



## Meeting Minutes PSARC Board Meeting November 8th, 2003

John Miller called the meeting to order at 10:35.

Board members present:

John Miller (President), Vikki Coup (VP), Don Scelza (Secretary), Lou Ann Pomposelli (Treasurer), Jean Zore (Northwestern), Alan Houck (East), Jack S (West) This constitutes a quorum.

*Membership:* Nothing

*DCNR:* Nothing

*Insurance* – Jeannie Zore – Some progress. Quote received for VFIS for PSARC specific coverage. Waiting for response from the teams on what they might be interested in. Jeannie Zore was requested to send the insurance proposal to all of the board members.

*New Business:*

Meeting Dates for 2004:

Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup> (SAR-Ex),  
Aug 14<sup>th</sup>, Nov 13<sup>th</sup>

Time changes:

Committee	9:00 – 10:00
Board	10:00 – 11:00
Member	11:00 – 12:00

Jean Zore made a motion to accept. Vikki seconded. Board approval was unanimous.

Dues for 2004:

There is a need to increase dues this year if the Council is going to buy insurance. Lou Ann stated that 27 of 37 teams paid dues this year. The dues for previous years have been \$25.00. Lou Ann made a motion to increase the dues to \$40.00. Floor discussion followed. Vikki seconded. Board approval was unanimous.

Lou Ann stated that PNC is offering a business VISA at no cost. She recommends that the Council get a card to make online purchases easier. The card would only be usable by the people who have signature authority. Lou Ann made a motion to get the card with a limitation applied to the card. Alan Houck seconded. Board approval was unanimous.

Vikki made a motion to adjourn. Jean Zore seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 11:00



## Meeting Minutes PSARC Member Meeting November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

John Miller, President, called meeting to order at 12:00

The President stated that at this time, not accepting any more ballots. The president nominated a tally committee. Alan Houck, Chair, James Shirey, Chris Rudolph.

The following ballots were received without signature: East Coast Canine SAR, Mountain Area Rescue Group, Laurel Highlands SAR. The by-laws require a delegate signature on the outer envelope. The Committee Chair has declared these ballots invalid.

The President then read the ballot, presented by the Secretary, for the uncontested positions:

*President Don Scelza*  
*Vice President Vikki Coup*  
*Secretary Cathy Conner*  
*Treasurer Lou Ann Pomposelli*  
*Northwest Jeanie Zore*  
*Western Jack Stankiewicz*

Nominees for At Large Board – Kim Carr and Tom Smith.

The committee returned with the results of the tabulation stating that Kim Carr was the winner for the At-Large directors position. Brian Winterstein made a motion to destroy the ballots following the meeting. James Shirey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

*President:* Would just like to say that the last 6 years have been very interesting, and we have seen a lot of progress. PSARC is a great organization and still improving. I am proud to work with such great people. Board is a great team, works great together, PSARC is growing, Don will continue to do a great job. Congratulations to new president, Don Scelza.

*New President:* presented the plaque of appreciation to John for his hard work and dedication.

*VP:* No report.

*Secretary report:* motion by Vikki Coup, Jeannie Zore seconded to accept minutes as written.

*Treasurer's:*  
There is \$2350 in the checking account. The other two accounts held by the Council are at \$229.71 and \$164.79

### **Committee Reports**

*Membership:*

There was nothing to report. A guest at the meeting: Dave Chevsky, director for Pa Wing Patrol would like to join as an individual. Communication coordination is the key to his coming to us.

*Operations:*  
Nothing to report.

Please remember: Council made a vote to keep operational team status, must have your team checked off by the end of the year. Please contact your board member to verify your team.

*Web Site:*  
11/3/03 website went down – lost everything – email addresses, list servers, etc. New list server was created. Papers were handed out with instructions on how to re-established yourself on the list. Like Yahoo but more secure. Brian reminded the membership that to post to the list, you must be a member of the list.

Brian stated that he needed a new version of a small piece of software to maintain the site. Motion by Allen Houck, John Miller seconded to spend the \$40 to purchase the software for Brian. Motion carried unanimously.

*Forms:*  
Long ago we started a Forms Committee, Keith will be contacted about the forms that are finished, TAF (task assignment form) and a Searcher Information Form, will be released for use.

*SAR-EX:*  
Linda asked Brian to ask for instructors this year. Instructor forms were distributed. Need to return as soon as possible or access from the website. Please submit by the end of December to Linda.

Tri-State Fall event for Sept 16-19, 2004 for PSARC, New Jersey Council as well

as New York. John will follow up on this Fall SAR-EX event.

Vikki will be handling the t-shirts for SAR-EX again. Please send any info to Vikki. Possibly look into sweatshirts. \$12 for t-shirts, sweatshirts will be discussed with the SAR-EX committee.

*Public Relations:*  
Brian stated that at last meeting the manual was approved – in PDF form on the website, will be updated every year. Form could be sent out with yearly dues with name, address, county, for updating.

Med-STAT was notified by Brian about doing the updated book, Lou Ann was also having trouble getting it approved. Finally, Med-STAT approved and asked for a meeting with Jeff at Med-STAT to be sure that all info is correct. Will bring the finalized, printed copy to the February meeting.

The promotional handout is finalized. 10,000 will be printed. If your org would like to have copies, you need to request them from Jean Zore.

*DCNR :* FTM & FTL testing is going well, however, there seems to be problems with K9 Specialist Test. Not enough teams are requesting testing. We are working on how to evaluate the dogs on the teams. As the K9 standards proceed we will need to set a time (1 year) by which the K9 team must be tested. Before taking the K9 Specialist test, the handler must have passed an approved FTL test. Vikki suggested that teams call her and indicate the number of members that are ready to take the FTL test and either she or Mike will get back to the team with their schedules

and availability. It takes a lot of people to pull off this test. Don can do FTL tests.

PSARC will rely on the Directors to check the validity of member certifications when they do the inspections for operational team level certification.

*Operations Committee:* They are to meet on-line and discuss the above-mentioned new steps toward getting the membership info cleaned up.

*K9 Standards:* Still working on the trailing standards. Will bring these to the general membership in February. Also will bring the cadaver standards to this meeting.

*By-Laws:* Don is the president of the committee. John Miller made a motion to amend Article 5, Section 2, Subsection 5, Board of Directors, Composition. John proposed a change to say *Immediate past president shall serve a 2-year term WITHOUT voting privileges on the Board of Directors* – This would allow a member of the same team as the past president to serve on the board. There was a discussion centered around a way to allow the desired service without losing the vote of the past president. Don would like to have the By-Laws committee review all the options; John agreed to table his motion of changing the wording until the next meeting to hear the results from the By-Laws Committee. Would like resolution by the next meeting (February).

#### *Old Business*

Insurance - Jean Zore – we have a proposal for the general liability for the

PSARC administration. There has not been a large response from teams indicating their interest in obtaining coverage under this policy, please email to Jean if your team is interested. Further info will be available next meeting.

#### *New Business*

Chris Rudolph: House Resolution 517 – further facilitate this action: Does the PSARC have a legislative committee? Board of Directors handles this at this time. What is PSARC current relationship with PEMA throughout the state? History is that as soon as a relationship between the organizations develops, the person in PEMA is transferred (gone) and our efforts need to be restarted. This has been a problem in the past. Is any other team in the Council receiving state funding? Relief money – SAR teams are not eligible. Some WAM money is available from time to time; need to look into this individually as a team.

Dues were raised to \$40 for the 2004 season. Dates and times were also approved as stated in the Board Meeting. Feb 7, May 1 (SAR-EX), Aug 14, Nov 13, 2004. 9 – 10 a.m. Committee Meetings, 10-11 a.m. Board Meeting, 11-12 noon General Meeting

#### **For the Good of the Council**

Lou Ann: Currently the only thing that a team needs to do to retain its “Active” status is pay dues. It would be good if there was a way to encourage the teams to participate in Council meetings. Possibly change the by-laws to specify that active members must attend at least a minimum number of meetings. Article 1 section 5 needs to be amended to state required attendance. By-Laws

committee is to look into this. Don explained the need to have quality membership info tracking.

Brian: Needs to have Board members email addresses sent to him.

[evilfatman@aol.com](mailto:evilfatman@aol.com) or  
[webmaster@psarc.org](mailto:webmaster@psarc.org)

Motion to adjourn made by Brian seconded by Jean. Meeting adjourned 1320.