APPALACHIAN SEARCH AND RESCUE CONFERENCE



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MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

September 23, 2018

New Germany State Park, Maryland

1050 - 1120

I. Call to Order

Called to order at 1050 hours by President Keith Conover.

The Secretary received some proxies and it was determined that a quorum was present should we need to conduct any votes.

The President gave a short safety briefing for the facility.

The President noted that there had been no requests to put new business before the Membership; he asked the assembled Membership if any Member had new business items to propose; hearing none, no new business was placed on the agenda. He noted that there was also no *old* business to attend to, so unless there were motions proposed from the floor, the meeting would be purely informational.

II. Approval of Minutes

By unanimous consent, the minutes from the previous ASRC General Membership Meeting, as posted in the Archive (http://archive.asrc.net), were approved.

III. Officer Reports

a. President, Fellowships:

The President Keith Conover noted that he had tried to nominate Don Scelza and Steve Weiss for ASRC Fellowship, but they inconsiderately refused the nominations until such time as Keith Conover and Bob Koester were granted Fellowships, which Fellowships were granted by the BOD at the April 2018 BOD meeting.

The President briefly described the purposes behind Fellowship, and the requirements for it, and the procedure for nominations as voting on Fellowship, which appear in the current version of the ASRC Admin Manual, posted in the ASRC Archive and linked on the ASRC website.

The President then read out nominations for Fellowship for past Chairs Don Scelza and Steve Weiss, and noted that their Fellowships would be up for a vote at the BOD meeting at the ASRC Winter Retreat in January.

The President encouraged those present to review the criteria for Fellowship and Outstanding Achievement Awards, found in the Admin Manual, and nominate those who are deserving.

A question from the floor: can past members, who are no longer members, be nominated for Fellowship? Answer: if needed, we should change the Admin Manual to permit this. [Subsequent review of the current Admin Manual: to be nominated for ASRC Fellowship, one had to have been an ASRC member for 10 years but need not be a current ASRC member.]

All Fellowship nominations are filed in the ASRC Archive, http://archive.asrc.net, in the following folder:

 $ASRC-Archive \backslash ASRC-Admin \backslash ASRC-BOD-Membership-Minutes-etc \backslash ASRC-Fellowship-Nominations.$

b. President, Remote Support:

The President noted that, lead by Patty Lindsay, the Remote Support Working Group is near completion on a set of governing documents for our planned Remote Support Corps, has conducted multiple exercises, and provided remote support to two searches.

The Remote Support Working Group and others are working on a large search exercise for November, to be held in the Morgantown, WV area. This will include a class on search tactics by Ken Chiacchia, and will be an all-weekend mock search with field tasks, mock/virtual field tasks, and search management using SARTopo, and Remote Support personnel working the overnight shift to segment the map and prepare maps and TAFs for the morning.

At the Board of Directors meeting at the Retreat in January, we plan to discuss creating a Remote Support Corps within the ASRC to support our developing remote support capabilities.

c. President, FirstNet:

In informal discussion, we talked about the AT&T FirstNet program for emergency reponders. To summarize:

- To participate, you must have a phone on the AT&T network, which has the best coverage in WV, although in rural areas of PA and VA Verizon seems to better.
- At present, if you are in the program, your calls will be given priority over non-FirstNet calls on the network. Eventually, FirstNet phones will operate on an entirely different network and frequency than non-emergency cellphone calls, so less chance of congestion during a large emergency.

d. Credentialing Board Chair

The new credentialing process, including prior online written testing and practical testing by ASRC Credentialing Board evaluators, was used yesterday to evaluate and now credential Steve McClanahan of SAR-Ohio as an FTM. The process now having been developed and tested, will use it for all field credentialing (CQ, FTM, FTL; or under the new system being developed, Field IV, III, II and I).

IV. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business to transact.

V. New Business

No new business to transact.

VI. Good of the Order

No discussion offered.

VII. Adjourn

Adjourned at 1120 hours, with Board of Directors meeting to follow.