

**American Volkssport Association  
National Executive Council Meeting  
August 26, 2011**

**1. Call to Order:**

The regular meeting of the National Executive Council was called to order at 8:55 a.m. by President Heinz Johnson, at the Fairfield Inn & Suites, Schertz, TX.

**2. Introductions:**

**a. National Executive Council Members Present:**

Heinz Johnson (President), Marvin Stokes (Vice President), Bonnie Johnson (Secretary), Bob Morrison (Treasurer), Sam Tollett (Atlantic RD), Phyllis Olson (North Central RD), Doug Reynolds (Northeast RD), Sam Korff (Northwest RD), Holly Pelking,(Pacific RD), Mike Green (Rocky Mountain RD), Kenneth Miles (South Central RD), Dennis Michele (Southeast RD), Bill Hamilton (Southwest RD). Thirteen members were present. Kimberly Bradley (Mid America RD) was absent. A quorum was reached.

**b. Guests signed in:**

Ellen Ott, *Randolph Roadrunners, Texas*; Mary Quandt, *Randolph Roadrunners, Texas*; Joanne Forinash, *Randolph Roadrunners, Texas*; Charliene Hooker, *Fredericksburg AVA #001, Texas*; Priscilla Johnson, *Lone Star Walkers, Texas*.

**3. Approval of Agenda:**

Dennis Michele moved and Sam Tollett seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

**4. Consent Agenda:**

- a. **Approval of Minutes** -- Executive Council Meeting XVI, June 21, 2011.
- b. **Recognition of Donations** (attachment)
- c. **Acceptance of New & Reactivated Clubs** (attachment)
- d. **Declaration of Inactive Clubs** (attachment)

Motion made to approve the Consent Agenda by Bob Morrison and seconded by Dennis Michele. Motion carried.

**5. Audience Comments:**

No comments

**6. Reports of Officers:**

Due to this being the first meeting there are No Reports

- a. **President** - Heinz Johnson
- b. **Vice President** – Marvin Stokes
- c. **Secretary** – Bonnie Johnson
- d. **Treasurer** – Bob Morrison

**7. Report of Interim Executive Director:**

No report

**8. Reports of Standing Committees:**

No reports since this is the first meeting of NEC XVII and appointments have neither been recommended by the President or approved by the NEC.

- a. **Audit:** (Vacant)
- b. **Convention 2013:** (Vacant)
- c. **Convention 2015:** (Vacant)
- d. **Publicity:** (Vacant)
- e. **Standards & Evaluation:** (Vacant)
- f. **Bylaws:** (Vacant)

**9. Reports of Special Committees:**

No reports since this is the first meeting of NEC XVII and appointments have neither been recommended by the President, or approved by the NEC.

- a. **Awards and Recognition** (Vacant)
- b. **Nominating** (Vacant)
- c. **Special Events** (Vacant)
- d. **Training Development** (Vacant)
- e. **Youth Program** (Vacant)
- f. **AVA Structure Review** (Vacant)
- g. **IT** (Vacant)
- h. **Historian** (Vacant)

President Heinz Johnson recommended to the NEC the following individuals be appointed as Chairs/NEC Liaisons of AVA Standing or Special Committees.

***Standing Committee Recommendations:***

**Audit** - Dennis Michele, NEC Liaison  
**Convention 2013** – Marvin Stokes  
**Convention 2015** – Sam Tollett  
**Publicity** – Bob Morrison  
**Standards & Evaluation** – Dennis Michele  
**Bylaws** – Ken Miles

***Special Committee Recommendations:***

**Training Development** – Sam Korff  
**Youth Program** – Nancy Wittenburg; Sam Tollett, NEC Liaison  
**Historian** – Bill Hamilton, NEC Liaison  
**IT** – Holly Pelking

Motion to approve the Committee Chairs and Liaisons as recommended by the President was made by Bob Morrison and seconded by Marvin Stokes. Motion carried.

A recommendation by President Heinz Johnson for **Bill Hamilton as NEC liaison** to the **Historian/History Committee** was moved by Dennis Michele and seconded by Sam Tollett. Motion carried.

**10. Unfinished Business:**

a. Sam Tollett raised discussion about the NEC Handbook approval. The Handbook cannot be approved as it is currently being worked on and updated by Dennis Michele. New items need to be added and some items such as reimbursement expenses will be in discussion at the training to follow the meeting with possible changes to be made. Dennis Michele recommended NEC Handbook be Tabled and put on to New Business at the next meeting.

b. It was brought up that the list of recommendations from the Strategic Plan of the last NEC should be followed up on by the new NEC. Each new NEC member needs to have a chance to give their input on the recommendations.

It was moved by Bob Morrison and seconded by Dennis Michele to Table the Strategic Plan recommendations until the next NEC meeting. Motion carried.

**11. New Business:**

a. I move to add \$2000 to the legal budget which would include the fee to be used for trademark protection and registered trademark infringement.

Motion made by Bob Morrison and seconded by Bill Hamilton. Motion carried.

b. I move that the NEC approve capital expenses of \$5000 to upgrade the Headquarters Office.

Motion made by Bob Morrison and seconded by Sam Korff.

A friendly amendment added: I move the office update be increased to \$8000. This would provide sufficient funds for office furniture, concentrating on the entry office and other much needed updates.

Motion made by Dennis Michele and seconded by Bob Morrison. Motion carried.

Return to original motion: It was moved that the NEC approve capital expenses of \$8000 to upgrade the Headquarters Office.

Motion made by Bob Morrison and seconded by Marvin Stokes. Motion carried.

c. I move to approve the 2012 Starting Point charge of \$20, reduce the club discount to 10% and reduce the white space in the printing. This should lead to a reduction of cost, with fewer pages to keep from raising the price of the book.

Motion made by Bob Morrison and seconded by Dennis Michele. Motion carried.

d. I move the NEC approve the appointment of representatives from the AVA to the IVV meetings in October 2011.

Motion made by Bob Morrison and seconded by Bill Hamilton.

Sam Tollett requested a friendly amendment should be made to include the names of the parties in the delegation to the IVV meeting.

Friendly amendment to the amendment: I move we approve the appointment of David Johnston as Chief of Delegation along with Dale Boone, Kevin Ross and Claudia Johnston as representatives for the AVA as the IVV Delegation for the meetings in Antalya, Turkey.

Motion made by Dennis Michele and seconded by Bob Morrison. Motion carried.

Return to original motion (d): I move that the NEC approve the appointment of representatives from the AVA to the IVV meeting to include the names of the IVV Delegation of David Johnston, Chief of Delegation and representatives Claudia Johnston, Kevin Ross and Dale Boone.

Motion made by Bob Morrison and seconded by Bill Hamilton. Motion carried.

e. I move the NEC shall direct the Technology Committee, in conjunction with HQ staff, to develop a pass-word protected section of the AVA website. The pass-word technology that is used should allow for user maintenance and require minimal maintenance by staff. The Technology Committee is directed to provide periodic progress reports to the NEC and plan for a proposal for the implementation at the January 2012 NEC meeting.

Motion made by Bob Morrison and seconded by Sam Tollett.

Friendly amendment proposed: I move that it be added to end of first motion: The committee shall provide a proposal for implementation by January 1, 2012 of their committee findings for approval, by an agenda item, at a future NEC meeting.

Motion made by Dennis Michele and seconded by Bob Morrison. Motion carried.

Return to original motion (e): I move the NEC shall direct the Technology Committee, in conjunction with HQ staff, to develop a pass-word protected section of the AVA website. The pass-word technology that is used should allow for user maintenance and require minimal maintenance by staff. The Technology Committee is directed to provide periodic progress reports to the NEC and plan for a proposal for the implementation at the January 2012 NEC meeting. The Technology Committee shall provide a proposal for implementation by January 1, 2012 of their committee findings for approval, by an agenda item, at a future NEC meeting.

Motion made by Bob Morrison and seconded by Bill Hamilton. Motion carried. (2 members opposed)

f. I move that the NEC directs the Publicity Committee to study the concept of creating a speakers bureau, create materials for their use and then report to the NEC at the next meeting for future NEC approval.

Motion made by Bob Morrison and seconded by Dennis Michele. Motion carried.

RECESS at 10:44 AM

MEETING RECONVENED at 12:10 PM

g. I move that we approve the NEC Handbook dated 12/8/10 as discussed, with permission for staff to do clerical edits at later dates.

Motion made by Bob Morrison and seconded by Sam Korff. Motion carried.

h. I move that \$250 be allowed to the Trailmaster's Certification Program to design awards. Motion made by Sam Tollett and seconded by Sam Korff.

Friendly amendment: I move we add into the 2011 and 2012 budget accordingly, \$250 for each year. Motion made by Bob Morrison and seconded by Sam Tollett. It was noted by Sam Korff it is for development only at this time and specified the need of satisfaction from the NEC. Bob Morrison withdrew the motion.

A friendly amendment proposed: I move to add to the motion—with the NEC having final approval. Motion made by Dennis Michele and seconded by Bill Hamilton. Motion carried

Returning to original motion: I move \$250 be allowed to the Trail Master Certification Program to design awards, with the NEC having final approval. Motion by Dennis Michele and seconded by Sam Korff. Motion carried.

i. Motion to approve the Position Statement of Hiring a Marketing Director per the EC Committee. Statement which will be sent to all the clubs. The statement reads:

The National Executive Council (NEC) has decided to hire a Director of Marketing to implement our vision statement that we are the Premier Walking Association of America. In this regard, the NEC has determined that the Interim Executive Director be designated as the Acting Executive Director. Further, the hiring of an Executive Director will be considered at a later date. The Executive Council, in concert with the acting Executive Director, will develop a job description of the Marketing Director. The Executive Committee, with approval of the NEC, will hire the Director of Marketing. It is expected that the new Director of Marketing will be on board no later than February 28, 2012.

Motion made by Phyllis Olson and seconded by Sam Korff. Motion carried unanimously.

**Comments:**

Sam Tollett commented that when a change to policy is made, someone needs to go in and change the affected provision as soon as possible. It was noted the minutes had come in late and changes can't be made until receipt of the approved minutes. When the final draft minutes are received at HQ, changes are then made by headquarters to the manual.

Timelines for the Minutes: The Secretary has 14 days from the meeting date to send out the draft minutes to the NEC to review for corrections. The NEC then has 7 days to respond and return to the Secretary, any corrections or additions. Corrections are to be sent electronically, being addressed to all NEC members to eliminate excessive emails. Each NEC member can then either dispute or concur the results. The Secretary then has 7 days to make any corrections and send it back out as a final draft to the NEC. Within 2 to 3 days or as soon as the majority responds to approve the finalization of the minutes, the minutes will then be sent to Candy to be put on the website.

Sam Korff requested semi-annual reports be sent out with a breakdown of year around events and traditional event statistics and to include each region. Opportunity to help out or advise any troubled clubs.

Bob Morrison introduced a book "Measures of Success: What Remarkable Associations do that Others Don't" put out by ASAE and the Center of Associate Leadership and recommended reading.

12. **Audience Comments:** Eliminated

13. **Executive Council Comments:** Eliminated

14. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, Dennis Michele moved and Mike Green seconded to adjourn.

The motion carried. Meeting adjourned 2:42 PM.



Bonnie Johnson  
AVA Secretary

### AVA DONATIONS

Beginning 2/03/2011

Date	Donor	State	Unrestricted	Restricted	In-Kind	Type
2/3/11	Vartanian, Nancy	WA	100.00			
2/3/11	Mary McMonegal	CA	25.00			
2/11/11	Leonard, Ross	WA	30.00			
2/11/11	Kenneday, Teresa	NY	25.00			
2/17/11	Williams, Cheryl	VA	20.00			
2/23/11	Nagles, Frank	GA	10.00			
2/23/11	Thomas, Andrew	TX	25.00			
3/1/11	Readlnger, Sharon	IA	100.00			
3/1/11	Ross, Sally	OR	75.00			
3/1/11	White, Jean	OR	50.00			
3/2/11	Lumbert, Robert	MD	57.00			
3/8/11	Eby, Patricia	PA	10.00			
3/10/11	Sova, Susan	SC	25.00			
3/10/11	Roehl, Frank	MN	5.00			
3/17/11	Madsen, David	WA	25.00			
4/18/11	Johnson, Heinz	TX			6,513.74	Reimbursed Supplies and Services
4/18/11	Conyers, Glen	MO			1,794.17	Reimbursed Supplies and Services
4/18/11	Michele, Dennis	NC			81.32	Reimbursed Supplies and Services
4/18/11	Curt, Myron	WA			66.22	Reimbursed Supplies and Services
4/18/11	Johnson, Bonnie	MN			416.98	Reimbursed Supplies and Services
4/18/11	Tollett, Sam	VA			690.42	Reimbursed Supplies and Services
4/18/11	Wayne Holloway	CA			735.35	Reimbursed Supplies and Services
5/13/11	Glen Conyers	SC			431.76	Reimbursed Supplies and Services
5/13/11	Dennis Michele	SE			548.99	Reimbursed Supplies and Services
5/1/11	Michael Shay	TX	25.00			
5/1/11	Susan Harrison	TX	25.00			
5/18/11	Linda Kiones	NH	25.00			
6/14/11	Lester Clutter	OK	50.00			
6/27/11	Randolph Roadrunners	TX	350.00			
6/27/11	Lois Head	MN		50.00		
7/13/11	Northern Virginia Volksmarcher	VA	500.00			
7/25/11	Northern Virginia Volksmarcher	VA	200.00			
7/27/11	Jo Anne Tobin	DE	50.00			
			1,807.00	50.00	11,278.93	

**American Volkssport Association  
Acceptance of New, Reactivated, and Inactivated Clubs**

**August 2011 Meeting**

**New**

11AVA0959	Migration Miles Volkssporting Club	12/28/10
05AVA0960	Great Lakes Seaway Trail Volkssports Assoc.	04/22/11
11AVA0961	Rio Grande Valley Walkers	04/26/11
10AVA0962	The Upstate Pathfinders	05/11/11

**Reactivated**

None

**Inactive**

10AVA0280	- McIntosh Trail Walkers	02/28/11
05AVA0902	- Travelwalk	02/20/11
03AVA0927	- Great Lakes Amblers	03/01/11
10AVA0950	- Ft. Bragg MWR Sports & Fitness	06/14/11
09AVA0962	- Florissant Valley Walkers	06/30/11
04AVA0934	- Rambling Rockets of Westside Iowa	07/01/11
06AVA0493	- Ponderosa Pathfinders	07/04/11
03AVA0954	- Sportverein Peoria	07/13/11
11AVA0959	- Migration Miles Volkssporting Club	07/13/11
10AVA0889	- Trail of Tears Club	08/01/11
06AVA0928	- Ellensburg Wind Walkers	08/01/11