

## ASRC BOD 3 November 2001

Peter Pennington (SMRG) welcomed everyone to the facility.

10:15am – Vice-Chair leading as Chair could not attend due to medical reasons.

There followed a short Communications Committee meeting, followed by an Ops Committee meeting.

### Attendance:

Lauren Schiff (BRMRG)

Emily Minor (BRMRG)

Dan Christie (BRMRG)

Mark Creighton (SMRG)

Randy Frank (PVRG)

Peter Pennington (SMRG)

Bud Hyland (SMRG)

Bob Jones (TSAR)

Bob Allam (PSAR)

Donna Tosh (MSAR)

Stephanie Bean (PVRG)

Scott McCabe (MSAR)

Peter McCabe (MSAR)

Ethan Frantz (AMRG)

Chris Ruch (AMRG)

Pepper Broad (MARG/AMRG)

Carl Werntz (MARG)

Dawn Knapp (SMRG)

Christopher Smith (SMRG)

April Cropper (MSAR)

Robert J. Koester (BRMRG)

Kevin Cropper (MSAR)

12:47pm BOD Meeting called to order

### 1. Old Business

#### *Secretary's Report*

Motion made to approve minutes as presented over email.

Approved unanimously.

### 2. Treasurer's Report

a) It had been requested that the "Reimbursements" category be broken up into individual parts. That had been done.

b) It was reported that the bank statement balanced with cleared checks. Virginia State Corporation charges had been paid.

c) Groups would be billed for the annual dues shortly.

d) Amazon.com will be sending a check for \$26.48 (?) for referrals.

e) It was reported that ASRC has received a money order for \$100 from Mark Eggeman.

f) It was reported that no Metrocall invoices had been received recently; the Treasurer is to pursue this matter.

g) The Treasurer was asked to confirm the arrangements for authorizing reimbursement payments to BRMRG, as the Treasurer was a BRMRG member. It was confirmed that payments were normally approved by the BOD.

The Treasurer's report was accepted.

### **3. Mark Eggeman**

Peter Pennington reported that he had met him and exchanged email. It was noted that a payment had been received. Eggeman is still unemployed. A suggestion was made to have a weekly \$10 payment be made, more for the constant contact than for the amount. Question: The previous payment was May. By now, he should have paid \$1530 (approx.) but has paid only \$417. So he is approximately \$1100 in arrears.

Pennington will keep in touch with him, suggesting the "small sum regularly" method and the BOD was asked to be ready to consider any further consequences.

### **4. New Business**

#### *a) Search Incident Summaries*

i) **Shenandoah National Park Search** – 51 YO father and 11 YO son decided to go on "outing". Father was Vietnam Vet w/ PTSD and litany of meds. ASRC utilized his home computer and found the websites the father had used to plan his trek and the circuit trail he used. NPS search. Standing around early on. Found campsite and some clues that night. Talked to a poacher who knew something about them (relayed through a hunter). Had told them about a short cut. Took a loop pretty much. Tripped into a stream and cursed loudly enough that an ASRC team heard him. Less than 18 hours (14 in the field). Park Services made offers to pay staff people in order to keep them around and keep continuity. Lesson Learned: Do not trust the mountain; the weather was cold, hot, sunny, rainy, rapidly changing.

ii) **Albermarle Search** - Alzheimer's patient, 94 YO. Found near a stream very near his house. Classic – found a body of water to stand in – waist deep in the stream.

iii) **16 September** – limited call out, near midnight, ended at 2am. Despondent male. Note said – "You will not find me". Search teams took that as a challenge and found him (deceased) under a culvert.

### **5. Dates/locations for next year's BOD meetings.**

Current schedule is first Saturday of odd numbered months, which would suggest 5 January and March 2. A discussion followed in which the need for bi-monthly meetings was confirmed. However, because of the need for the General meeting to be in April it was proposed that the next BOD would be on February 2 and the General Meeting to be held on April 6.

Unanimous Approval.

Locations: February is TSAR. April meeting is MSAR.

## **6. Training Officer Nominees**

Wendy(?) Carter was nominated by PSAR.

Unanimous Approval.

## **7. Discussion of IS & IC procedure on arrival at an incident**

From staff training and incident staff training, it is made clear that ASRC members have zero authority, only the power of knowledge. Authority rests with the legal responsible agent and the RA sets the level of delegation. It was suggested that the use of the title "Incident Commander" can be threatening or confusing to an RA. ASRC should always offer help and not assume command. An IC's role in the system is determined on a search-by-search basis. Many counties are used to working with ASRC and delegate operational command willingly. Other counties, especially those in States with an emergency structure that is different from that of Virginia would look upon ASRC as supplying experienced bodies rather than command knowledge. ASRC must always be wary and take whatever role is offered. Sorting out command roles can take time and lead to delays in committing teams to the field. FTLs should be kept aware of the status of command structure.

## **8. Current Status of ASRC Chair**

The current Chair has had problems being at meetings. It was reported that members had found it difficult to contact the Chair by email, telephone or letter. It was felt that there had been a lack of leadership by the Chair. It was felt that meetings could be expedited by proper issuing of papers and an agenda before each BOD meeting. It was noted that she had been in pain recently and that the pain meant that the Chair was absent from this meeting.

Having reviewed the rules it was proposed and passed that Lauren Schiff be nominated as Pro-tem Chair and that Peter Pennington act as Secretary to the BOD. Both nominees accepted the positions offered. It was further proposed that a letter be sent to the Chair seeking clarification of the Chair's current status and intentions.

## **9. Discussion of WV Search**

It was stated that this was an occasion when nobody did anything wrong, either in ASRC or local FD or PD. Yet there was sufficient misunderstanding to jeopardize further searches in WV. The perception that resulted from the search was that the ASRC was arrogant. MARG would not wish to have non WV ICs or IS assume control of searches in WV. The matter was discussed at length and it was emphasized that whenever ASRC is involved in a search, correct procedures for logging the movements of members throughout the operation should be followed to ensure members' safety and the maximize the efficiency of the search.

MARG's request about ICs on site in WV was noted but it was recognized that this raised much deeper issues of command and control and so this item was tabled. However, the sensitivity of the matter was noted.

Results of the Search: Subject was found in hayloft in the barn 200ft from the base. Subject had sat around and observed the search and ate from the search food and was subsequently found to have had a previous history of creating such a search.

#### **10. IC Nominations**

Six people were nominated for IC-G3:

Emily Minor, Jared Ulmer, Randy Frank, Tom Lovejoy, Justin Green, Brian Ulmer. All had satisfactory recommendations and supporting documentation.

**Motion:** All six be approved.

Unanimous approval.

#### **11. Request by Vice Chair for \$50.**

**Motion:** The ASRC to approve up to \$50 for Vice Chair to investigate scanning current forms and present a written report at the February meeting. It was suggested this was a matter for the Ops Committee.

Motion failed.

#### **10. Request for setting up of Committee to look at structural matters.**

**Motion:** It was moved that to better serve the MidAtlantic region, Vice Chair create a committee to study governance and regionalization and other structural matters.

After a short discussion it was agreed that the Pro-tem chair form a group (as representative as possible) to look at steps and problems in the debate on governance and to write and report a paper before the next meeting.

Moved to the closed discussion at 15:30.

Meeting adjourned.