



# Meeting Minutes

## PSARC Board Meeting

### August 14, 2004

Don Scelza called the meeting to order at 0930 hours.

Board members present:

Don Scelza (President), Vikki Coup (VP), Cathy Conner (Secretary), Lou Ann Pomposelli (Treasurer), Brian Winterstein (At-Large), Chris Rudolph (Northeast) This constitutes a quorum.

*Membership:* A resignation was received from Mike Norris the Northeast Board member. Chris Rudolph was appointed by the Board as the new Northeast Board member. One new group applied for membership. Bedford County Wilderness SAR sponsored by NOVASAR. Their membership is tabled until the next meeting due to them not showing up to the meeting.

*DCNR:* DCNR will be having a task force meeting at the end of this month. This will get back to PSARC with any new information relating to SAR.

*Old Business:* Don is still working on the resource map with team locations. An email will be sent out on the PSARC list serve requesting all teams to input their information.

*New Business:* The TAF has been used in a number of searches. It has worked out very well. The question was raised as to whether or not PSARC should purchase them in bulk and offer them to teams. A recommendation will be made to the GM.

John Feldbauer has completed his proposal for the procedure for certification of team levels. It involves a step by step process on how the paperwork will be routed. Approval can be done via videotape. A copy will be provided to all Board members via email.

The operations committee made a recommendation for teams to attend 50% or 2 meetings per year to retain their membership. Teams that do not attend 50% or 2 meetings a year will be removed as active and will need to attend 2 meetings in order to be re-inspected and re-certified. In addition, all teams that are certified must be re-inspected by the November meeting in 2006 and continuing every 2 years (even years) after that. Videotaping will make it easier for teams to re-certify.

If there are people within your areas forming smaller search teams please try to contact them and give them PSARC information. Try to talk to your EMA directors about liability of untrained search teams.

*Website:* The web committee needs to look at the website and figure out different ways to enhance our current site. Changes in the web and easier links should be incorporated. The web committee should have any recommendations by the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00



## Meeting Minutes PSARC Member Meeting August 14, 2004

Don Scelza, President, called meeting to order at 1125 hours.

*President:* The President welcomed the two new directors, Brian Winterstein (At-large) and Chris Rudolph (Northeast). They will hold those positions until that term is up.

We received a resignation from Mike Norris from the Northeast position. Mike is on the DCNR Task force and will remain on the DCNR contact list.

*VP:* Nothing to report.

*Secretary report:* Nothing to report.

*Treasurer's:* No expenses. We received \$125 for maps and additional dues at \$240. PSARC has applied for a credit card. A saving account has been opened.

### **Committee Reports**

*Membership:* We received one membership application. Bedford County Wilderness Search Team who is sponsored by NOVASAR. The membership committee recommends that this be tabled until the next meeting due to nonattendance.

*Operations:* The operations committee met and recommendations were made in regards to certification of teams. A set of steps were made . Videotaping will be

permitted. In order for a team to maintain its certification level they must attend 2 meetings each year. If they fail to meet that quota then their operational level / certification will be removed and they will have to attend 2 meetings in order to be re-inspected. In addition, a re-inspection will be done for all teams with the first one due in November 2006 by the PSARC meeting. A motion was made by Lou Ann and seconded by Chris. Discussion was held regarding if a meeting is cancelled how to fulfill their 2 meetings per year. Relaxation of attendance requirement will be at the boards discretion. All in favor. Motion carried and passed.

*Forms:* Jack has run a search with the new TAF and is very happy with the forms. 1000 of them cost approximately \$200. Discussion was held regarding whether or not the council will have the forms available for other teams to purchase.

A draft of the Searcher Information Form is the next form that we will look at.

*SAREx:* The committee hasn't been able to get together. A recommendation was made to have on-line meetings for everyone to be available.

*Public Relations:* Please make sure you hand out the PSARC fliers.

New teams need to give Brian Winterstein their information so he can give it to MedStat.

*DCNR* : Any dog going out on a search needs to send a report to DCNR. Forms can be found on the website.

At the last meeting we talked about dog standards. FTM, FTL and K9 Specialist tests can be given at different times during the year. If you are going on searches you should be taking the K9 Specialist test. Vicki is recommending that a percentage of the team with dogs should have the K9 Specialist test. The operations committee will need to look at the K9 teams and come up with standards.

*K9 Standards*: Vicki still has comments on the standards for cadaver and trailing coming in to her. We are trying to come up with a way trailing dogs will not be associated with the Police. This item will be tabled until the next meeting so teams can look over the standards.

*By-Laws*: The new bylaws are 2004-05. The latest change was in regards to voting privileges of a previous president.

Are there things that need to be incorporated---ie. Meeting attendance, board meetings via email. If anyone is interested in working on the 04-05 bylaw changes please let Don know.

*Legislative*: Chris has been working with Legislatures and the Senate in regards to House Resolution 517. The regional coordinators on the board need to talk to senators and representatives in their areas to keep it going. Don would like to reestablish the legislative committee to

start working on House Resolution 517. Anyone who is interested in the committee please talk to Chris Rudolph.

*Old Business*: We started the new PA map at SAREx. Don is still waiting on information from teams. Please send your information (latitude and longitude) via email for your teams location. Don will hopefully have the map done soon.

*New Business*: For people who haven't been following changes and advances in Search Management, there are some articles on new theories.

Some interesting observations on Land Search Theory by the USCG can be found in the paper "Compatibility of Land SAR Procedures with Search Theory" on the Coast Guard site at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-o/g-opr/nsarc/LandSearchMethodsReview.pdf>

Here is a paper with some information on conducting experiments in Sweep Width: "A method for determining effective sweep widths for land searches" at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-o/g-opr/nsarc/LandSweepWidthDemoReportFinal.pdf>

*For the Good of the Council*:

There is a Tri-State Conference being put together in September in Bell-Air, NY. The website is: [www.tristatesar.com](http://www.tristatesar.com)

A recommendation was made for an email to go out on the list serve listing what committees are available and who is on those committees.

For the next SAREx meeting LouAnn would like to email Linda Percy those

teams who have paid their dues and should get the discount when signing up for SarEx. Any team that does not pay their dues should not get the discount.

Invoices need to be out in November this year.

FTM and FTL tests will be held in Tannersville this September. Contact Chris Rudolph if you have anyone interested in taking the test.

An MSO class will be held in the Western part of the state. Contact Don if you would like to attend.

CCSOSAR is hosting a Rope Rescue I class in October and MSO in December. Contact Cathy Conner if you are interested in attending any of those classes.

A motion to adjourn was made by Vicki, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jean. Meeting adjourned at 1240 hours.