



Eastern Pennsylvania Region

Stated Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2009

I. Section Chief and Patrol Director Mini-Sessions from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

II. Call to Order

Gerit Lewisch, Regional Director, called the regular meeting of the Eastern Pennsylvania Region Ski Patrol to order at 9:33 AM on November 15, 2009, at Bear Creek Mountain Resort and Ski Area. Welcome to Bob Scarlett; thank you to Bear Creek for hosting this meeting; welcome to Wolfgang Boernert.

III. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence to remember all patrollers and family members who are no longer with us.

IV. Secretary Report, Gerit Lewisch

Minutes from the April 18, 2009 meeting have been posted on the EPA website. A motion was made by Greg Mohr and seconded by Fred Tim to forego the reading of the Minutes and to approve the Minutes from the April 18, 2009 meeting as published. The motion carried.

V. Change in Order of Agenda

A change in the order of the Agenda has been made to accommodate Bob Scarlett, National Legal Advisor, who has a distance to travel.

VI. Region Director Report, Gerit Lewisch

a. Division Fall Officers Meeting was held on 9/13/09 in Clifton Park, NY.

b. National is aware of problems with website. Please be patient.

c. Credit card campaign. For every new credit card issued, National gets a \$50 credit; Division gets a \$20 credit.

d. National Board election deadline is approaching. There is a Candidate Ranking list on the Eastern Division website. Everyone can see this listing.

e. New electronic registration is up to Patrol Directors or their representative to manage/enter data. National dues are \$41. Division dues are \$17. The region dues are \$8. Division dues did not change from last year. National and Division dues should be sent to Donna McGraw. Donna will then send National's portion of the dues to National. Do not send Alumni dues to Donna

- McGraw. Region dues go to Jack Bogdon. There was a discussion about adding/editing information electronically and the possibility of losing the information, server problems, and the inability to save the information as it is being entered. If you get frustrated with the online registration, do not use paper registration. Regional director can't look/edit online registrations. Gerit showed "screenshots" of how the online registration process works.
- f. IRS 503(c) non-profit corporations can *solicit* funds only from members, but can accept *donations* from all others. Solicited funds require the filing of a 990 individually. Raffle tickets should read "Donation price" not "Ticket Price."
 - g. Every patrol has to file information for the form 990 by June 1st, and the form is on the EPA website.
 - h. Recruitment posters on Division website.
 - i. Rick Hamlin is retiring as the Division Director. Gerit would like to run for Division Director. April 24th is the deadline to register as a candidate for the Division Director. If Gerit doesn't win as Division Director, he will serve as the Region Director for another 2 years. If Gerit wins the election as the Division Director, the Region's ByLaws will dictate how the replacement is handled.

VII. Awards

Gerit Lewisch and Steve Buzzard presented the following awards:

- a. NSP Silver Merit Star to Eagle Rock Ski Patrol, National Runner Up, Outstanding Small Alpine Patrol 2008 - 2009.
- b. Eastern Division Outstanding Small Alpine Patrol 2008 - 2009 to Eagle Rock Ski Patrol.
- c. EPA Unit Citation - Outstanding Small Alpine Patrol 2008 - 2009 to Eagle Rock Ski Patrol.
- d. EPA Unit Citation - Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol 2008 - 2009 to Ski Liberty Ski Patrol.
- e. Eastern Division Patriot Star to Chris Joyce of the Shawnee Ski Patrol.
- f. EPA Certificate of Appreciation to Linda Doell, Editor, The Regional 2006 - 2010.

- g. Yellow Merit Star, Eastern Division Outstanding Administrative Patroller to Howard Wyandt.

VIII. Section Reports

- a. Central Section: John Stinsmen, Section Chief
- b. Northern Section: Robert Morgan, Section Chief
- c. Pocono Section: Susan Ballek, Section Chief
- d. Southwest Section: Bob Bernatos, Section Chief

IX. National News, Robert Scarlett, National Legal Advisor and Timothy Kelly, Regional Legal Advisor

- a. Timothy Kelly: Legal overview of the releases issued by different ski areas. Discussion on points of volunteer status, liability of patroller, family members, and Workman's Compensation.
- b. Robert Scarlett:
 - Applaud Tim Kelly for all the work he does.
 - OEC 5th Edition contract with Pearson Education Inc. (Brady)--NSP's Commitment to Excellence
 - Chapters are due to be submitted 11/30/09
 - 100% written by NSP
 - Projection of when the book will be completed
 - Significance of OEC 5th
 - Factors in considering the standard of training for OEC 5th Edition
 - NSP Insurance
 - General Liability Insurance
 - National Ski School Program, Inc., Insurance
 - Individual Patroller Insurance
 - Individual Umbrella Insurance
 - Ski Area Insurance
 - NSP and Helmet Laws
 - Improving Legal Protection of Patrollers
 - NSP Lobbying
 - Good Samaritan Victory in California
 - Commend EPA Region on working with PA EMS; what NSP is doing to coordinate with state EMS systems

- Budget Overview
- NSP Fundraising
- NSP Computer System
- Other Patrol Issues
- NSP Voting--VOTE!

Meeting was suspended at 12:17 PM for the lunch break. Meeting was reconvened at 12:55 PM.

X. National Board Elections, Edward Hirshman

- a. Go to National website and read the profiles. There are eight candidates, and you can vote for up to 4 candidates. It is your responsibility to vote.
- b. Each candidate was reviewed individually. Members had an opportunity to offer their thoughts. John Stinsmen spoke on his own behalf as a Candidate for the Board.

XI. EPA Region ByLaws, George Hannon

- a. EPA Region change to the ByLaws
- b. A ByLaws Committee was formed.
- c. Notification process was by way of email and posted on the website.
- d. Members were encouraged to read the ByLaws amendment for a vote today.
- e. EPA is the largest of 15 Eastern Division Regions with 20% of Eastern Division members and are under-represented at Division.
- f. On November 8, 2008, EPA officers approved the petitioning for an additional position.
- g. At its May 1-3, 2009 meeting, Eastern Division approved the fifth Region Delegate voting position for EPA.
- h. Proper notice and publication was given satisfying the 30 day requirement for today's vote.
- i. Region Delegate at Large (the name chosen for this new position) will function as the Region Director's region-wide assistant and report to the Region Director.

- j. First election for the Region Delegate at Large will take place in spring 2010 and at two-year intervals thereafter.
- k. Resolution read by Andy Miller, Assistant Legal Advisor, EPA Region. The purpose is to have a written record of how and when this was done.
- l. The Motion for a vote comes from the Committee. Bob Bernatos Seconded. No discussion. Vote taken and recorded. Three people were not in attendance and there was no proxy for their vote. There were 24 votes in favor. No opposition.
- m. Gerit Lewisch distributed a survey to all that just voted. Please complete the survey and return to Gerit.

XII. EPA Elections, Bob Davies

- a. Gerit won the election as Region Director.
- b. Two section chiefs to be elected in the spring: Pocono and Central. Current chiefs, Sue Ballek and John Stinsmen, have met their terms and can not run again.
- c. Seeking nominations to fill their positions plus nomination for new Region Delegate at Large. Official election day is March 1st. Ballots must be returned by March 15th.

XIII. Division and Regional Activities - Gerit Lewisch

- a. Thank you to Wolfgang Boernert for all his input on EMS Act 45 which was approved. The Act passed as published and will be in effect 2/18/10. Look at Act 45 on DOH website.
- b. All region programs must be posted on the website for online registration, and course fees will be paid online. Program coordinators will have to submit expense sheets to Jack Bogdon with a copy to Gerit.
- c. Wolfgang added that the Con-Ed program with the refreshers worked well. The glitch has been corrected and 2008 has been posted. Cycle B 2009 has been submitted to DOH and should be posted in a few weeks. Online registration worked well. Registration time at refreshers averaged 10 - 12 seconds each person. CPR cards were collected at OEC refreshers. Many did not have current cards. It is up to the Patrol Directors to stay on top of this. Online CPR refresher course being discussed.
- d. Bob Reedy asked the members if they think there would be a benefit in offering the patrollers an online version of the cognitive portion of the CPR

course. The patrollers would need to demonstrate the CPR skills on another date. A few patrollers were interested. Members attending today agreed that they are happy with the quality of current CPR instructors and program.

- e. Wolfgang then added that he is looking to ease the paperwork for patrols and find quality online courses to further education. It is each patroller's personal responsibility to make sure that he/she has a current CPR card.

XIV. Budget and Financial Matters, Jack Bogdon

- a. Made progress on filing the 990s on time. The date for filing is June 1st. Filed by July 10th, which is a 5-month improvement over prior year. Reminders will be sent out in February. June 1st date for submissions will be **firm**.
- b. Expense Report must be completed and receipts must be attached. Requests for payment without Expense Report will be returned. Expense Report can be completed online through the Region website and sent to Jack with a copy to Gerit. Receipts can then either be mailed through regular mail or electronically scanned and sent to Jack.
- c. Status of accounts for this current season which started on April 1, 2009. Explanation of operating expenses and investment performance.

XV. Regional OEC Fall Refresher Recap, Dennis Zercher and Sharon Friedel

- a. OEC is the only program that touches every patroller in the Region. Review of the refreshers:
 - Four instructor refreshers. The number of OEC instructors attended:
 - Roundtop - 57
 - Blue Mountain - 69
 - Shawnee 34
 - Sno Mountain- 52
 - Nine Regional OEC refreshers given from September 27th through November 14th.
 - For 2010 - 2011: 26 refreshers scheduled; 19 dates confirmed; 7 yet to be confirmed.
- b. Thank you to all the areas who hosted the nine refreshers which had 1,021 attending patrollers.
- c. Patrols are responsible for making sure their people have been refreshed. You need an IT and instructors to run a refresher.

- d. Dennis's top 10 reasons for going to refreshers!
- e. Thank you to Wolfgang Boernert for being at almost every refresher!

XVI. Open Discussion

- a. Gerit Lewisch stated that the Region is looking for help with the publication of The Regional. Anyone interested should contact Gerit.
- b. Brent Watts reminded everyone that there is an Instructor Development class at Blue Mountain on December 6, 2009.
- c. Dennis Zercher, Sharon Friedel, and Wolfgang Boernert were thanked for organizing enjoyable OEC refreshers.

XVII. Adjournment

Motion made by Greg Mohr, seconded by Wayne Eckelmann, to adjourn the meeting at 2:35 PM. Motion carried. Spring Officers Meeting Regional Meeting meeting April 17, 2010 at Blue Mountain.

Minutes submitted by: Nancy Mayberry

Minutes approved by: