



Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group Board of Directors Meeting January 18, 2008

Directors Present

P Don Scelza
P Ken Chiacchia
P Keith Conover

P Bru Randall
Barb Butler

Officers Present

P Dale Lersch - Commander
Andy Hower – Training Officer
Bill Evans – Operations Officer
Heather Houlahan – K9 Officer

Call-To-Order

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group, held at Joe Mama's, was called to order at 6:30pm. There were 4 directors present which constitutes a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

No minutes were presented for approval.

Business Conducted

- There was a discussion about changing the due date for dues to be Dec 1, 2008 and then Dec 1 going forward. There are a number of fees that AMRG must pay (ASRC, PSARC...) that come due very early in the year. This change would make having cash on hand for those fees easier. Don made the motion. Ken Seconded. Approved
- Motion made to change the budget for the AMRG web support to \$300.00/year. Bru made the motion. Keith seconded. Approved
- There was discussion on who in AMRG should be able to write checks. The Board agrees that the list should be a) Treasurer, b) Commander, c) Executive Director, d) Ops officer. Motion made by Keith. Seconded by Don. Approved. Changes will need to be made to the appropriate AMRG documentation and new signature cards will need to be completed for the bank account.
- There was a discussion about what AMRG should be doing in terms of becoming a cave rescue team. AMRG should work on becoming a resource that is called for cave rescues. We need to get some equipment to make this happen. Bru is trying to track down a list of equipment.
- Equipment for the QRS certification. There are some corrections needed for the application. This should not be an issue. Dale will update the application and resubmit. The only items that we still need to get are bags for the equipment.

- Equipment for PSARC Level-1. We do not need any additional equipment for the Level-1 certification.
- There was discussion about what types of documentation/adverts we should be working on. We should be working on the dispatch manual.
- We should be taking part in the Region 13 meetings. Don may be able to be the representative. Keith will send some information to Don. Don will follow up with the Region.
- We need to be looking at training for our people to be able to work in flood waters. Look at the PA Boat Commissions classes for operations level. See if we can get a class for AMRG and any other teams in the area that are interested.
- The group needs to start looking at fund raising opportunities. Heather is contacting Applebee's. Dale will talk to some of the equipment vendors.
- Dale would like to look at a rescue tripod – Look at the Sked & Arizona vortex.
- Board members: Keith and Bru are willing to remain on the board. This should be presented to the general membership
- At the next team meeting we need to appoint an additional ASRC rep. Currently this is Ken but anyone else that is interested should be considered.
- There was a discussion about the idea of involving an outside board member. This would be interesting if they had relationships that could help the group. Should we be looking at someone from the UPMC disaster groups? Somebody from the Region? Board members should send the names of appropriate people to Ken.
- Should we have regular board meetings? Mondays sound like the best days. Ken will come up with a proposed set of dates.
- Trailer – Where is it going to be? We need to find a climate controlled area to keep it. UPMC is an obvious place to look for a place. Is there room at Quality EMS? All Board members need to think about place that know and get the info to Ken.
- Team jackets – We are happy with the jacket that we have picked. Keith will work with Cloudveil to get prices. They will put on the patches for us.
- Is there someone in AMRG who could work on the oral exam portion of the ASRC group recertification process? We will do some recruitment at the next meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm