Pelking.

Motion passed.

5. Vice President's Report (Attachment 2)

6. Secretary Report (Attachment 3)

7. Treasurer's Report (Attachment 4)

David Bonewitz made a motion: I move that we approve the budget. (Attachment 5)

Motion seconded by: Nancy Wittenberg

Motion passed.

8. Executive Director's Report (Attachment 6)

Nancy Wittenberg made a motion: I move that we approve a 2-year contract with The American Wanderer.

Motion seconded by: David Bonewitz

Motion passed.

**Acceptance of New and Reactivated Clubs included in ED Report
List of AVA donations included in ED Report**

Susan Medlin made a motion to accept the new Doing Business As (DBA) - AVA: America's Walking Club

Motion seconded by Lawrence Lehman

Motion passed.

The NEC moved to Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

The NEC moved back to Open Session at 8:30 p.m.

David Bonewitz made a motion: I move that we start with Quick Books Enterprise effective July 1, 2016.

Motion seconded by: Linda Neu

Motion passed.

Convention Report (Attachment 7)

IT Committee Report (Attachment 8)

Standards and Evaluation Committee Report (Attachment 9)

Audit Committee Report (Attachment 10)

NEC Recessed 9:00 p.m. June 10, 2016

NEC Reconvened 9:00 a.m. June 11, 2016

Special Programs Committee Report (Attachment 11)

National Programs Committee (Attachment 12)

National Programs Committee made a motion: We move that the National and Regional Programs on Distance Events outlines and timelines be approved. (Appalachian Trail and Pacific Crest Trail)

Motion seconded by: Susan Medlin.

Motion passed.

National Programs Committee made a motion: We move that the Online Start Box be approved for these events.

Motion seconded by: Susan Medlin.

Motion passed.

David Bonewitz made a motion: I move that the Mascot proposal as proposed be approved.

Motion seconded by: Nancy Wittenberg

Motion passed.

National Programs Committee made a motion: We move that the end date for the SNOB books be December 31, 2018.

Motion seconded by: David Bonewitz

Motion passed.

National Programs Committee made a motion: We move that AVA support the new International Marching League (IML) event in San Antonio in February 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020.

Motion seconded by: David Bonewitz

Motion passed.

Awards and Recognition Committee Report (Attachment 13)

Special Biking Committee Report (Attachment 14)

Youth Committee Report (Attachment 15)

The Youth Committee made a motion: We move that we not move forward on the IVV Youth Program.

Motion seconded by: Debbie Kruep

Motion passed.

Training Committee Report (Attachment 16)

Strategic Planning Committee (Attachment 17)

Strategic Planning Committee made a motion: We move that the Strategic Plan be approved as presented and be implemented through the committee structure.

Motion seconded by: David Bonewitz

Motion passed.

List of Action Committee Assignments (Attachment 18)

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

ACTION COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

1. Mission Impact
 - A. Retain and grow all levels of AVA membership – Membership Committee
 - B. Improve membership benefits, programs and services – Debbie Kruep
 - C. Establish a Club Development Program to help volunteers grow active clubs – Training Committee
 - D. Develop and implement new global events and activities – Executive Committee and National Programs Committee
2. Financial Sustainability - Nancy Wittenberg
3. Internal Operations
 - A. Develop and implement a long-range national publicity campaign – Executive Director
 - B. Build a member-centered data management system – IT Committee
 - C. Create and implement annual risk management plan and review process – Executive Director/Executive Committee

- D. Resource implementation of the strategic plan prioritizing, operational capacity and staffing plan alignment, performance, policies and procedures – Executive Director/Executive Committee
- 4. Governance and Leadership
 - A. Develop NEC strategic governance capacity
 - 1) Board Committee and Task Group Charters – Bylaws Committee/Standards & Evaluation Committee
 - 2) Governance policies, principles, practices – Bylaws Committee/Standards & Evaluation Committee
 - 3) Board composition of skills and experience – Executive Committee
 - 4) Board/ED Education and Training – Executive Committee
 - B. Update and align governing documents with strategic direction and Texas and Federal law – Bylaws Committee/Executive Committee
 - C. Study and align AVA regions to support club growth – Standards & Evaluation Committee

Reports due at January 2017 NEC Meeting

Reports will include: What the committee will do; how they will do it, and by when they will do it.

A discussion of Fun Walks was led by Executive Director, Henry Rosales. (Attachment 19)

The President directed that the Programs Committee develop a plan to be presented and implemented at the January 2017 NEC Meeting.

New Business.

Agenda Item #1.

Linda Neu made a motion: I move that AVA allow local clubs to purchase their own stamps.

Motion seconded by: Holly Pelking

Due to the discussion the motion was Withdrawn.

Holly Pelking made a motion: I move that this issue be reconsidered at the January 2017 meeting when we can have cost data to better consider this issue.

Motion seconded by: Linda Neu

Motion passed.

Agenda Item 3. We move that current Certified Trailmasters enhance the AVA product by being allowed to mentor and certify AVA Associate members who wish to work through the Trailmaster handbook and become certified.

The motion was withdrawn by David Bonewitz.

David Bonewitz made a motion: I move that RDs and their designated representatives be authorized to mentor and certify those who wish to become certified Trailmasters.

Motion seconded by: Nancy Wittenberg

Motion passed.

Agenda Item 4. Tom Jackson made a motion: I move that effective January 1, 2017, clubs may continue to allow "Free Walkers" but they must pay a Participation Report After Action Fee of \$1.25 for every participant.

Motion seconded by: Susan Medlin

Motion failed.

Agenda Item 5. David Bonewitz made a motion: I move that AVA make available to Regional Directors (RD), State Organizations, and Club Presidents (through RDs) the list(s) of AVA Associates (Annual and Life Members) upon written permission from Associate and Lifetime Members)
Motion seconded by Frank Sayers.
Motion passed.

David Bonewitz made a motion: I move that all necessary changes in policy to resolve this issue by the creation of a Privacy Policy that will obtain the necessary consent of Associates through the annual renewal process or by directly contacting the membership (in the case of Life Members). Releasable list(s) would then consist of all those members who have consented explicitly to the release.
Motion seconded by: Frank Sayers
Motion passed.

Agenda Item 6. Glen Conyers made a motion: I move that effective January 1, 2017, paragraph 4.06 General Rules for Events II e.2 be amended to read “Clubs are encouraged to provide for pre-registration fees and day-of-the-event fees; however, the fee for IVV credit only will be no more than \$4.00” and that Appendix B: Fee Structure as it relates to Participation Report After Action Fees (per Paying Participant) 30 days amount be raised from \$1.25 to \$2.00.
Motion seconded by: Lawrence Lehman
A roll call vote was requested.

Atlantic RD - Yes

Mid America RD – Yes

North Central RD – No

Northeast RD – No

Northwest RD – No

Pacific RD – No

Rocky Mountain RD - No

South Central RD - Yes

Southeast RD - No

Southwest RD - No

Vice President - No

Treasurer – Yes

Secretary – No

Motion Failed.

Agenda Items 2 and 7.

Item 2: Susan Medlin made a motion: I move that para 4.02, Traditional Volkssporting Events, para I. A. 1 be amended to read “Sponsoring Clubs should offer at least one short and one medium distance at an event. In special circumstances (Special Needs, Youth, Silver Sneakers, etc) an RD can sanction an event with a less than short distance walk.”

The President explained that this would be a violation of IVV rules.

Motion discarded.

Item 7. Linda Neu made a motion: I move that we delete the sentence in Policy Manual section 4.02 II Policy a. “Permitting the minor distance to be walked twice in lieu of a 10km walk is not allowed.”

Motion seconded by Lawrence Lehman.

Motion passed.

The next meeting will be in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, January 20-21, 2017.

Audience comments.

NEC Comments.

Meeting adjourned 5:00 p.m. June 11, 2016