

Sedona Westerners
Executive Committee

Meeting on September 6, 2016 - Elks Club

Members present: Jim Warren, Barbara O'Connor, Gretchen Yager, Debby Losse, Kevin O'Connor, Linda Schermer, Perlina McCombs, Mary McCaffrey, Brad Bell, Tom Yager, Dave Vanderwater, Scott McFeely, Janet Wheeler, Paul Cooley

The meeting was called to order by Trail Boss Jim Warren at 3:45PM.

1. Foreman's Report: Current Balance \$5,562.92

Gretchen Yager reminded the Executive Committee that the finances follow a fiscal and not a calendar year. In order to give a sense to the Executive Committee of the financial well-being of the club, Gretchen made a report of the May cash balance reports of the Sedona Westerners. She reported that there had been a gradual decline in ending cash balance from May 2013 until the dues were increased in 2015-16. From 2010-2011 until 2015-16, there has been an increase in expenses. The current dues rate has provided the funds to meet the expenses and to provide the six months to a year margin to be sure that the club is able to meet the recurring and one-time expenses that are an ongoing part of the budget. Gretchen also provided a cash projection for the next year based on two dues rates, one at the current rate and a second at \$25. Trail Boss Jim Warren has asked that the Executive Committee revisit the finances of the club at the first of the year. At that time we will have an excellent idea of the adequacy of the present dues to carry us forward on solid financial footing.

Kevin O'Connor reported that the Prospector will report all membership transactions, including those on Paypal, to the Foreman on the 25th day of each month from August until the end of the year. This single reporting will ensure that all Paypal transactions are included in the monthly Foreman's report which will aid in the reconciliation of Paypal activity.

Jim also reported that the audit of the finances had taken place with a successful outcome. Jim and the other members of the Executive Committee thanked Gretchen for the significant work that she had done with reports and projections to assess how best to go forward.

2. Refreshments for upcoming meeting: Refreshments are provided for the first general membership meeting of the year by members of the Executive Committee. Perlina, Chuck Wagon Boss passed around a sign-up sheet.

3. Information Items:

Red Rock Sustainable Trails Work Group

Jim reported on the Red Rock Sustainable Work Group Process. This is an effort to identify feasible funding support for trail maintenance for National Forest trails near Sedona and VOC. The Work Group has requested that the Sedona Westerners appoint a member to represent the Westerners. This will be a position that will involve fundraising for trails. Any recommendations of members should be made to Trail Boss Jim Warren.

Note from Jeff Brumbaugh seeking volunteers to lead hikes for a group of visitors who are hearing impaired:

Interested volunteers to lead or tail gate for this event on Friday October 14 should contact Jeff. Jim will ask Jeff to keep us up to date on recruiting for this event.

Basic Trail Vegetation Pruning (Brushing)

Members of the Westerners who undergo a training session by the Forest Service will be eligible to participate in brushing, once the site has been reported to and approved by the Forest Service. Any pruning activity, once approved, will be reported by the hike leaders to the Westerners' Forest Service Liaison, Paul Sullivan. Immediate Past Trail Boss Mary McCaffrey reported that this is the result of discussions between the Sedona Westerners and the USFS.

Drop Box

Jim brought up the issue of the 2012 hacking of Drop Box. Kevin O'Connor reported that measures had been taken to secure the passwords of Drop Box users.

Ambler Six -Segment Loop has been added to the Ambler Hikes

Jim reported the addition of a new six-segment loop of Sedona to enrich the Ambler bank of hikes.

4. Bylaws

Jim raised the question of the function of the original Board of Directors as distinct from the Executive Committee. Originally the Board of Directors was established as the only group to vote, subsequently the Executive Committee was established as the governing body of the Sedona Westerners. The proposed bylaws return to the original terminology of the Board of Directors but limits the Board of Directors to elected officers plus the immediate past Trail Boss. Jim expressed the opinion that it makes sense to have a single group to do the business of the club and to vote.

The bylaw changes will be presented for a vote at the General Membership Meeting on September 8. They were first read, as required, at the April meeting.

Article 5 (Bylaws)

Kevin O'Connor (Prospector) proposed that Article 5 of the bylaws be revised to include the following wording: **"The amount of the dues shall be set by the Board of Directors prior to the April general membership meeting."**

The rationale for this revision is to allow the Board of Directors on an annual basis to review the finances to assess the adequacy of the current dues schedule in the light of current and proposed income and expenses.

This change to Article 5 will be proposed to the general membership after the first of the year at the same time that the Executive Committee reviews the finances.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Losse, Wrangler