

Association of National Park Rangers Board of Directors Meeting MINUTES

May 25, 2021

Time of BOD Meeting – 5:30PT/8:30ET

Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/97720779489?pwd=TFY5ZU9VWnBMR3JGbJFLOHA5eDRQUT09>

Attendance (Secretary)

- Members Present: Jonathan, Bill, Reghan, Lauren K., Tom, Rebecca, Elsa, Lauren D., Jan, Jeanette, Tim
- Members Absent: Paul
- Others: Chris, Melissa, Meg

Approval of Minutes from the previous BoD meeting(s) (President):

[Date of BOD Meeting, Motion, Second, Discussion; Votes for, Votes against, Abstentions]

- [April 27, 2021 Minutes](#)
- Correction: change motion to second for Editor salary to Tim
- Motion to Approve (with correction) Tim, Second Bill - vote passes unanimously

Treasurer's Report:

- Financial documents (as of end of April) were distributed earlier in May. We should see significant changes in May's financials due to the Spring Fundraising Campaign.

Old Business (President):

- (Chris) Update on implementation of American Income Life Plus
 - expecting first shipment of printed envelopes and will be updating website before those go out
- (Chris/Jan) Uniform reviews and NPS committee/VFSolutions plans
 - Check the beta-test website
 - **Landing Page:** <https://anpr.org/nps/uniform/>
 - **Product Page:** <https://anpr.org/nps/uniform/products/NP1005.php>
 - Other Products haven't been uploaded
 - Talked with Rami to give permission to use uniform images, but VF has not approved their travel budget for Rendezvous yet
 - VF does not have bandwidth to do reviews so happy to have us host
 - Uniform article in new issue of Ranger

New Business (President):

- Ranger Editor: Melissa - thanks for the vote of confidence and responsiveness with help with issues and content
- (Education and Training) American Public University (a private, online, for-profit university) wants to enter a “partnership” with ANPR that would give our members and their families 5% discount on tuition to their classes.
 - They would pay for advertising in Ranger magazine and some sponsorship of Ranger Rendezvous.
 - In exchange, ANPR would link to www.apus.edu and forward occasional emails from them to our members.
 - After exchanging emails with Chris, **I don’t recommend we take them up on their offer** -- the unsolicited emails that we forward to our members would be an annoyance, and their course offerings look weak to me. Instead recommend telling them no thanks, but they are welcome to advertise in Ranger and donate to RR. Does the Board concur?
 - Motion to approve Tom turning down partnership deal by Bill, second by Tim - passes unanimously
- Jeanette: Bill Elam contacted me with the idea to create a print of a Park Ranger to sell to our membership and other NPS employees. Bill is retired and this is a hobby of his.
 - Began creating prints in 1975 and has done 45 thus far of professions like state troopers, optometrists, pharmacists, land surveyors, mail carriers, etc.
 - He works with employee associations to sell the prints. He pays the artist and printing costs; ANPR would handle the money; then he and ANPR would discuss how much he gets.
 - He would need convincing that there’s enough interest. Prints would be 18x24” and cost \$30-\$35 each.
 - Questions for Jeanette to take back: Expecting ANPR to hold inventory of prints? Distribution process? Send images of examples? Generic ranger and size of print for nomadic profession? Auction item?
 - If ANPR handled money but preferable for him to handle inventory
 - Motion to Table until more info by Bill, Second by Rebecca - passes unanimously
- Jonathan: Proposes hosting a virtual social night for members and non-members in June. Proposed theme would be the relevance of the former Interpretive Development Program to the field today.
 - Hybrid movie/discussion format centered around live viewing of David Larsen’s talk about interpretation filmed at HFC in 2000.
 - Discussion on: relevance today (if any), influence on the state of interpretation, lessons that we can still learn from Larsen’s training materials, the role of in-person interpretation in accomplishing NPS mission going forward.
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TgEOa118j-o>
 - video in 5 parts so organic pause points for discussion, panelist suggestion park historian and Interpretation Supervisors
 - **Jonathan seeks:** feedback on this theme, two to three co-panelists to manage questions in chat and lead discussion on live-chatted questions.

- Opportunity for virtual hospitality suite after conclusion of the program.
- Discussion: like following up on virtual RR, consider timing with travel opening and parks summer peak, Ranger article content post-event or workshop at RR
- Motion to approve in principle extending invitation to panelists and plan a summer event around Larsen's Interpretation talk made by Jonathan, Second by Bill - passes unanimously
- Bill: We need to be able to announce the location (even if we don't have a final contract) for RR46 at our upcoming RR44 in Jacksonville, and to announce a general geographic area being considered for RR47 (per earlier BOD decision to announce RRs three years in advance).
 - For RR46, earlier conversations focused on the Bar Harbor/Acadia area primarily, with a possibility of entertaining a good location/offer from an area in the upper Midwest.
 - Jonathan sent RFP to Bar Harbor area, Bangor tourism bureau, waiting to hear back
 - Bill will try to get more info on Schoodic
 - Anyone interested in a committee for RR47 location? 3 recommendations for BOD
 - Bill will be involved, Jan has list of Midwest locations looked at previously, contact Mike Pflaum, Lauren D. will help with Midwest, Jonathan will set up meeting - send any ideas/rec's to Bill, Lauren D., and Jonathan
 - Motion to form committee and report back later by Jonathan, Second by Tom - passes unanimously

Reports:

- President:
 - Signed and sent RR 44 invitations to NPS, AD Flynn, AD Medema, AD Moss, Capt. Sara Newman, Dr. Cole, SER Director
 - Continue to work with DD Bengé about getting ANPR Ranger Rendezvous approved to allow NPS to pay for attendance with proper supervisory approval.
 - Appointed Tim Moore and Jamie Richards to the Election Committee. Jamie will chair. Still looking for a third member. Any ideas?
- Secretary: Nothing additional to minutes/agenda.
- Treasurer:
 - The Budget/Finance Committee is meeting to accomplish the following:
 - Recommend to the BOD what to do with the balance of the "uninvested" cash in Vanguard.
 - Draft an "investment policy statement" for the BOD to approve as a guide to managing the investments in Vanguard (or wherever) in the future.
 - Super raffle will open on June 1. Will need frequent "advertising" both internally and on social media. Working on a prize consisting of autographed books about NPS, or taking place in NPS settings. Email me if you have a suggestion or a prospect.
 - Adding a prize of an autographed book collection. If you have contacts with NPS-related authors please connect with Bill to request an autographed book

to grow the collection. Farabee, Mitchell, Ligett, Lyndell already in the collection.

- Past President:
 - Working on Uniforms and Ranger article
 - On panel session for those not doing assessment
- Business Manager:
 - **Member Management**
 - 5/3: Added “Welcome to ANPR” Letters to our automation client to send personalized letters to: 1) New Annual Members, 2) New Life Members 3) Members Renewing 4) Gift Member Givers 5) Gift Member Recipients
 - Worked with Jeanette and others on the Spring Campaign which will close 5/31.
 - **Uniform Review Site**
 - Received feedback from the NPS’s Uniform Coordinators that a ANPR run review page would be welcomed.
 - Confirmed with Ramie Lynch that ANPR would be given usage rights to the photos in the Uniform Catalog.
 - Contacted VF Solutions on 5/25 to provide information both about Rendezvous as well as to solicit feedback and funding for the uniform site pitching the notion that this page could reduce their return volume and therefore reduce overall costs.
 - **Rendezvous 44**
 - Having received most content for Rendezvous I’ll be putting the website together this week for a 6/1 registration opening.
- RR44 Manager:
 - RR registration will open on June 1; expanded information on RR will be available on the website at that time, and will need to be distributed via our social media avenues.
 - The summer issue of Ranger Magazine will contain detailed information on the RR.
 - Check information on ANPR website and check frequently for updates
 - Invites will go out soon to Secretary Haaland, Asst Secy Estenoz and to NPS Director (when one is confirmed).
- Education and Training:
 - Training sessions at RR44 are pretty solidly arranged. Descriptions are expected from trainers this week. Cultural resource preservation methods, interpretive planning, operational leadership refresher, initial response incident commander, and most likely wilderness stewardship and mental health and resiliency. A virtual Retirement training sponsored by Employee Benefits & Retirement (Lakewood) has been offered.
 - Jan got new FI-110 will reach out to Tom for possible training

- Fundraising:
 - Led fundraising committee call on 5/11
 - Wrote facebook posts to advertise the spring fundraiser
 - worked with Chris, Reghan, and Paul to push the spring fundraiser via an all member email reminder, facebook challenge, etc.
 - helped organize a challenge to increase donations for the spring fundraiser
 - Spoke to REI in Asheville to get contact for local sales manager to get a national contact to secure possible 2022 donations from REI
 - Spoke with Bill Elam on idea to create a print of a Park Ranger to sell to membership
 - Got feedback from a friend on my general donation ask letter for companies
 - Update on Spring Campaign: around \$6000 so far, closes 5/31 - additional pledges of over \$1000 if we get to \$8000

- Internal Communications:
 - Posted information on Spring Fundraiser and RR to Facebook

- Membership Services:
 - Met with fundraising committee on 5/11
 - Created a spring fundraiser giveaway for Facebook
 - Connected two more people to prodeals
 - Reached out to Osprey, ExpertVoice, and former NPS ranger turned author about possible donations
 - Reached out to potential author for Super Raffle
 - have books/contacts sent to Bill to collect

- Professional Issues:
 - USAHire issue with HR, tracking down assessment alternatives and Ranger article

- Seasonal Perspectives:
 - Prepared Supernaugh Scholarship application for the website, which will go live June 1.

- Government Affairs:
 - Contacted LuAnn Jones, NPS Historian, and coordinator of the NPS Oral History Program to invite her and/or her staff to conduct oral history interviews at RR44 as she has done at previous rendezvous. She cannot commit at this time, but will stay in touch as we move forward with our ANPR/NPS Oral History partnership. She was able to conduct many OH interviews remotely over the past year.
 - Discussed some ideas on possible HR articles for RANGER with Melissa
 - Contacted Connie Rudd about her Super Raffle donation for raffle marketing.

- Strategic Planning:
 - Managing Rendezvous exhibitor invitations

- Wrote article about Rendezvous for Ranger Magazine (thanks to Rendezvous Committee for editing)
- Prepare yourselves for mid-year review invitations. These will happen for a couple of weeks in June, and can involve an email where you list your accomplishments, or I'm happy to schedule a time to talk about your goals, where you're at, and what you need to accomplish them going forward.
- IRF Liaison:
 - I was busy with family health issues in May with travel to Tennessee and was not able to accomplish much. I will be in Nashville for 12 more days in June.
 - Goma National Park in Democratic Republic of Congo has been affected by a volcanic eruption. Ranger Jean Pierre Jobogo reports from there that the mountain gorillas and staff in the park are safe, but there is some damage to park infrastructure and nearby communities, as has been reported in the media. Some may remember that Jobogo attended the Ranger Rendezvous in St. Louis and has been involved in IRF for many years.
 - My plans are to stand up the international committee with a meeting in late June.

Adjourn: 7:40 PM MT

Next meeting: June 22, 2021