

Minutes – PVS ExCom Meeting – March 6, 2018

MEETING ATTENDEES: The meeting was held at the home of Cara and Bob Jablon. In addition to the hosts, in attendance were: Jan Marx, Dick Schwartzbard, Barry Lake, John Smith, Tom Tycz, Inge Lesjak, Nancy McKinley, Ray McKinley, Rosemary Schwartzbard, Kathy Lake, and Ellie Thayer. President Bob Jablon chaired the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Secretary, Ellie Thayer, submitted the minutes of the January 23, 2018 meeting electronically in advance of the meeting. There were no objections or comments. Bob declared the minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer, Dick Schwartzbard, submitted the Treasurer's Report at the meeting. The amount in the treasury is \$14,299.53. There was little activity since the last report.

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS REPORT: Membership chair, Dave Warthen, submitted the Membership Records Report electronically in advance of the meeting. Dave was not in attendance. There were no comments on the report.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS REPORT: The Events and Meetings co-chairs, Ray and Nancy McKinley, reported on upcoming activities.

Sunday, March 25, 2018 – monthly meeting, Rettig, Alexandria, VA at 2:00pm.

Sunday, April 15, 2018 – Eclipse concert, McKinleys, Alexandria, VA at 3:00pm

Tuesday, April 17, 2018 – annual meeting, Heitchue/Sinclair party room, Reston, VA at 7:30pm.

Tuesday, May 15, 2018 - monthly meeting, Jill Nelson, Chevy Chase, MD at 7:30pm.

Nancy reported that several outings are in the planning stage: a luncheon, likely on April 27, at Old Europe Restaurant on Wisconsin Avenue during its spargelfest; an Inge-organized 1½-hour hike around Lake Accotink in Fairfax County some time in May, to be followed by lunch; and a Rosemary-organized hike on Roosevelt Island in June, to be followed by lunch in Rosslyn.

With respect to the annual meeting, Nancy will provide a shrimp platter or the like and also ask Carolyn if she will provide the paper products.

SKI TRIP COMMITTEE REPORT: Ski Trip Committee chair, Rosemary Schwartzbard, reported that she had received and summarized the evaluations for the Snowmass and Big Sky 2018 ski trips. The trip leaders received glowing reviews (in spite of some challenging weather conditions). There was some grumbling about the Huntley Lodge at Big Sky being dated, lacking in adequate heat, and having poor service. John Smith suggested that the trip leaders research reviews before selecting accommodations. Nancy noted that Trip Advisor could provide reviews.

Rosemary briefly addressed the 2019 ski trips. The vendor for the Sun Valley trip is asking for a nonrefundable \$500.00 deposit due almost immediately. Rosemary queried whether the PVS treasury would front that payment rather than having the PVS leader, Inge, pay it from her own funds. There was no opposition and Nancy moved to have the treasury provide \$500 upfront, Ellie seconded the motion, and it passed by voice vote. Bob raised the possibility of leading a March trip to Steamboat Springs. With respect to local skiing, John reported that it had been a good season except for the last two weeks. However, he “promised” that the next two weeks look more promising and noted that mid-March will likely see the end of local skiing

opportunities. John said that four to eight PVSers routinely joined in local skiing. Bob, Rosemary, and others thanked John for his hard work and successful efforts.

TOOT REPORT: Ellie Thayer, the TOOT coordinator, reported that Jan had been the layout editor for the March TOOT, which issued six days ago. Dave will be the layout editor for the April TOOT.

OLD BUSINESS: There were two items of old business.

Revising and clarifying the guidelines given to hosts. At the last ExCom meeting, Bob had asked Carolyn and Nancy, with the participation or coordination of Sue Lyon, to present a proposal to ExCom. Bob reported on their behalf that the proposal would be presented at the next ExCom meeting.

Attracting new members: The group continued its discussion on ways to attract new members. Bob stated that people join a club when a club offers benefits to its members. In a statement that everyone agreed with, he posited that the great benefit PVS provides is its people. He offered two concrete suggestions, i.e., lead trips to ski areas that are attractive to younger skiers where, for example, there is live music and good restaurants, and where the resort offers child-friendly ski programs. Others wondered whether or not the club's focus should be on young families with children. Rosemary remarked that we should sell ourselves as a boutique ski club with a specific social culture and look to the 50+ demographic of skiers. The idea of treating John's local skiing program like a "meet-up" generated enthusiasm. Nancy offered to assist John next season in expanding the program's outreach. The discussion was lively with many ideas put forth.

NEW BUSINESS: There were two items of new business.

Turning associate membership into full membership: Bob noted that many of our out-of-town associate members join us on ski trips and make the club stronger. One associate member at Snowmass observed to Bob that, as such, she could not vote for club officers. Wide-ranging discussion followed including: weighing the benefits and drawbacks of associate membership versus active membership; the historical reasons for requiring some attendance at local meetings and events; whether this was a problem not in need of a solution; and the unfortunate choice of labels for the various memberships (as opposed to, for example, resident members and nonresident members). However, the discussion nearly always returned to the necessity of changing the by-laws in order to effect much change in the policy. There was not a critical mass advocating starting that process at this juncture.

Ellie wondered if it would be beneficial to print the membership fee schedule, of which most of us were uncertain, either as a boilerplate sentence in Dave's monthly Membership Records Report or as an addendum to the by-laws. Those suggestions died on the vine for lack of interest.

Next ExCom meeting: It was decided that the next ExCom meeting would be telephonic on April 24, 2018 at 7:00pm and suggested that the May ExCom meeting be an in-person meeting to greet the newly elected ExCom members.

ADJOURNMENT: Bob declared the meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Ellie Thayer.