

National Rendezvous and Living History Foundation

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Muddy Run Park, Holtwood PA

September 28, 2007

10:00 am

Call to Order

Allen Benslay-Chair called to order the meeting of the NRLHF Board of Directors at 10:02 am on September 28, 2007.

Reminded everyone the meeting was being recorded.

Roll call- Was conducted by Secretary- Lisa Allred

Present

Allen Benslay
Larry Clark
Lisa Allred
Joe Crimmins
Wade Reynolds
Jerry Middendorf
Winston Roland
Bob Kellogg

A quorum is present.

Not present

Jim Badders
Thomas Fern
Jay Hando
Chuck Went
Addison Miller

Also in attendance

Parliamentarian – John Lammons

Adult and Youth Activities Director – Ruth Py

Delegates Elect

Cathy Schweingruber

Jennifer Beaty
Rob Kellogg
Jerry Heister

Approval of draft minutes from June 12, 2007 Phone Conference Call as corrected.

Motion – Joe Crimmins

Second – Lisa Allred

Unanimous Vote

The following was offered by Chairman Benslay:

Welcome everyone to the Annual Business meeting of the NRLHF.

Let me introduce the Board of Directors.

- Vice Chairman / Ethics Committee Chairman - Larry Clark
- Secretary / Publication Committee Chairwoman – Lisa Allred
- Treasurer / Finance Committee Chairman / Interim Office Manager – Joe Crimmins
- Strategic Planning Chairman / Jim Badders
- SEPR Delegate / Wade Reynolds
- NMLRA Representative / Jerry Middendorf
- NMLRA Representative / Winston Roland

The Board of Directors congratulates Cheryl “Bubbles” Gallagher and her great staff for a memorable EPR.

We have had a very interesting year. Since this Board was elected at the EPR in 2006 many things have changed. Let me point out some of the highlights:

- We have simplified pre-registered gate procedures. This has reduced the time waiting in line at the front gate.
- If you are pre-registered, you will receive a confirmation code by e-mail or by regular mail. This will reduce the time waiting in line at the front gate.
- We also raised the participant fee. This is the first raise since the foundation was established.
- As an offset to the fee increase we eliminated early setup fees for people that are pre-registered.
- We changed the voting procedures to accommodate the wishes of the campers.

- The business office has been relocated from Auburn WV to Jacksonville FL. Mr. Crimmins will elaborate on the office transition and the condition of the material received.
- The NRLHF quartermaster equipment was relocated from Auburn WV to Nunda NY. Larry Clark or Bob Kellogg will address the condition of the equipment and the items that are part of the inventory.
- We changed our Website to one that is more professional in content and appearance. Lisa Allred will explain these improvements.
- The Delegate/Boosway workbook have been updated and simplified. Lisa Allred is continuing to work on this project.
- The staff of the ONW was successful in securing a grant from the Ohio DNR.
- We partnered with Crosman Air Rifle Mfg. Co. Under this agreement, Crosman setup an exhibit and demonstration at the NEPR, which will be explained later.
- We are proud to announce that we had at least one officer at every NRLHF event this year.
- We now require advance permission to use the NRLHF NAME or LOGO.
- We have enforced the provision prohibiting the overlapping of Rendezvous.
- At each camp meeting we actively sought comments and suggestions on how we can continue to improve.
- We approved changes of our By-Laws to designate all Delegates as members of the NRLHF Board of Directors. We sent these changes to the NMLRA for ratification. At this time they have not been approved. Winston Roland will provide more information.

As you can see, much has been accomplished. But, we have a long way to go. With your help and support we can make the NRLHF bigger and better in the years to come.

Since you have allowed me a chance to speak I will give you the same opportunity.

Thank you – Allen Benslay”

Attendees Briefly Speak –

Mike Radke – Four out of five of the rendezvous he has attended have been better. The tension level has gone down and more positive things are being said.

Reports of the standing committees

Event Policies – Allen Benslay- No changes currently, but will have some changes for next season.

Adult and Youth Activities Director-Ruth Py-Commends all volunteers and wants to thank them for their help. Wants suggestions for next season. She also felt that all goals were met and every seminar was well attended.

Publications Committee – Lisa Allred –Will continue with Comprehensive gate book advertising for sutlers and will start a new program for the coming season covering corporate sponsorship. Delegate workbook is being changed and updates sent out. Redundancy is being eliminated. Elaborated on the workbook CD and its benefits. Minutes are posted to the website, so you can read the history of the Foundation.

Finance Committee – Joe Crimmins

Assets

WesBanco, Bridgeport WV	\$11,000.00		
Wachovia Bank, Jacksonville FL	<u>\$11,000.00</u>		
	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00	
Huntington Bank, Clarksburg, WV	\$9,043.00		
Wachovia Bank, Jacksonville, FL	<u>\$88,088.00</u>		
	\$97,131.00	\$97,131.00	
Field Accounts			
SEPR	closed		
COD	n/a		
ONW	closed		
NEPR	\$250.00		
MW	\$4,400.00		
EPR	<u>\$3,000.00</u>		
	\$7,650.00	\$7,650.00	
Cash	\$7,467.00	\$7,467.00	
Booshway Bucks	\$9,500.00	<u>\$9,500.00</u>	
		\$143,748.00	Total Cash Assets

Liabilities

Administration	\$6,603.00	
SEPR	\$0.00	
COD	\$0.00	
ONW	\$0.00	
NEPR	\$750.00	
MW		
EPR (estimated)	<u>\$35,000.00</u>	
	\$42,353.00	\$42,353.00
Net Worth		\$101,395.00

What have we accomplished thus far in 2007:

- We have stopped the flow of red ink!
- No one can write check to himself or herself - This includes the Clerk writing checks to the Booshway.
- Expense Report and Expense Report Policy were passed and are in effect.
- All financial accounts are in the process of being finalized through Wachovia Bank.
- We have simplified Gate cash handling procedures.
- Began paying vendors at events as opposed to mailing checks.

What remains to be done by the end of 2007:

- Forward NMLRA memberships to Friendship.
- Close out all events for 2007.
- Finish consolidation of financial accounts to Wachovia.
- Close out all field accounts for 2007.
- Develop a revised procedure for field accounts for 2008.
- Prepare year-end financial reports for the NRLHF.
- Continue search and recovery of monetary assets belonging to the NRLHF.
- Revise administrative costs allocation table.

Finally, there are significant problems with the way Booshway Bucks have been handled in the past. They have not been accounted for, and are an unfunded liability.

Winston Roland asked if the Booshway Bucks are worth keeping?

Joe Crimmins response: Although a liability, it is worth keeping the program. I'd like to see someone other than the Treasurer or Office Manager in charge of them. AKA -"Booshway Buck Banker".

Strategic Planning- Jim Badders – Absent, no report.

Break – 10:45 am

Reconvene- 11:00 am

Allen stated that there is a quorum. John Lammons reminded everyone that we were having an official meeting of the council of Delegates.
(Council of Delegates were encouraged by the Chairman to present Motions to the Board of Directors for action)

Ethics Committee- Larry Clark-We had two ethics complaints filed against Thomas Fern as a result of incidents at the Midwest Rendezvous. One was withdrawn. The other one is pending and further investigation has been put off until after the Eastern Primitive Rendezvous is over.

One ethics complaint against Larry Clark was investigated by the Chair and found not to be valid.

Larry reported on the matter of the two ethics complaints filed against Linda Blizard. These complaints were filed by Joe Crimmins. The first consists of 3 subparts, while the second has 2 component parts. The following is the results of my investigation:

- 1- After reviewing the evidence submitted, and evidence that I just stumbled across in my capacity as interim Quartermaster, I find that charges 1,2 and 3 are valid and should be acted upon immediately by the Board of Directors.
- 2- As evidenced by the photographs and statements provided by the Treasurer and substantiated by my investigations I also find these charges valid and the Board of Directors also should act them upon immediately.

I take no pleasure in this matter but I see no others course to be taken.
Larry Clark – Vice Chair, NRLHF – Ethics Chair, NRLHF

Winston Roland suggested that the Board handle the matter further in executive session. Joe Crimmins opposed this suggestion and asked that the Board handle this in public.

Discussion –

Joe spoke about the charges in general. These charges occurred before the time period of Linda's written contract, during the time period of Linda's written contract, and the time period subsequent to her written contract.

The foundation has been virtually torn apart and we had promised a year ago we would not sweep stuff under the carpet. We cannot let it appear that there is any impropriety by trying to keep things secretive. He recognizes the validity of Roland's statement but he feels this is a different situation.

The ethics chairperson finds reason to believe these charges to be true. These are not bold face allegations being laid out on the table. Linda had an opportunity to respond, but chose not to.

Discussion ensues on referring the matter to Executive Session. Roberts Rules of Order was read to aid in the decision about how to handle this matter.

Comments were made by Mike Radke, Dave Guy, John Lammons, Jay Forman, LuAnne Bell to make it public so there would be no wrong third party information handed out to all of the people that attend the Foundation events.

Wade Reynolds made a motion. The ethics issue should be dealt with at the end of old business so we can continue the meeting and finish it in a reasonable time frame. Larry Clark Seconded the motion. Joe Crimmins offered a friendly amendment to the motion, whereby the Board of Directors in Executive Session would deal with the matter at the end of Old Business. Wade Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

BUSINESS OFFICE TRANSITION COMMITTEE:

Joe- Despite promises to the contrary, the office transition was not conducted in an orderly manner. Office records were shipped out without boxes being marked as to contents. Dirt and animal by-products littered the shipping/storage boxes. Spider webs, feces, paw prints etc. Office equipment is dirty, broken, or missing. It is taking Joe many man-hours to clean up the mess before he can/will pass the items over to the office helpers to categorize. But, in spite of this, the office is up and running.

Larry-Quartermaster has received all quartermasters' items that they know of, plus some of the office records that should have gone to Joe in Florida.

DELEGATES REPORTS ON RENDEZVOUS-

SEPR 2008 – Allen Benslay – Budget done
SEPR 2009 – date changes may happen

COD 2008- Joe Crimmins – Ready- all items done

ONW 2008- Lisa Allred – Budget negotiations in process
ONW 2009 – in planning

MWPR 2008 –Arcola III. Jennifer Beaty reports that many things are in place and they expect to have a good event.

MWPR 2009- nothing to report

NEPR 2008- Larry Clark – Phil Ackerman will be Booshway. A date will be set soon

NEPR 2009- nothing to report

EPR 2008- David Guy – Stood up and spoke about his event. Work parties are happening monthly.

OLD BUSINESS-

Joe asked for an update on NRLHF's proposed changes to our By-Laws. Where does the NMLRA stand in terms of ratifying these changes?

This item, has been or will be, submitted to the NMLRA's attorney for review, and will be discussed at the December NMLRA meeting per Winston Roland.

NEPR – Prizes – Larry Clark - All prizes are accounted for.

Rendezvous scheduling was corrected. No Rendezvous will overlap.

Recess of the Council of Delegates – 12:27 until 2:00 PM
BOD break- 12:27

Board of Directors convened an Executive Session- 12:50pm

Roll call- Was conducted by Secretary- Lisa Allred

Present

Allen Benslay
Larry Clark
Lisa Allred
Joe Crimmins

Wade Reynolds
Jerry Middendorf
Winston Roland

Not present
Jim Badders

Also in attendance
Parliamentarian – John Lammons

Board of Directors returned from Executive Session. 1:55 PM

Call to order from recess of the Council of Delegates.
1:56

NEW BUSINESS-

Joe Crimmins, as the NRLHF's Legal Advisor, reported that the Board had reviewed the report of the Ethics Committee including the associated evidence, and concurred that ethics violations had occurred. While the Board members are not at liberty to discuss the details, the violations are significant in nature.

Joe added, that the Board then determined that discipline should be imposed. Following deliberations the Board by vote decided that Linda Blizzard is prohibited from attending future NRLHF events. Further, that she is prohibited from ever holding a position of trust with the NRLHF including positions involving money, records, and/or equipment.

Mrs. Blizzard will be informed of the Board's decision in writing. The campers will be informed of the Board's decision via a posting on the NRLHF website.

INSTALL NEW DELEGATES

Cathy Schweingruber – ONW
Jennifer Beaty- MW
Rob Kellogg-NEPR
Jerry Heister-EPR

All Delegates were congratulated on their decision to volunteer for the position. They were all challenged to support the NRLHF and assist their Booshways.

NEW BOARD ELECTION:

Chairman- Position
 Lisa Allred – nominated Allen Benslay
 Larry Clark –seconded

No other nominations
Allen Benslay Elected by acclamation

Vice Chairman – Position
Wade Reynolds – nominated Larry Clark
Lisa Allred - Seconded
No other nominations
Larry Clark Elected by acclamation

Secretary – Position
Larry Clark - nominated Lisa Allred
Wade Reynolds – seconded
No other nominations
Lisa Allred Elected by acclamation

Treasurer- Position
Lisa Allred - nominated Joe Crimmins
Larry Clark –seconded
No other nominations
Joe Crimmins Elected by acclamation

Larry Clark- Rendezvous rules:
Larry made a motion that:
NRLHF will no longer provide feed or hay for horses out of NRLHF monies
unless so specified in a contract where the horses are providing a service such
as shuttle wagon.
Seconded by Joe Crimmins
Unanimous vote-Passed

Joe Crimmins said that; “day visitors” are allowed on rendezvous property only
during posted day visitor times. Joe made a motion to amend the rule to include:
the modern camp and parking lots.

Cathy Schweingruber seconded the motion.
Passed Unanimous vote

Joe Crimmins made a motion to amend the rule whereby pets are not permitted
on any rendezvous grounds/property. Owners of service animals need to be able
to show proof by tag or license if asked.
Joe’s motion would include the modern camp and parking lots.
Cathy Schweingruber seconded the motion.
Passed by Unanimous vote

NEPR – Larry Clark said we need to discuss making an adjustment to the
aggregate prizes awarded at the NEPR. Further investigation showed that we did

not give away any booshway bucks for the event as told previously. I would like to see Darylee and Bruce get \$50 each and call it done.

Lisa Allred made a motion to pay Darylee and Bruce fifty dollars each in booshway bucks.

Cathy Schweingruber seconded it.

Passed by Unanimous vote

Allen Benslay discharged all special committees and appointments with thanks.

Winston Roland made a motion to adjourn the meeting

Jerry Middendorf seconded

Passed by unanimous vote

Meeting adjourned 3:25

National Rendezvous and Living History Foundation

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Muddy Run Park, Holtwood PA

September 28, 2007

3:58 pm

Call to Order

Allen Benslay-Chair called to order the meeting of the NRLHF Board of Directors at 3:58pm am on September 28, 2007.

Reminded everyone the meeting was being recorded.

Roll call- Was conducted by Secretary- Lisa Allred

Present

Allen Benslay

Larry Clark

Lisa Allred

Joe Crimmins

Wade Reynolds

Jim Badders

Jerry Middendorf

Winston Roland

Board has quorum

Appointed Parliamentarian – John Lammons

Distinguished Visitors

NMLRA President – Winston Roland

Old Business:

AED- Need a volunteer to continue where Addison Miller left off with the procurement of a device. Rob Kellogg stood up and volunteered to proceed with the previously adopted AED Program.

Warehouse disposition – Rob Kellogg – working with Larry Clark with an ongoing inventory.

Items that need disposed or destroyed. Who needs to approve this or is it just common sense and we have the say as to what stays or what goes? No solution to question. It's old business next meeting.

Poll the board for salable items that we will not be keeping. No solution to question. It's old business next meeting.

New Business:

Make a position of "Booshway Bucks manager". This position would entail management and distribution of Booshway bucks.

Joe Crimmins made the motion. Larry Clark seconded. Passed - Unanimous vote.

The following items were discussed for future endeavors.

- Front gate registration- Register electronically.
- Assign medallion numbers
- Sort by last name
- Sort by medallion number

- Score events easier (can determine first, second, third)
- Electronic records of the event can be sent to the main computer to update the files on record. A realistic projected date on these issues was 2009.

Motion to assign medallion numbers at the gate made by Jim Badders. Larry Clark seconded. Passed -Unanimous vote.

More discussion on the following items.

1. Contact the individuals of events that have left the NMLRA or the NRLHF to open a dialog.
2. Follow up on the NRLHF membership program.
3. Establish a uniform voting policy.
4. Get more delegates/directors involved with workload.
5. Movement of equipment-
 - Have ample expenses placed into each budget
 - Have the first rendezvous pickup equipment from warehouse
 - Have the next rendezvous send someone to pick up the equipment on the last day. They would get reimbursed at \$.45 cents a mile plus expenses.
 - IF the person came at the beginning of the event, attended the event and then took the equipment, his mileage would be paid for.
6. Start working on plans for a scholarship program.
7. Place Fed/Ex address on the fliers and/or the website for each event.

All budgets need to be working for 2008

Event in Virginia at a sportsman show. Would someone be willing to go?

8. Continue to edit the information and catalog system in the workbook.

Allen mentioned items 1-8. Absolutely nothing was done with any of them.

Break 5:38

Reconvene – 5:51

Generic medallion –Discussion; Make a motion to establish a generic medallion. Shortage vs. salvage. Cut an “X” amount for each rendezvous. When those have been assigned if more are needed then give them a generic medallion for the time frame of the event. When the event is over, have the person turn it back in with their contact information. The foundation will then make a count, turn it in, have the rest of the medallions cut and sent out. This helps in several ways. Although we will have to pay to mail them, we will save in having too many left over medallions. The generic medallion once returned at the end of the rendezvous can be struck, and recycled. Joe made a motion to establish a Generic Medallion, Larry Clark seconded. Passed - Unanimous vote

Linda Blizzard - \$3000.00 owed to the NRLHF. Make a motion to give Joe Crimmins authority to speak with several attorneys about what we can do to determine if legal action would be warranted. Joe made the motion Larry Clark seconded. Passed - Unanimous vote

Motion to adjourn made by Larry Clark
Seconded by Jim Badders

Passed - Unanimous vote

Meeting adjourned 6:45