

Association of National Park Rangers Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

May 28, 2019

8:30 pm ET/7:30 PM CT/6:30 pm MT /5:30 pm PT (and AZ)

Conference Call

- **NOTE NEW NUMBER!** Phone number: 605-313-4812
 - Password: 873615#
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----- AGENDA TOPICS -----

Attendance (Secretary)

- Members Present: Jan, Paul, Marin, Bill, Chris, Ben, Elsa, Will, Reghan, Jeanette, Jamie, Jonathan
- Members Absent: Kayla
- Others: Phil Francis, John Leonard

Approval of Minutes from the following BoD meetings (President):

- April 23, 2019: discussion, motion-Paul, second-Jamie, in favor -all, opposed-0, abstain-0. Meeting minutes are approved.

Reports:

- President:
 - Kendall Thompson has someone ('a budding chief of interpretation') who is interested in serving as the editorial advisor for *Ranger* magazine.
- Secretary:
 - Nothing to report this month.
- Treasurer:
 - I am still waiting for further input from Chris to be able to finish the FY20 budget (preliminary budget minus the input from Chris was distributed to BOD) and begin work on the annual taxes.
 - I submitted the draft final financial documents for FY19 to the BOD; however still waiting for Chris to make the transfer of the life member dues into the investment account to be able to finish the FY19 financial documents. Note that life member dues have not been transferred to investment account for FY17 and FY18 as required by the by-laws, so entire backlog is being transferred this year. Moreover, we are unable to recover the amounts to support life members from those two years. We will show a significant loss for FY19. There needs to be discussion (**soon**)

on how to turn this trend around. Most likely this will require more emphasis on raising revenue, rather than cutting expenses.

- Business Manager:
 - Covered elsewhere.
- IRF Liaison:
 - Congratulations to ANPR members Ahmad Toure, Claire Shields, Jeanette Meleen and Lauren Kopplin. They have all confirmed their commitment to attend the WRC in Nepal in November. Their contact information has been submitted to Bill and Chris for issuance of scholarship funds.
- RR Coordinator:
 - Hopes to have the registration materials out in June!

Priority Business: (If any)

- (Jan) OPM/NPS decision to transition GS 0025 Park Ranger (P) to GS 1801 Investigative Series: Why, when, how, and the implications on the future of the Park Ranger profession. John Leonard, Acting NPS Chief Ranger, will provide a 20-minute briefing for the BoD on this current, important issue.
 - This conversation/conversion is being driven by DOI, not by the NPS.
 - NPS made aware of this in November 2018 – OPM made the decision back in June 2018 – NPS told to do a review of all LE positions.
 - Put on hold during shutdown. After that, the NPS National Chief Ranger position was vacated and the position was put forward to OPM for classification – did come back as 1801.
 - Time table for implementation? Only one PD has been classified thus far.
 - Not clear from the convo when/how ANPR would be involved.
- (Jamie) FOR VOTE AT MAY CALL: Mike Lynch with the California State Park Rangers Association has invited ANPR to be a partner in the World Ranger Day ceremony. At the minimum, CSPRA would like to use the ANPR logo as a partner organization. Ideally, ANPR would have a physical presence at the ceremony. At the minimum, CSPRA needs to know if they can use the ANPR logo and refer to us as a partner organization.
 - There will be a public ceremony on July 31, 2019 in Yosemite NP in honor of World Ranger Day. The Yosemite Mounted Patrol will serve as the color guard and the names of fallen rangers will be read. The plan is to include fallen NPS employees over the past year.
 - CSPRA will have a table set up before and during the event, introducing the public to the organization and the history of World Ranger Day. ANPR has an invitation to be represented at this table and to be represented in the commemorative ceremony.
 - If the board approves, Jamie would work with Elsa and put out a call in the next newsletter inviting anyone interested in representing ANPR to coordinate with the Board. As a team, the Board could select a few delegates to send and represent ANPR.

- Jamie would like to find someone new to lead the charge for us.
- This would be a great opportunity to team up on a project. We have not done a joint event with CSPRA since the World Ranger Congress in 2016.
- Bill made a motion for use of our logo and our active participation, Jan seconded the motion, in favor-all, opposed- 0, abstain-0. Motion has been approved.

Old Business:

- (Jamie/Marin) Bill noticed that the Spring 2019 edition of Ranger still includes “volunteers” in the definition of “Active Members” on the membership application page. The current by-laws do NOT include volunteers as Active Members. Recommend that volunteers be removed from that category on all membership application documents. – membership application on Ranger magazine versus the bylaws – (1) active – current/former employees - can vote and serve on board (2) associate - (3) other. Paul proposes that a group propose a fix to the bylaws and/or application. Jamie to make **a first draft – Marin will review – Jamie will finalize. Not ready to go to board for review/approval 05/28**
- (Paul) Need to put together an **Elections Committee** soon - Bruce McKeeman has volunteered to sit on the committee. We need to identify one or two active members to sit with him, one of which should be the chair of the committee. Election will include the following board positions: secretary, seasonal perspectives, and special concerns. None of these incumbents planning to run again for their office? 06/23 note: Ahmed Toure and Michelle Torok have agreed to sit on the committee.
- (Kayla) Training opportunities/materials ANPR wants to promote (not on call this month)
 - Kayla would like to put together a training video(s) with some timely info on how to get a job, what kind of dedication, etc. is needed to get a job.
 - What can we expect at the next board meeting? Kayla hopes to have a script ready and maybe even a rough draft cell phone video for the board to review and edit.
 - Hoping this first video will introduce a series – then we can build from that.

New Business:

- (Reghan/Jeanette): I have been trying to come up with ideas for how we can entice more folks into becoming members and need some guidance on if/how I can go about reaching out to some companies and organizations (TurboTax, Eppley Institute, any other ideas!?) to see if they are willing to provide any sort of discount for ANPR members. Unsure if these discounts would be considered “special treatment” or unethical under NPS regulations... Per Chris, this should not be an issue since it would be offered to ANPR members, not specifically to government employees. Per Paul, it would be good to run this by an ethics officer. Reghan will come back to the board with more info at next month’s call.
- (Ben): Recommend amending the Bylaws to modify the position of Special Concerns. When dealing with outside organizations there is confusion as to what that means. I would recommend renaming to Board Member for Government Affairs as that more accurately

describes the scope of the position. Ben will make a proposal for a bylaws amendment at the call next month.

Member or Committee Reports (not covered under Old/New Business):

- Education and Training (Kayla):
 - Not on call
- Fundraising (Jeanette):
 - Want to resume work on creating an “elevator speech” about who ANPR is
 - Continue to reach out to former fundraising chairs to get ideas: Seth Tinkham and Kendall Thompson are two I’ve been in touch with recently. Kendell says he might have an old fundraising plan laying around, but he’ll have to dig deep to find it.
 - Would like to reach out to some ANPR members about forming a fundraising committee (3-4 people). This was a suggestion by Paul a few months ago. Seeking contact info for potential committee members.
- Internal Communications (Elsa):
 - Nothing to report
- Membership Services (Reghan)
 - Wrote new copy for the website under “Become a Member” tab
 - Worked with Chris to set up a new plan for contacting members before their memberships expire
 - Currently creating a post for social media regarding the membership drive competition
- President-elect (Paul):
 - Chris has done a great job compiling all of the input from the Life Member Survey. Jonathan is currently analyzing that information, and depending on his progress, we will provide a [short summary of findings](#) at this meeting or at next month’s meeting.
- Professional Issues (Jamie):
 - No additional reports
- Seasonal Perspectives (Will)
 - Been coordinating the Supernaugh scholarship program for this fall’s RR.
- Special Concerns (Ben)
 - [Federal Retirement Fairness Act](#) was reintroduced this month in the House.
 - Contacted Rep. Kilmer’s Office (author) and a dozen federal employee related advocacy groups – have not heard back from anyone yet.
- Strategic Planning (Jonathan):

- Please continue to add your input to the [Draft Strategic Plan](#)
- Shout-out to Bill for seeking out past board members to gather old ANPR documents. Bill has collected all available records from Deanne Adams, Scot McElveen, Ken Mabery and Teresa Ford. Cindy Ott-Jones may have some records and has promised to ship what she has to Bill. A major effort is needed to collect what Stacy Allen has (Scot McElveen says he gave Stacy two file boxes of items at the time Stacy assumed the Presidency).
- Contacted professors at Colorado State about contributing an article to a future issue of *Ranger* regarding the archives project
- Prepared executive summary of Life Members Survey

Adjourn: 7:03 pm PT

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 25th (4th Tuesday of the month)