

ANPR BOD Conference Call

Sunday, March 20, 2011

7:30 CDT

Board Members Attending:

Stacy Allen
Paula Alexander
Jennifer Champagne
Rebecca Harriett
Alec Chapman
Jan Lemons
Liam Strain
Jessica Korhut
Amy Gilbert
Alison Steiner
Scot McElveen ???

Absent:

Jason Allen

Other Attendees:

Teresa Ford
Tony Sisto
Deanne Adams

Welcome to the new BOD members.

2016 International Ranger Federation (IRF) Update

Tony and Deanne requested the BOD to consider resubmitting a proposal to host the 8th World Ranger Congress in 2016, to coincide with the NPS centennial year. IRF will be re-soliciting for proposals for this Congress in the coming months. This gives the ANPR another chance to focus on our desire and commitment to host it.

Background: The IRF holds a World Congress every 2-3 years as an international forum for rangers and an opportunity to involve other international agencies and organizations. The last congress was held in Bolivia, on November 2-7, 2009. The 2012 Congress will be in Tanzania, on November 4-9. Check for further updates in the next Ranger mailing. Note: A World Congress has never been held in North America.

In 2009 ANPR sent in a proposal to host the 8th World Congress. There has been another call for proposals for 2015 or 2016. This gives us the chance to decide if not or to host the 2016 Congress. If we decide to put in another bid we could use the old proposal or write a new one. Stacy says that the current proposal is strong. Deanne also noted that the old proposal is well thought out (Tony wrote it). Check your e-mail to view proposal sent out prior to the meeting. Rebecca has attended 3 Congress' and says they are outstanding and that we are likely to get a huge turnout.

This will be more work than the Rendezvous and we will be running it and possibly having our own meeting at the same time. Will require lots of planning and continuity between next ANPR board.

Support: Jon Jarvis was interested in supporting before his election and will more than likely still be interested in working with us. Check also with the Public Affairs office, Geo. Wright Society and others from IRF. IRF people won't run it but will support it. Also check with California Rangers and Canada. Need other sponsorships. Need strong commitment from the board.

Cost: We will have to put up the money up front before registrations come in. It will likely take a team 1-1 ½ years to get this going. Tony and Deanne are not running this. It will be up to us. Expect 250-350 people from around the world to attend. Cost will be from \$800 to \$1000 per person (we'll need to check on these numbers – they may have changed). Will need \$5,000 working cash starting out. We loaned Bolivia money but did not get it back. Need to check with IRF on how to get paid back. Bolivia and Scotland lost money on their Congress' but Australia and So. Africa made money.

Location: Looking at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado– it is a great site with good benefits. Vaughn Baker and Joe Evans are interested in helping coordinate. Rebecca will get back in touch with Vaughan, coordinate with the park and operation to consider formal bid with original context at Rocky Mountains.

Stacy's goal as ANPR president is to attend the 2012 Congress in Tanzania. Stacy would like to look into rescheduling our RR from Oct. 28 – Nov. 2 to Oct. 27 – Nov. 1 to allow those who want to attend the World Congress the opportunity to go to both.

Look for future e-mails and a call for the board to vote.

Meeting Minutes

A request for approval of minutes from the meeting from Bend will occur once the notes are typed out. Look at the minutes and update (if you were at the meeting in Bend) and e-mail vote correspondence.

Teresa's report

Membership: As of March 1, 2011 we have 443 Annual, 46 New, 494 Life members.

In Mid-November 2010 we sent out renewals notices, with three additional reminders. Around 320 members did not renew as of Jan. 1, 2011. We have gotten a few back.

Health Insurance: 162 are enrolled in our health insurance. We normally have 200 but some wanted out.

Ranger Magazine: You received additional magazines to hand out and recruit. Next deadline for ANPR members willing to write something for the magazine is April 30. Hope to have 10-12 authors.

Liam's Report

Membership drop: Haven't heard from some of the non-renewals. The ones that we have contacted say they have forgotten to renew, waiting for their tax return, or love what we do but just can't afford it! Not unhappy with ANPR. Liam needs help calling old members to see why they haven't renewed.

Stacy requested help from those interested in helping Liam call people regarding renewal of membership. Reasons for non-renewal are: 1. Most have forgotten and will send in shortly. 2. Money – times are strained out – loans and payments of other things that are needed for living - no extra dollars for a professional organization. We understand – but call. Liam: For 100% of the people called it is a monetary thing if not renewing. Most people are on fixed income or early career. It is uncomfortable to call but people like follow up.

BOD members interested in helping Liam: Jan Lemons, Jessica Korhut, and Rebecca Harriett Shoot Liam and Teresa an e-mail and they will chop up the list and send an equal amount to each.

Life membership: Very few have become Life Members since the cost went up. Strategy behind raising life membership...cutting down on new income. We lost what we had squirreled away through poor business management. Not cost effective for the membership. Half of our members are life, became life members when life membership was affordable. Has the pendulum swung too far? Many life members continue to support financially the membership. Now we get money on annual basis for membership renewals.

Recruit new members: Get the word out, membership has value and reasons why. Need to keep producing quality publications. Serve the public. Meet charter as an organization.

Professional liability insurance: We talked at the Rendezvous how we may lose the ability to provide health insurance to the membership and how this was a great draw for the organization. We need to start looking for opportunities to supplement attraction as an additional benefit. Professional liability insurance is something many of our membership could benefit. LE and SAR and EMT's Fire urban interface situations are subject to personal lawsuits for actions that they take in performance of their jobs and supervisors might need this also. Affordable rate for permanent and seasonal both. The Federal government offers a contribution toward insurance for permanent employees. 50% or up to \$75 (pay \$150 – the government will pay \$75). Teresa was able to (through our current insurance broker) negotiate a 5% discount through a company which already helps government employees. Teresa says that we can have a April 1 start date - inform membership and provide link to the company's webpage. The company takes care of it.

Stacy: We need to be 100% sure of all facts on this before we go ahead with this.

Liam: Explanation will be in Magazine for specific benefit of going through ANPR. There will be discount of 5% for membership.

Jessica (professional issues) will be working with Teresa and Liam on this.

Alec asked if seasonals pay the same amount as permanent employees. Teresa noted that the company asked the amount of time worked per week. We will need to work on how it will be worded. Also the government rebate not available to seasonals.

Liam: ProMotive group is successful. ¼ of membership has taken advantage of this. Clearinghouse for pro deals of over 100 companies. Good quality items at discount prices are available, many at wholesale. If you need website information check the ranger magazine and on facebook. You will need an invitation to sign up. Get authorized through Teresa. Our long standing members probably not taking advantage of this. Stacy noted that we might need to send reminders out. New members automatically receive information on how to take advantage of this benefit. This is a great opportunity for our long standing members to utilize their membership. Teresa noted that college students might benefit more. Many people check with our company wanting to take advantage of this benefit. Stacy requested that we create (through member services) more info on our website.

195 members currently take advantage of ProMotive.

We are currently 4 away from having 1,000 followers on Facebook. Good conversations...check it out.

Jen asked about the cost of maintaining membership. Could we post the Ranger Magazine on line rather than paying printing cost.

Liam responded that it costs \$45 to \$50 to maintain membership per member. With the students we break even. We make money off of permanent employees. There are 6 Library members.

Jennifer's report

12-31-10 accounts summary

checking: \$71,000, \$18,000 hasn't cleared yet

High yield saving: ANPR \$: \$35 to 36 thousand, interest .25% earned (liquid)

International reserve accounts - Rich Gale memorial (ANPR funds dedicated to a particular project) - IRF not our funds

US bank CD: \$30,000 (rolls over Nov. 2) in an 11 month CD which matures in October. The money belongs to health benefits. Reinvestment should have happened on Nov. 1, 2010. Since we didn't it automatically rolled over on an 11 month CD. Will come up again on Oct. 2. Jennifer will check on fee that might incur if we close the CD. CD is for health insurance.

Other investments:

\$5,000 (as of Dec. 31) Dodge and Cox investment. (earned some money in 2010) Jen is looking into how these have varied over the years and see if we want to invest in other stocks.

\$4,400 Vanguard funds (recent statement from 1 year ago) (earned money in 2010 as well)

Jen is working on putting Jen and Stacy's name on every account.

Jen is looking into ways to invest money and is looking for suggestions. About 30 people renew every month so we receive \$18,000 for health insurance. 3 month and 6 month IRA's. rates are low - .5% to 2% 90 days to 4 years – not a good idea to tie up money for that long. Stacy asked Jen to work up options on taking money and see if we can get some gain off of it.

Jen will look into and consider resources for socially responsible investing. Focus on green and sustainable investment. Looking into local banks near where she lives.

Teresa: March 31 is the end of our fiscal year. Total income as of 3/20/11 = \$80,245, expenses = \$68,166 net income = \$12,089. Health is a liability account and does not figure into. \$765 to Rich Gale, \$2,300 for Supernauth Scholarship fund. (\$19,000 for this year.) A lot of income showed up as IRF income. Put into donations and then put into savings account.

Amy's Report

Legislative Process: Amy has been working with NPCA on budget in DC and ANPR draft FY 1212 budget increase letter of support. Outlining importance of funding and what it is used for and how cuts could be damaging. She will be sending the draft to Stacy for input. Amy plans on attending the March 30 hearing to examine the President's budget request. She will be focusing on detriment to Visitor services and maintenance backlog. We are limited on what we can say. Importance of operation funding is the important issue. Use an example of how this cut can affect us. Board might not want to go against official NPS stance. Look at Obamas proposal and describe why we want funding to do what we need.

Amy: Revitalization: what is needed to move forward.

Alison: We need an implementation team: smaller group of people to work on plan. Seeking recommendations.

Stacy asked who wants be on implementation team. Will need to announce to the membership. Need to interest old team members to come back. Reasons why, 1. money and 2. take money to make changes and 3. to benefit advocacy and stewardship role we want to play. Door is open to do a lot of work. Some of the reports have already been implemented.

Teresa noted that the last implementation team did not renew membership. Amy stated that Melanie is not involved in National Parks anymore. Other members may come back. Amy willing to continue to work on this. Alison will be getting with Amy as well as Jan Lemons to create a small team. Alec also expressed interest, but needs to consider time requirement. He was motivated when he read the report.

Alison will be checking to see how much money is involved – may need to do a fund drive, grants, etc. Teresa needs a list of exactly what you have in mind and she will let you know if we have the money to do it.

The team will have their own discussion to come up with game plan.

Stacy 's Report

2012 conference at Miramonte and the contract.

The initial contract was not desirable since we cannot pay in advance for rooms. Now, the conference location removed these stipulations so we will not need to pay deposit. We have booked 30 rooms total for all the nights. But with the recent drop in memberships we might have too large a room block. Rooms will be from \$96 to \$80. Miramonte met what we asked of them so we will be able to commit to in a contract. Everything else in contract is like what we've had in the past. Connie is okay with Miramonte giving us a contract for 2012. She noted that this is an outstanding facility; higher grade than before. Scot and Dan will look at the contract and if it looks solid, no loopholes. Look for future e-mails. Miramonte wishes for us to purchase an insurance rider and since we don't have one we will need to pay around 10 to 20 dollars.

Williamsburg in 2011.

Theme: Relevancy – making connections, creating visitor services and demographics we cannot reach. We are in the process of filling the agenda. Looking at having a 2 day oral history training with Lou Ann Jones from the History department in WASO. Barry Sullivan is not responding regarding his recommitment to his leadership course. Director Jon Jarvis may deliver the keynote address. Stacy is looking for help to assist Ashley Berry from Shiloh NMP in tackling this. Need another person.

Due to the meeting lasting over 2 hours we are unable to attend to the rest of the agenda.

Alec - Motion to end meeting

Liam - seconded

All approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 CDT

Next meeting in May. Plan on meeting once every 2 months.