

## Revised Minutes of the OMH Executive Board Meeting & Members Meeting

January 17, 2019

### BOARD MEETING

**Executive Board members present:** Joy Linker, Vanessa Edgar, Linda Branim, Ralph Butler and Bill Stanley

**Attending:** David Blankenship – Historian, Marilyn Hall – Merchandise Coordinator, Jim Davis – Outgoing President, Ernie Weidenberger – Outgoing Historian

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by President Joy Linker @ Colorado Grill in Hot Springs

**President's Remarks:** Joy thanked the outgoing Board Members for their service to the club and introduced officers for 2019:

Joy Linker – President

Vice-President – Vanessa Edgar

Secretary – Debbie VanVeghel

Treasurer/Membership – Linda Branim

Hike Chair – Bill Stanley

Publicity Chair/Webmaster – Tom Calhoun

Trail Maintenance Chair – Ralph Butler

Historian – David Blankenship

Merchandise Sales Coordinator – Marilyn Hall

Social Media Coordinator – Keith Hall

**Vice President/Program Chair:** Discussion of possible dates & locations for the 2019 End of Year Picnic and Christmas Party, along with type of party to consider (catering, etc). Members agreed to have Vanessa check on the Coronado Center in HSV to see if Thursday December 12<sup>th</sup> would be available for OMH Christmas Party and look into Cortez Pavilion for End of Year Picnic. Balboa Beach was given as a possible suggestion.

**Treasurer/Membership:** Linda reported that the club currently has 295 paid members and a bank balance of \$4,504.46 as of 1/17/19. Membership renewal has dropped slightly due to stated causes of medical issues, moving and some out of town members not renewing this past year. However, Lifetime membership has increased some this year. As a comparison, the club brought in \$1,845 in dues for 2018 (209 members) and \$1,795 in 2017 (242 members). It was brought up by the Vice-President that most hike club's dues average around \$20/year compared to our \$5/year. It was discussed that since the club has a surplus of funds at the present time that the club could be in a position to make a donation to a worthwhile cause at some point in the future should a specific need come to light. The question was raised as to whether the club should try to obtain a non-profit status. Bill Stanley agreed to carry out some research on this question and make it available for consideration by the full Board.

**Historian:** A reminder that with the change of leadership that hikers need to be reminded that their hike photos need to be sent to both David Blankenship and Tom Calhoun. With photos being digital now, they can be downloaded to a yearbook where people can view or choose to make a scrapbook.

Members were asked again to be thinking about what, if anything, needs to be done with the old hard copies of the club's prior years photo albums.

**Hike Chair:** A reminder that the Annual Hike Leader Luncheon will be held on Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. Bill still needs a few hike leaders to fill out the spring hike schedule, specifically someone for an April overnight trip and also for May 9<sup>th</sup> hike. He plans to start putting together a working draft of the fall hike schedule to send out to hike leaders.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Hike Membership Development** – A suggestion was made to send out a survey to all members to get feedback on whether the club is meeting the needs members have or were looking for when joining the club and any suggestions they might have that they would like to see the club do. It was suggested that Survey Monkey could be used to handle survey. Joy will work on getting something sent out to Board members.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Audit Committee** – Joy has put together an audit committee comprised of Ernie Weidenberger, Marilyn Hall and EJ Pangle who will handle doing this year's audit of the club's finances and submit the report at the next Member Meeting in March. Linda has the 2018 records together and ready to turn over to Ernie for the audit.

**Meetings** – Joy reported that the Garland County Library auditorium or large room is not available for our next Member meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup>. The Board discussed possible substitute locations and it was decided that Joy would check with Smokin' In Style to see if one of their meeting rooms would be available.

The Board also discussed the May and September Members meetings. It was agreed that rather than hold a Member meeting in May that this meeting would be moved and incorporated into the End of Year Picnic in June and that we continue to incorporate the September Member meeting into the Welcome Back Hike.

There will be a minimum of two (2) Board meetings this year per required By-Laws and any interim meetings can be held via email as needed.

**Mileage Reimbursement Rate** – It has been some time since there has been an increase in carpool fees and it was discussed that maybe it's time to increase the costs, especially due to wear/tear/maintenance when having to drive off-road (forest/dirt roads). President asked members to think about this and would poll Board members at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned in time to travel to Garland County Library for 6 PM Member meeting.

## MEMBERS MEETING

President, Joy Linker, called the meeting to order at Garland County Library and welcomed all to the meeting, thanking the outgoing Board Members for their service and introduced the officers for 2019.

**Vice President Report:** Vanessa Edgar is looking into reserving the HSV Coronado Center for this year's Christmas Party for December 12<sup>th</sup> and the Cortez Pavilion for the End of Year Picnic.

**Treasurer/Membership Report:** Linda Branim reported that as of 1/17/19 the club has \$4,504.46 in bank account and there are 295 members.

**Historian:** David Blankenship asked hikers if they have any photos from hikes they go on to send them both to him and Webmaster, Tom Calhoun.

**Hike Chair Report:** Bill Stanley reported that the annual Hike Leader Luncheon is scheduled for 1/21/19. We still need a hike leader for a couple of hikes in the spring (April overnight trip & May 9<sup>th</sup>). Bill plans to begin working on a draft of the Fall Schedule to send to hike leaders. Upcoming overnight trip is being led by David Blankenship in March to Ozark Highlands Trail/Richland Creek (this is a change from the original February dates listed on schedule.)

**Trail Maintenance Report:** Ralph Butler is ready & willing to hand over the TM Chair position! Last work day was Dec 20<sup>th</sup> from OT MM 171.0-173.5 with 7 participants: Ralph Butler, Mike Curran, Rick Ericson, Duane Heckelsberg, Joe Breashears, George McCoy and Mike Zeller. The January 17<sup>th</sup> work day was cancelled due to rain.

### **Program:**

Vanessa planned to go over Hike Etiquette, but found that there were only "seasoned hikers" present at the meeting.

Jim Gifford discussed trail stewardship and volunteer opportunities with emphasis on the upcoming Ouachita Challenge. He provided very interesting information on the Challenge itself, filled with interesting stories and good information on the funds raised by FoOT from this annual bike event. He encouraged all to consider volunteering.

Vanessa provided a fun quiz full of hiking trivia. It was not easy, but very entertaining. Everyone seemed to enjoy it and a few new facts were learned!

Respectfully submitted\*,

Debbie VanVeghel, Secretary

(\*Meeting notes provided by Linda Branim)