

**American Volkssport Association
National Executive Council Meeting
March 12-13, 2010**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the National Executive Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the President Curt Myron at the Clarion Hotel, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

2. **INTRODUCTIONS:**

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

Curt Myron (President), Wayne Holloway (Vice President), Pat Lucero (Secretary), Marvin Stokes (Treasurer), Kimberly Bradley (Mid America RD), Phil Hait (Northeast RD), Bonnie Johnson (North Central RD), Sam Korff (Northwest RD), Bruce McDevitt (Pacific RD), Mike Nelson (Rocky Mountain RD), Dennis Michele (Southeast RD), Glen Conyers (South Central RD), Heinz Johnson (Southwest RD). Sam Tollett (Atlantic RD) was absent. Thirteen officers are present. We do have a quorum.

b. **Guests Signed In:**

Doris Conyers, *Dogwood Trailblazers, Missouri*; Priscilla Johnson, *Lone Star Walkers, Texas*; Grace Holloway, *Placer Pacers, California*; Betsy McDevitt, *Placer Pacers & Tahoe Trail Trekkers, California*; Phil Jones, *Sierra Gold Striders, California*; Dave Olszyk, *Extreme Volkssport Adventures, Washington*; Tom Baltes, *Double Eagle Hike & Bike Club, New Mexico*; Mary Seagrove, *Amigo Amblers, Texas*.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

The consent agenda was approved as corrected.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

a. **Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the November 12-13, 2009 meeting were approved as corrected.**

b. **Recognition of Donations: See attached report.**

There have been donations in the amounts of \$1,285.00 Unrestricted, \$50.00 Restricted, and \$1,727.17 In-Kind.

c & d. **Acceptance of New and Reactivated Clubs**

New		
06AVA-0951	Volkssport USA	01/25/10
Reactivated		
None		
Inactive		
08AVA-0597	Upper Rio Grande Mountain Walkers	10/27/09
07AVA-0912	SLO Soles	01/05/10
02AVA-0096	Baloney Stompers	01/06/10
09AVA-0819	Arkansas Octoberfest Volksmarsch	01/07/10
07AVA-0943	Angels Volkssport Club	01/11/10
11AVA-0066	Global – HQ AFSVA/SVPAR	01/21/10
10AVA-0684	Roswell Striders	01/21/10

5. AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

6. REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

a. - Curt Myron

1). FOCUS ON GROWTH.

a) **AVA Clubs.** AVA avoided the loss of a delegate to the 2010 IVV Congress, as our club count did not dip below 301.

b) **Participation Report. See attached report.** Participation decreased 11% in 2008 compared to 2007 after a slight increase the previous year.

c) **Insurance for Volkssport events.** Curt clarified the requirements of our insurance coverage.

d) **AVA Clubs in Schools.** We still need local volunteers and a person to assume the role of a national coordinator of AVA information for the Clubs in Schools project.

e) **Sales Committee.** At our last meeting, I proposed the formation of a committee to review AVA sales policy, evaluate products and search for new items to offer to our clubs and walkers. Please help me find a volunteer to lead this task.

f). **Starting Point Sales.**

I MOVE THAT AVA PRODUCE 200 COPIES OF THE 2010 STARTING POINT ON CDs AND CONSIGN A PORTION OF THEM TO NEC MEMBERS FOR TEST SALES. MOTION MADE BY CURT MYRON. MOTION CARRIED.

2). ACTIVITIES.

a) **Representing AVA outside the country.** I have asked our Treasurer, Marvin Stokes, to represent AVA at the 2010 CVF Convention in Nova Scotia, Canada. **Partners and Sponsors.** I am currently (February 7th) negotiating with Weight Watchers, who seek a partner organization to organize and conduct walking events with them across the United States. The time deadline has been extremely short, but the opportunity is well worth the effort. AVA has a capable and active committee chair in Chuck Head. Please forward any ideas or suggestions to Chuck. Curt sent a letter to all clubs asking who would be able to put on an event June 6th. He got 66 positive responses in 29 states but it didn't work out.

b) **Renewal of TAW contract.** This contract expires in November 2010 I need a volunteer to complete this task. I will help.

c) **Appointment of Publicity Chair.** On February 18, I appointed Joan Lampart as Chair, AVA Publicity Committee. Joan brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this function.

I MOVE THAT JOAN LAMPART BE APPROVED AS CHAIR OF THE AVA PUBLICITY COMMITTEE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS NEC TERM. MOTION MADE BY CURT MYRON. MOTION CARRIED.

d) **Development of Policy for AVA Conventions.**

I MOVE THAT NEC APPOINT A WORKING GROUP TO DRAFT POLICY FOR AVA CONVENTIONS AND SUBMIT THAT DRAFT TO NEC FOR THE JUNE 2010 CONFERENCE CALL MEETING. MOTION MADE BY CURT MYRON. MOTION CARRIED.

3). IVV NEWS

a). 2010 IVV Congress of Delegates.

1) As of the date of this report, AVA has not received any written motions submitted for the 2010 IVV Congress of Delegates. There is some interest in Europe to be able to get the YRE stamps more frequently (monthly, quarterly, etc.).

2) There is a proposal to form three Continental Associations (Europe, Asia and the rest). - Our association - Americas and Oceania would include Canada, US, and Brazil as well as Australia and New Zealand.

b). Guam. In our last meeting, you authorized me to protest the authorization of a volkssport organization in Guam by JVA and set a deadline of January 31, 2010 for JVA to respond. I did so and received in response a letter dated January 21, 2010 from the Mitsumasa Miyashita, President, Japan Volkssport Association. In the letter Mr. Miyashita proclaims that "JVA has no authority to sanction that the GWA is one of member clubs of JVA and that JVA has no special relation with the GWA anymore." Mr. Miyashita also stated that he has tried to contact the Guam association numerous times without response. The Guam Walking Association has not responded to AVA either. I intend to acknowledge and thank the Japan Volkssport Association for their actions. However, recommend that AVA continue to monitor whether Guam holds volkssport events as it is possible that they may create their own stamps or appeal to the IVV Presidium.

b. Vice President - Wayne Holloway

1) Recommendations:

- a) NEC members become familiar with the AVA Policy Manual and the NEC Handbook.
- b) NEC members work cooperatively in furthering the goals of the Association.
- c) NEC members and committees establish attainable and measurable performance goals and report progress at future meetings.

2) Sunshine Fund

It is a duty of the Vice President to "Administer a Sunshine Fund for cards and gifts appropriate for AVA Headquarters' staff and NEC members' remembrances. Prepares a report accounting for monies collected and expended. Report is submitted to the AVA President."

- a) There is \$280.00 in the Sunshine Fund. It appears that everyone has anted up.
- b) Purchased three "get well" cards for total of \$8.34 (invoice not yet submitted).
- c) Mailed two tacky "get well" cards to Jackie using stamps previously invoiced to administration.
- d) Headquarters Staff purchased silk flowers for Jackie (invoice not yet received).
- e) The Sunshine Fund account monies are being administered by the Financial Director.

c. Secretary - Pat Lucero

- a) Minutes are up to date.

d. Treasurer - Marvin Stokes

We are blessed with a Volunteer Board that cares and a competent management team in the Executive Director and Financial Director at Headquarters. Our participation income is down, our number of clubs stands at 298, and the number of awards issued each month is down. Our expenses however are not going down. It is particularly

difficult with all of us and our clubs spread throughout the nation to influence income, however; our best strategy at this point is controlling expenses while looking for new ways to energize our organization, thus bringing in needed income.

Make no mistake, AVA is a business and must be run like a business meaning we cannot give everything away, we must charge reasonable fees for our services to clubs and volkssporters. I would like to ask all of you to review our budget narrative, become familiar with what is included in each line item, and refer to it frequently, by doing this you will understand how closely we cut it sometimes to provide services and supplies, and gain a broader picture of how AVA works internally. We must also plan for contingencies. Our investment reserve must be maintained as fall back, and not used until necessary, and with careful planning in the event that our income cannot sustain our fixed and needed variable expenses. In a worst case scenario, this portfolio would keep us afloat, according to our Financial Director, for about 2 years, giving us time to restructure.

Meeting recessed until Saturday morning at 8:00 am

See Budget Summary (2002 through 2008-09), Budget Narrative and Income Statement for 2009/2010

MARVIN STOKES MOVED THAT WE APPROVE THE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE FY2009-2010 BUDGET. MOTION CARRIED.

7. REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - Curt Myron for Jackie Wilson

Jackie announced she will be retiring this year - August 31, 2010.

Jackie said she had received a letter from the Heartland Walkers with an offer to host the 2013 AVA Biennial Convention in the Tri-City Area of Grand Island, Kearney, and Hastings, Nebraska.

- a. While Jackie is out of the office, Heinz Johnson agreed to be our backup signer for checks and is approving bills and signing checks for Candy.
- b. Electronic after action reports. Regional Directors, please remind your clubs that electronic submission of after action reports was effective January 1, 2010. The first year-round/seasonal after action reports come due in April, following the end of the first calendar quarter. For traditional events, coupons for traditional events should be sent in to HQ with the stamp. Clubs must write the event number and their club number on coupons and drop them in the envelope with the stamp. For year-round/seasonal events, clubs must file the report electronically, but for financial credit, they should write the event number and their club number on each coupon and send them to AVA HQ. Clubs may send coupons on a less frequent basis, but financial credit can't be given until we receive the coupons.
- c. The TAW contract expires November, 2010. The current contract calls for negotiation for a new contract in time for the new contract to be in place at least 60 days prior to the termination. However, we need volunteers from the NEC to oversee the process.
- d. Starting Point. Here is a summary of Starting Point sales since 2004. The decline in purchase books is very clear, as is the increase in the number of pages and the increased cost to AVA.

Edition	# Ordered	# Pages	Print Cost	Cost/ Book	Shipped to clubs	Sales Price	Club Price	# Left Over
2004	3,000	384	\$13,275	\$4.43	1456	\$15.00	\$12.00	244
2005	3,000	600	\$24,012	\$8.00	1610	\$15.00	\$12.00	310
2006	3,000	576	\$23,737	\$7.91	1364	\$15.00	\$12.00	596
2007	2,500	648	\$23,118	\$9.25	1324	\$15.00	\$12.00	522
2008	2,500	648	\$23,395	\$9.36	1410	\$17.00	\$13.60	554
2009	2,500	816	\$25,687	\$10.27	1054	\$17.00	\$13.60	649
2010	2,000	848	\$23,249	\$11.62	891	\$17.50	\$14.00	682

The second table shows the impact upon net income. The bottom line is that with the increasing size of the Starting Point and the decreased sales, our costs have tripled in seven years, while our income is reduced by two-thirds in the same period.

There was discussion about the declining sales.

On the average, AVA's net income has decreased about \$4,000 per year. At that rate, AVA will begin operating at a loss in three years. Price increases will only partially solve the problem as increases also tend to reduce sales.

Edition	A. Income From Club Sales	B. Income From Other Sales	C. (A + B) Total Income	D. No. of Copies Unsold	E. Cost Per Book	F. (D X E) Value Of Copies Unsold	G. (C-F) Net Income
2004	\$17,472.00	\$19,500.00	\$36,972.00	244	\$4.43	\$1,080.92	\$ 35,891.08
2005	\$19,320.00	\$16,200.00	\$35,520.00	310	\$8.00	\$2,480.00	\$ 33,040.00
2006	\$16,368.00	\$15,600.00	\$31,968.00	596	\$7.91	\$4,714.36	\$ 27,253.64
2007	\$15,888.00	\$ 9,810.00	\$25,698.00	522	\$9.25	\$4,828.50	\$ 20,869.50
2008	\$19,176.00	\$ 9,112.00	\$28,288.00	554	\$9.36	\$5,185.44	\$ 23,102.56
2009	\$14,334.40	\$13,549.00	\$27,883.40	649	\$10.27	\$6,665.23	\$ 21,218.17
2010	\$12,474.00	\$ 7,472.50	\$19,946.50	682	\$11.62	\$7,924.84	\$ 12,021.66

e. Executive Director. Curt brought the situation with Jackie Wilson and her illness up. She is nearly out of leave and will soon be on leave without pay. **Discussion revealed that the unanimous feeling of the council was that her full salary should continue until her retirement.** (Benefits will continue without pay as long as there is no leave without pay.)

DENNIS MICHELE MOVED THAT IT IS THE UNANIMOUS POSITION OF THE NEC THAT JACKIE WILSON'S SALARY WILL CONTINUE, WITHOUT LOSS DUE TO HER MEDICAL CIRCUMSTANCES, UNTIL THE TIME OF HER RETIREMENT. HEINZ JOHNSON SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

e. Curt Myron gave an overview of the hiring process for a new Executive Director.

NEW BUSINESS: (NEC approved motion to consider two items 11b and 11c of New Business immediately out of order due to travel requirements for the presenter. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY).

11b. Add a new event type of "Hike" to ESR and AVA Language

SAM KORFF: I MOVE THAT A NEW EVENT TYPE OF "HIKE" BE ADDED TO THE ESR AND ASSOCIATION LANGUAGE.

Submitted by: David Olszyk, President-Extreme Volkssport Adventures (AVA 937)

After discussion, the MOTION FAILED.

11c. Name change for American Volkssport Association

SAM KORFF - I MOVE THAT THE NAME OF OUR ORGANIZATION BE CHANGED FROM AMERICAN VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION TO AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF POPULAR SPORTS.

Submitted by: David Olszyk, President - Extreme Volkssport Adventures (AVA 937)

After discussion the MOTION FAILED.

MOTION presented by Sam Korff, amended by Dennis Michele: I MOVE THAT WE TASK THE MARKETING COMMITTEE TO ADD A TAG LINE TO AVA MARKETING. After discussion, the MOTION PASSED.

8. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

a. Audit - Fred Sheets, Chairman Dennis Michele

1) Accomplishments:

Audit report was presented at last NEC meeting.

2) Activities:

New members being recruited to replace one who left.

3) Concerns:

Chairman has not been officially approved for the next audit period.

4) Recommendations:

Approve Fred Sheets as Audit Chairman. Fred Sheets had been previously approved for the remainder of this term. (AVA President clarified that Audit Chair's appointment was for the full term of this NEC, ending June 30, 2011).

b. AVA Biennial Convention Committee

Report for the 2011 Convention - Susan Pinneke, Chair

1) Accomplishments:

- Web site updated. Dallas promotional brochure now on web site.
- Online "Meet me at the Barn" t-shirts available for purchase.
- Suzy Belle articles continue in The American Wanderer.
- Committee chairs working on filling out their committees.
- Preliminary sponsorship materials are developed.
- Submitted grant proposal to the Iowa Federal Recreational Trails Program.
- "Save the Date" cards distributed. Please let us know if you'd like some.

2) Activities:

- Working on the revised preliminary budget, we've set assumptions, just have to get it formatted and submitted. Have committee meeting 1/11/10, should have information necessary to finish this then.

- Working on convention awards and specialties. We now have preliminary graphics, and are continuing to work with our graphic artist on our ideas.
- Filling final committee chair positions. Committees are organizing and beginning work on their specialized tasks.
- Continuing to work on walk arrangements, as our new trail master assumes responsibility for this. We have a direction writing team and are working on start/finish set up plans and a trail marking system. Most routes are pretty much in place.
- We continue to work on getting sponsors for the various walks and preparing the presentation materials. We've contacted a specialist in fundraising, but our original meeting was cancelled due to weather. We have set up another meeting at the end of the month, weather permitting.
- General committee meeting 1/11/2010 to set up 2010 calendar.

c. Publicity –

Chair Joan Lampart wants to do the Publicity Contest at the Convention, which is judging photography, brochure, best website entries.

d. Standards and Evaluations - Heinz Johnson

Recommendations:

Region Directors were provided an instruction sheet to test the fillable forms.

9. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

a. Website - Curt Myron

Concerns:

- 1) The AVA Website is cluttered and needs complete overhaul.
- 2) There is no Committee Chairman and no Webmaster, but the previous Chair left us a document that describes what could be done to website. With minor modification, that document could become a basis for soliciting bids from website developers.

Recommendations:

The NEC reallocate a specific amount of unused funds already in the AVA budget to fund overhaul of the AVA Website with bids solicited by a formal Request for Proposal.

b. Awards and Recognition - Wayne Holloway

Recommendations:

Region Directors remind clubs to honor their workers, that nominations for awards are due to them not later than November 1, 2010, and not to use nicknames or name abbreviations of nominees on recommendations.

c. Bylaws - Dennis Michele, Chair

The committee has received one proposed bylaw change to review.

d. History - David Toth, Chair, Curt Myron, Liaison

1) Recommendations:

- a) Keep those cards and letters coming.
- b) Tender the appreciation of the History Committee to those who have contributed articles and bios.
- c) Remind clubs to send in volkssport related newspaper articles.

e. Marketing - Becky Forsythe, Chair

1) Recommendations:

It is recommended that key committee chairmen be invited to attend NEC meetings. It is understood that these committee heads will not be reimbursed for attendance. Keeping enthusiasm high and having first hand knowledge of AVA strategic direction are critical for decision making and continuity.

2) Concerns:

- a) The most cost effective way for the AVA to grow exponentially is for walkers to bring friends to walks. What would make this an appealing activity for people that enjoy volkssporting?
- b) The committee chairman has been working on the "official" display for the new display boards. It is a big job for one person.
- c) There is outdated information about the AVA being distributed to the general public through old, still in print walking books. This should be reported to the marketing committee or other designated individual so it can be updated. The most recent found is a book found in a new hiking books of Portland section at Powell's. Ten years ago someone from a southern Oregon club took the best of Portland Volkssport Clubs routes and compiled them in a Falcon Guide book about walking Portland.
- d) The committee needs members. At the present time there is one marketing committee member besides the chairman.

f. Nominating -Pat Lucero, Liaison

1) Recommendations:

Since the next meeting isn't until October 2010, I would like to at least get a Chair for the committee chosen soon.

g. Office Systems Mike Nelson

1) Activities:

- a) A new CISCO Router has been purchased and installed.
- b) Two new computers have been purchased and installed.
- c) Memory upgrades have been purchased for all office computers.
- d) D. MS Office 2007 has been ordered for all office computers.

2) Concerns:

We have been experiencing many problems with the on line store. Our new IT firm is researching the source of these problems.

h. & k. -Partnership/Sponsorship Committee

Chuck Head, Chair, Sponsorship – Partnership Committee

Sponsorship

- a) FootMatters asked for a delay in our negotiations for a licensing agreement to give attention to other matters.
- b) GoMotion is a potential sponsor that sells wearable safety lights. They responded by email February the 8th that they are still interested and were working out the details.
- c) Bob's Red Mill Natural Foods. They are exploring the idea of purchasing a ½ page ad in "The American Wanderer" to get started and perhaps share web site links later on.
- d) Weight Watchers.
- e) Rodale, Inc. This organization has a client who is interested in reaching out. We are in contact with one another.

Partnership

- a) AARP (National) – AVA signed a partnership agreement with AARP in April 2009. One feature of the agreement was to complete a link between our websites for AARP members who complete AARP's Getting Fit on Route 66 walking program. AARP would set up a link to AVA and AVA designed the AVA side to offer AARP members a free New Walker packet and a 20% discount from the first annual fee to become a Volkssport Associate. Curt contacted AARP in October with the completed AVA side of the link, and contacted them again in January when we had no response. As of February 1, AARP has still not responded to us.
- b) AHA (American Heart Association) –They are very eager to team up with us.

i. Special Events Committee, Phil Hait, Chair

Phil Hait passed out a chart for the period July 1-Dec. 31, 2009 showing Books Sold, Books Complete, and cumulative figures, \$ to AVA this period and cumulative. These figures were taken from the reports submitted by the program chairs.

See attached Special Event Programs Book Sales and Completions

The proposals for this meeting, to be started Jan. 1, 2011, are:

- 1) **Grist Mills.** Participate in 12 events that pass by Grist Mills. **Phil Hait moved to approve the Grist Mills program. Motion passed.**
- 2) **Baseball Walks** - College or Professional (not Little League and community parks) up to and including major leagues. Complete 18 events that pass a baseball stadium. **Phil Hait moved to approve the Baseball Walks program. Motion passed.**
- 3) **Public Libraries** - Not to include anything that would conflict with the Carnegie or World Wide Library programs. Public Libraries are defined as any publicly funded (town, city, county, or state) general lending library. Participate in 25 events that pass a library. **Phil Hait moved to approve the Public Libraries program. Motion failed.**
- 4) **Feats of Imagination** - Scientific wonders of discovery, invention, and innovation is the theme for this proposal. Do 20 walks to complete this challenge. **Phil Hait moved to approve the Feats of Imagination program. Motion failed.**
- 5) **Alpine Lakes Challenge** a body of water that cannot be reached by car and would have no motorized watercraft. Participate in 25 events that go by an alpine lake. **Phil Hait moved to approve the Alpine Lakes Challenge. Motion failed.**
- 6) **Walking America's Trails** At least 50% of route must be on a trail listed in American Long Distance Trails and includes State and National trails. Participate in 14 events that are on different trails. **Phil Hait moved to approve the Walking America's Trails program. Motion passed.**
- 7) **America's Bakeries** Participate in 20 events that pass a local bakery. (Chain bakeries such as Krispy Kreme or Panera Bread are not included.) **Phil Hait moved to approve the America's Bakeries program. Motion failed.**
- 8) **Playground Walks** Any sanctioned event route that passes through or next to a public playground can count. Participants must walk 30 AVA events. **Phil Hait moved to approve the Playground Walks program. Motion failed.**
- 9) **Americana Handicrafts & Fabric Arts** The purpose is to increase walkers' cultural or historical awareness of the wide variety of handmade American craft

items. Participate in 25 events.-**Phil Hait moved that the Americana Handicrafts & Fabric Arts program be approved. Motion failed.**

10) Surgeon General -Go by medical facilities such as: hospitals, medical clinics, dentist, optometrist, or veterinarian's offices. Do 20 walks. **Phil Hait moved that the proposal Surgeon General be approved. Motion failed.**

j. Special Funds Development - Sam Korff for Jackie Wilson.

a) This S.N.O.B. program will function as a fund raiser for the AVA. All aspects of the program will be handled by staff at the National Headquarters. Finances will be tracked by the AVA Accountant.

b) Participants will collect the special stamps from Regional Directors, National Officers and the AVA Executive Director. Only stamps that have the special center slug denoting the NEC member at the event will qualify. There are 15 of these special stamps. Once all are collected, the book will be sent to the National Headquarters and the participants will receive a S.N.O.B. award as depicted on the front of the book.

c) Cost of the book is \$10.00. This will include the award when the book is submitted.

d) Recommended start date is July 1, 2010, to coincide with the AVA fiscal year. There is no end date.

e) Books will be available through the AVA online store or by request.

f) Redemption will be through mailing completed book to: AVA

Sam Korff moved to approve the S.N.O.B. program without the signature block in the book. Motion passed.

I. Strategic Planning - Marvin Stokes

Recommendations:

Review will be continuing. No recommendation at this time since the current Plan is viable and does not need updating.

m. Training Development, Sam Korff, Chair

1) Activities:

a) The Training Committee will prepare an edit of Section 4 of the AVA Policy Manual which deals with volkssporting IVV events that deals with events, and submit the edit to the Standards and Evaluation Committee.

The Event Handbook will have extensive updating.

2) Recommendations:

That the NEC approve the concept of certifying Trailmasters at the end of the Trailmaster training. The committee can develop a written and oral examination to accomplish certification. This will give needed recognition to our expert Trailmasters and make our trailmaster expertise more marketable to outside organizations such as Weight Watchers.

n. Youth Committee - Nancy Wittenberg, Chair, Sam Tollett, Liaison

1) Activities for the next period:

a) Continue to respond to inquiries about the AVA Youth Program and provide support for AVA clubs, Girl Scout Councils and leaders, families and others who want to participate in AVA youth programs.

b) Select the 2010-2011 Participation Patch for Girl Scout Walks from those that

will be submitted at the beginning of May by Loralie Cruz of the Saguaro Sun Striders in Surprise, AZ who is working with local Girl Scouts to design it.

- c) Hopefully obtain members to the Youth Committee who will be willing to work with specific groups to involve youth, develop a plan for action, and carry out the work. Help from members of the Executive Council would be appreciated.
- d) Think about creating a patch to use for other youth groups in place of the Girl Scout participation patch.

2) Recommendations:

None at this time.

o. AVA Special Review Committee - Philip & Beverly Jones

1) Accomplishments:

- a) Completed survey to all current RDs and Officers, plus former RDs and Officers from last 5 years (31 persons). Topics primarily dealt with division of geography, and terms, for RDs and Officers.
- b) Completed analysis of returns from initial survey, which went to all Clubs.

2) Concerns:

There is a need to make better use of the communication vehicles we already have to provide current information to our members. Example: despite a couple of requests, draft Minutes from the Orlando NEC meeting did not come up on the web until February 12; and the web still (02/12/2010) shows Minutes from AZ and TX NEC meetings as "drafts".

3) Recommendations:

None at this time.

p. Liaison to Global - Heinz Johnson

There is a problem with the club (AVA66) paying their dues. A letter has been sent to the club asking what the club's intentions are. The outlook looks grim.

10. OLD BUSINESS:

None

11. New Business

a. Change to Policy Manual to require helmets for Cycling and Skating events

1) Introduction of Business:

I move that the following sentence be added to the end of Paragraphs 4.02.II.B and C of the AVA Policy Manual:

Helmets must be worn by all participants.

Motion Made By: Bruce McDevitt on behalf of the Sacramento Walking Sticks.

After discussion, the Motion passed.

Items b. and c. were handled immediately after the Executive Director's Report.

d. Proposal to create a program to train Trailmasters.

Introduction of Business:

Sam Korff: I move that: AVA create a program to train and certify Trailmasters.

After discussion, the Motion passed.

e. It is moved that the Standards & Evaluations Committee be tasked to evaluate the incorporation of the Canadian trail system, taking into regard US requirements, and report back by the June 2010 meeting.

After discussion, the Motion carried.

12. Audience Comments

13. Executive Council Comments

14. Adjournment: Marvin Stokes moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:01 pm

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Lucero".

Pat Lucero, AVA Secretary