

Association of National Park Rangers Board of Directors Meeting MINUTES

July 28, 2020

530 pm PT, 630pm MT, 730pm CT, 830pm ET

ZOOM

Conference Call

- Phone number: 605-313-4812
 - Password: 873615#
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Attendance (Secretary)

- Members Present: Paul, Bill, Jeanette, Rebecca, Kayla, Lauren D., Lauren K., Tim, Chris, Reaghan, Jan, Jonathan, Elsa
- Members Absent:
- Others: Meg, Jamie

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

- Motion Tim, Reaghan Second, no discussion, approved unanimously

Treasurer's Report:

- Financial reports (June Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss; Vanguard statements and Budget vs Actual for first quarter of FY) submitted to BOD earlier for review.
- Analysis:
 - Vanguard shows a \$18,327.37 increase during the first quarter of the FY.
 - June financial reports: The P&L statement shows revenue over expenses as - \$4000+. This is primarily due to the fact that the revenues from Chris's fundraising efforts were registered in the May P&L, but the expenses show up in June's P&L.
 - Relative to the first quarter FY budget vs. actual report:
 - We were under budget by 50% for donations, but were over budget by nearly the same percentage in member dues.
 - Unbudgeted items were "sales" and "purchases" which resulted from Chris's fundraising efforts.
 - Everything else seems to be relatively consistent with the budget.
- DECISION NEEDED: Revise the approved annual budget to take into account cancellation of RR and decision on super raffle, or leave as is?
 - Rebecca motion update, Bill Second
 - Virtual RR budget?
 - Motion passes unanimously

Old Business (President):

- Discussion and Decision (Wade): Need for a street address for ANPR; for renewal of trademark and other purposes. Currently we are incorporated in Washington DC with no address there, and our official address is a PO Box in Alexandria VA. This may lead to the larger discussion about where ANPR should be incorporated.
 - No opposition to using Bill's address for trademark renewal purpose
 - Registration change not recommended by Chris for domestic corporate reg., just need for agent of record (currently Jonathan)
- (Wade): No responses to "advertising" for Editorial Advisor for Ranger Magazine
 - No current advisor, Moses (LE) and Spears only columnists still contributing content, need more division representation
 - Jan and Paul discuss offline, reach out to contacts as opportunity for leadership and notoriety; discuss next meeting as well
 - Need talking points; ad for advisor and can expand to content contributions, work with PIO's; invite new Editor to BoD calls

New Business (President):

- Discussion and Decision (Wade): Should ANPR submit one or more projects for consideration for masters program by Park Institute of America?
 - Input needed by August 31
 - Work group: Jonathan, Lauren D, Elsa, Jeanette
 - Report on next BoD call
- Discussion and Decision (Wade/Weesner): What will ANPR do to celebrate World Ranger Day (July 31)? Templates for posting on social media are available. Rangers and their supporters are encouraged to share photos of themselves with a sign saying they support rangers and video themselves explaining why ranger work is important. I'm hoping that ANPR can use the WRD image as its Facebook cover photo for the rest of this week. (Weesner)
 - Bill suggests posting an ANPR Statement in support and as founding IRF association; PIO interns draft statement and possibly future OpEd pieces; Meg will attempt OpEd piece
 - Elsa will update FB banner and put in newsletter

Reports:

- President: Met with the new Associate Director for Visitor and Resource Protection (Flynn). Report sent to Board Members by email - 1801 transition tabled.
- Treasurer: Super raffle has been "suspended." DECISION NEEDED: What to do with it. (In part, this touches on the issue of incorporation).
 - Treasurer's recommendation: Cancel the super raffle for this year and resolve issues of the RR and incorporation before opening it again. The only thing we'd be "out" would be the \$250 rafflecreator.com fee.
 - No opposition to Cancel so Cancelled, members will Thank those that had donated and encourage to do so again next year

- Business Manager:
 - Worked on numerous projects surrounding the cancellation of Rendezvous in Jacksonville, including updating the website.
 - Have continued to work with Jamie and Jonathan on the logistics for a virtual rendezvous.
 - Generated an ANPR email address for Melissa DeVaughn (mdevaughn@anpr.org)
 - Random spam emails popping up so be cautious

- RR43 Manager:
 - RR43 in Jacksonville officially canceled. Hotel (now “Southbank Hotel” and a Marriott property) has stated they will send us an amended contract, with all same provisions, to hold RR there in October, 2021. DECISION NEEDED: Pursue this contract, or abandon Jacksonville and move ahead with Tucson in 2021?
 - Bill motion, Jonathan second for Jxnville 2021, Tucson 2022 – pass unanimously
 - DECISION NEEDED: Hold “virtual RR43” per plan submitted by Jamie, Jonathan and Chris.
 - Jamie, Jonathan, Chris, and Jan made modified RR planning committee to develop three day virtual RR
 - Reaching out to different speakers covering parks we don’t often hear from; possible to invite our international contacts as well
 - Possible expense of virtual platform, hopefully cost covered by subscription/entry fee by participants
 - Committee can submit budget by Saturday for BoD
 - Tim motion, Elsa second to authorize Virtual RR up to \$2200
 - 1 abstain, motion passes

- Education and Training:
 - (Wade): Advertisement for Leadership Development Training resulted in only two applicants. Pilot course will be starting August 5 and run for eight weeks. Each week will have asynchronous access to material throughout the week and concludes with a +/- 1.5 hour synchronous (Zoom) session. STILL TIME TO GET IN.
 - (Sanders): Recruited/answered questions regarding membership to ANPR and Mentor Program
 - (Sanders): Mentor Program- 3 additional proteges, welcome/inquiry emails sent, follow up questions discussed etc.

- Fundraising:
 - Sent emails to Emily and Amy from the Coalition to discuss fund sources for grants; Emily responded and said talk to Amy; still awaiting her response
 - Notified 4 donors of the super raffle suspension

- Reached out to a former NPS ranger to see if he's interested in being Ranger editorial advisor; awaiting response
- Cancelled the July fundraising committee call; next one is August 11 @ 8:30pm
- Had mid-year review call with Jonathan to update the work plan
- Will follow-up with LuAnn and NPF
- Internal Communications:
 - Mailed out 19 ANPR logo stickers to 5 members. Will continue to offer stickers to ANPR members with suggested donation, advertising in ANPR monthly newsletter.
- Membership Services:
 - Sent annual membership renewal reminders
 - Notified donor about super raffle suspension
 - Wrote article for Fall issue of Ranger
 - Emailed seasonals who signed up for a free membership during our campaign to welcome in COVID-affected seasonals to ANPR
 - Connected one new member to pro deals
- Professional Issues:
 - Working on lining up authors for Resource Management on the Border *Ranger* article
 - Contacted by Great Falls, Montana Tourism Board about hosting a future RR there, working with them to provide a package to RR Team
- Seasonal Perspectives:
 - Sent out emails to welcome 91 new members, but received no response
 - Planning a way to make new members feel welcome!
- Government Affairs:
 - Submitted statement of support for proposed regulations on implementation of the 2015 Land Management Workforce Flexibility Act. This is the formal rule-making process for LMWFA with public review through OPM in the Federal Register. "Intended effect of this rule is to facilitate the entrance of current and former land management employees into permanent Federal jobs."
 - Contacted Acting AD, Park Planning, Facilities and Lands, Mike Caldwell to discuss the NPS Housing Initiative. His office via Sally Mayberry (DSC) is drafting a feature article regarding NPS Housing for a future issue of RANGER.
 - Submitted "Government Affairs" article regarding the "Hatch Act" for Fall issue.
 - After some research, found (and not surprised) that a "strategy to allow seasonals to contribute to the Thrift Savings Plan" will require legislation since TSP was a product of the CSRS to FERS retirement legislation.

Obviously this is larger than NPS involving the entire Federal Employee Retirement System with all the associated costs. Will continue to research to see if any other agencies or entities are pursuing this change.

- Discussed mid-year review with Jonathan.
- Strategic Planning:
 - Prepared draft email to displaced seasonals about audio description training.
 - Coordinated with Reghan Tank, Lauren DeGenarro, and Elsa Hansen to recruit COVID displaced employees.
 - Reached out to Eppley for training opportunities
- IRF Liaison:
 - International Ranger Federation and The Thin Green Line Foundation have finally distributed some templates for celebrating World Ranger Day on July 31 and acknowledging rangers lost during the last year. I put the Facebook frame around my profile picture on FB and I urge others to do the same. There is also a “cover photo” for World Ranger Day, and I’m hoping that ANPR can use that on its FB page this week.
 - COVID-19 has limited the potential for any in-person recognitions or celebrations of World Ranger Day. I have heard that parks and rangers in many countries are really suffering because they are funded largely or totally on tourism dollars. And as we know, tourism is down. I will investigate what we might be able to do about this during the next month.
 - IRF is working through issues of incorporation in Australia, as the membership voted to support at WRC9 in Nepal. I get the impression that they haven’t done much else, but can’t positively confirm that. I will be scheduling a talk with the North American Representative, Andrew Wright, in the near future.

Adjourn: 8:25 MT

Next meeting: August 25, 2020