

CVOA Board & Member Meeting
January 19, 2020 at 12:30pm
Carrabassett Valley Town Office

Present: Officers Bonnie Farrar, Mark Curtis, Mary Frank, Cindy Foster; Directors Steve Smith, Ray Stone, Diane Stone, Neal Trask, Mary Berger, Sue Strommer, Jeannette Parker, Val Hudspath, Al Sleight; Members-at-large Elaine Smith, Harvey Packard, Diane Curtis, Mike Parker, Patti Johnston, Craig Lehigh.

President Bonnie Farrar called the meeting to order at 12:30.
After everyone was welcomed, a round of introductions was made.

Secretary's Report – Cindy Foster, Secretary

The minutes from the September 29, 2019 board meeting were included in the October newsletter, and are available here. A motion was made, seconded and approved to dispense with reading those minutes and approve them as published.

The November 15, 2019, minutes from a vote by email were approved, relating to the approval of two donations to the Franklin Search and Rescue:

- 1- \$500 to fund scholarships to attend Wilderness First Aid courses
- 2- \$500 to replace aging equipment.

We ended the year 2019 with 975 members, with an additional 88 new members since Homecoming. About 40% of the 2019 members have renewed to date for 2020. About half of our members are also range members.

Treasurer's Report – Mary Frank, Treasurer

Mary provided copies of the 2019 Profit & Loss report, as well as the Balance Sheet for 2019. She reminded the group that ski trip deposits are not income because most of those funds will be spent in 2020 on the trips. The Range grant projects are now completed and no further financial activity is expected.

Two matters of interest to the group included the resale certificate and refunds of ski trip deposits. Information in the Treasurer's files indicate that the sales tax registration is valid into 2020. However, the IRS very recently sent CVOA a letter to inform us that we did not meet the minimum \$3,000 in sales of goods from October 1, 2018 to September 31, 2019. That means that we do not qualify for exemption from paying sales tax, which could change if/when the minimum is met. There were 13 refunds of ski trip deposits for 2020 trips, not including the canceled Park City trip Mary remarked that her role was to write the checks; it is the ski trip leaders who have to edit their records, work with GE&E, and bear the burden of work the cancellations cause.

Range Report – Neal Trask and Harvey Packard

In the last years, we wanted to build a new 50-yard rifle range. Having built the 100-yard range, we now have experience. The 100-yard range was built with two side walls and an end wall, topped by a lumber-built wall to keep bullets from exiting after ricocheting. The new 50-yard rifle range would share one wall with the 100-yard range, and would need a side wall and

an end wall with topper. The huge walls are built with bark mulch; the 50-yard rifle range will require 1600yards of bark. Before the bark can be brought in, we need to build a base so the trucks can get in and out. Harvey projects a minimum out-of-pocket cost of \$22,000 for the project.

Neal visited with Dave Cota regarding how much we can ask the town for a matching grant. The range will submit a proposal to the town for a \$15K matching grant from town funds to be matched by \$15,000 out-of-pocket expenses for a total \$30,000 project. The consensus among those present was support of the proposal.

Activities Report – Patti Johnston, Activities Coordinator

February 8 will be a moonlight adventure at the Outdoor Center, with skating, x-country skiing, snowshoeing, and a soup/stew meal; Barb Briggs and Jan Mildram are planning the event.

Our next board meetings with outings could be in June at the Hudspaths' and in August at Mary Berger's.

OLD BUSINESS:

2020 Ski Trips:

Val Gardena, Italy: Mike Parker – leaving Wednesday, 46 are going.
Jackson Hole, WY: Bonnie Farrar - full at 43, two on waiting list
Quebec City: Peter Weston – full at 21 or 22

CVOA apparel: Val Hudspath – we finally met our quota, with orders for 48 items of apparel and 19 hats. The apparel has been distributed; we are still waiting on hats. Future orders have a 24-item minimum.

By-laws Committee: Mark Curtis -- we have been through the by-laws looking at condensing or removing items; Thom Johnston has been looking at by-laws of other organizations. We are still moving forward on the review.

There was discussion about perhaps encouraging or requiring board members to be a member of a committee, so they have more to do; such as finance committee, range committee, sometimes a nominating committee; it might be nice to have an adventure committee.

Those present supported the idea of encouraging directors to be assigned to a committee.

Finance Committee: Steve Smith: The committee recommends that we have a treasurer/bookkeeper position and also a Finance Committee Chair to manage the financial matters of CVOA. Steve will be our Finance Committee Chair going forward. The books should be reviewed monthly or quarterly. They have looked at QB desktop vs. QB online, and other software, to be determined by the new treasurer. We should invest some of the CVOA cash.

20th Anniversary Celebration: Bonnie Farrar

Last night's event was a great event, with 160 in attendance. The anticipated net cost is about \$1200, money well spent. CVOA paid for appetizers, the founders' meals, entertainment, room cost. Elvis was \$300, a very low price; he reported "fun time last night, great organization with awesome people, thanks. Don."

Last Meeting's tabled discussion of non-refundable trip deposits, which was presented by Cindy Foster. Having ski trip deposits be non-refundable was supported at the last meeting, but was tabled due to lack of appropriate wording for exceptions.

A motion was made and seconded that: **Beginning in 2020 for 2021, the CVOA reservation fee paid by a member to reserve a space on a ski trip is non-refundable. The exceptions are if the trip is cancelled or if there is not an available space for the member to fill.**

Discussion: Mike Parker noted that over the years, the ski trip deposit, which has been refundable, has become a strategic deposit by some people who may not be serious about going; this has caused increasing work for trip leaders who have to deal with cancellations. There was general support for making the deposit nonrefundable, although some thought it should be refunded in the case of injury or health situations. Steve Smith supports the non-refundable deposit, thinking in terms of CVOA not being in the travel insurance business.

When a vote was taken, the motion was overwhelmingly approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Directors:

Jim Heichel submitted his resignation as he and Jane have moved south. Craig Lehigh was introduced as a new director to fill Jim's position. Craig owns Western Maine Screen Door in New Portland, and is a range member. A motion was made, seconded and approved to welcome Craig as a new director.

Slate of officers/directors for 2020:

We have openings for one board director, a Treasurer and a Vice President. We should all keep these openings in mind as we visit with other members, and recruit people into these positions. Steve Smith will be the contact for any nominations.

Charitable Donations:

The Sugarloaf Ski Club submitted a request for \$1,000 to support their King's Kids scholarship program. Bonnie read an informative letter from Bruce Miles, SSC Executive Director. Mary Berger moved to approve a donation of \$1000 to King's Kids, to be paid over two years, because it fits our mission. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

The Mt. Abram School Ski Club requested support for their athletes who need to purchase approved helmets; a motion was made to donate \$450 to the Mt. Abram Ski Club towards the cost of safety equipment. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

New Website: Cindy Foster

A week ago, our website and the range website were down, discovered to be hacked and full of malware, and difficult to restore in a current fashion. As noted in the last newsletter, we were looking for someone to take over from retiring webmaster Patrick McBrien, and perhaps create a new website. This seemed like a good time to do that.

Using wix.com, Cindy created temporary sites, where it noted we are rebuilding our sites and looking for help. The temporary CVOA site allows for new and renewing memberships. Member Nory Jones responded to the newsletter saying she might be able to help, but not to the

extent of creating a new site. Cindy is in the process of creating a new website for CVOA; it will be a simple site, with current information available from the latest newsletters. Nory will help with the content and updating.

Diane Stone will work on the Range site, which is linked from the cvoa site, but stands alone. Together we will set up a site to which she can add the pertinent information.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jeannette will help Patti with the adventure committee.

Jeannette noted that it has been a few years since we did a BBQ at the range; might be worth revisiting that. Diane reported that last summer the range volunteer base diminished. They hope to have some introductory courses for archery and shooting. There was discussion about a homecoming event, but maybe the prior weekend would be a better time to hold something.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Foster
Secretary