

**Board Meeting (via Zoom) Minutes
January 25, 2021**

Attendees: Terri Petrescu, Barbara O'Connor, Al Vander Peut, Charlie Schudson, David Minott, Dave Vanderwater, Donna Forsythe, Gini O'Brien, Janet Oliver, John Losse, Judy Dolloff, Mark Bealafeld, Michael McCaffrey, Ray LaPorte, Patty Persons, Sophia Sweeny.

Absent: Deb Weinkauff

Terri Petrescu opened the meeting at 3:04 pm

BOARD TO CONSIDER WHETHER TO PAUSE FEBRUARY 2021 SEDONA WESTERNERS HIKING SEASON

The Trail Boss asked the Board to discuss whether or not to continue to pause the hiking season, due to local Covid-19 concerns for the health and safety of our members. A discussion ensued, where current local and state health statistics and trends were mentioned, as well as the fact that many members are starting to get their COVID vaccines. A vote was conducted, with all members voting unanimously to continue to pause the season through the month of February 2021.

Action item: All Hike Bosses are to cancel their February hikes listed on the website.

HEAD OF NOMINATION COMMITTEE

The Board voted unanimously to approve Barbara O'Connor to head the Nominating Committee, whose position is to find members who will agree to volunteer for elected or appointed officer positions. Should anyone be interested in volunteering to help the nominating committee, or to volunteer for a position, please contact Barbara O'Connor through the link on the Officers' page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>.

Action item: Barbara O'Connor will be the head of the nominating committee.

ACCEPTANCE OF NOVEMBER 9, 2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes from the previous Executive Board Meeting.

CLARIFICATION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, January 14, 2021

A clarification on how much the matching would be for the Red Rock Trail Fund was asked and answered under the Action item section.

Action item: Wrangler will re-word the Action Item section of the minutes for better clarity.

RED ROCK TRAIL FUND

The Trail Boss mentioned that she was in communication with Red Rock Trail Fund representatives. The representative mentioned that they can have a link to put out to our membership for contributions – this link would take them to their giving page and would tally the donations from Sedona Westerners members, so that the matching donations can then be awarded. There was a discussion if the donor wanted their donation to go to signs or another aspect of the Red Rock Trail Fund services. It was suggested that there be a way for the donor to decide.

Action item: The Trail Boss will contact the Red Rock Trail Fund representative to have the link allow donors to decide on the placement of their donations.

SIXTY (60) YEAR ANNIVERSARY FOR SEDONA WESTERNERS

The Sedona Westerners originated on February 2, 1961; this is our 60th year. The Trail Boss asked for ideas at the last Board meeting to help commemorate this occasion. Reports for the ideas that were discussed at the last meeting are:

- 1) A summary of the Westerners' history scrapbook-like presentation to be done at a general meeting: Dave Minott had worked on this project and it was suggested that it would be presented to the general membership during our May meeting.
- 2) Commemorative bandanas: Donna Forsythe reported that through contacts at the Hike House (local hiking gear store), it would cost approximately \$3.50 - \$4.00/pc, for about 275 pieces. There were also discussions that ensued about the distribution of said bandanas; the consensus was that active members can pick up the bandanas from Hike Bosses, non-active members can pick up from the Trail Bosses' house, and foreign members can acquire them when they are in town. The Board unanimously agreed to continue to pursue this project. Ideas for what logo to use; it was mentioned that in going through the historical scrapbook, an old logo was discovered that has "SW" shown as a brand. The Board members agreed that using the original logo would be appropriate for our commemoration of our anniversary, saying "established 1961", as well as using "take a hike", to help others know that this is a hiking club. More information to follow at our next Executive Board Meeting.
- 3) An update to the website's History page: Dave Minott will work with Sandi Heysinger when she returns to town. Also suggested was contacting Curt Kommer to help write and update our website. Gini O'Brien and Bob Fugee (who updated the history on our website 20 years ago), were also suggested to contact for further assistance. More information to follow.

Action Items: Dave Minott will present the Westerners' history in a presentation at the May meeting for our 60th Anniversary. There will be updates on items #2 and #3 at our next Executive Board Meeting.

NEW ITEMS/CONCERNS

1. John Losse (Top Hand #3), suggested that the Board discuss whether or not to allow hiking photos of unofficial hikes be allowed in our Sedona Westerners yearbook for the 2020 – 2021 season. His concern

was that the yearbook would be very small this year, with our season having been paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was discussed, and a motion was made to not allow unofficial photos to be allowed to be posted in the annual yearbook. Two (2) opposed, 14 approved. The motion carried.

Action item: No unofficial hike photos will be allowed to be posted in the Sedona Westerners' 2020-2021 yearbook.

2. The Trail Boss mentioned that in reviewing the history of the Sedona Westerners, back in 1964, members used to pick up trash along Route 89A. It was discussed whether to attempt to revitalize this tradition. Many were of the opinion that the trails are our main focus, and perhaps they would be a way for our membership to volunteer for something that would be more in line with our values to our local trails. This item is tabled to revisit.

Tabled item: ideas for volunteer efforts that would be more in line with the Sedona Westerners' values to our local trails.

3. Al Vander Peut (Top Hand #2), mentioned how the recent tourists all seem to know some of our more remote hikes. His observation was that many of them are getting the tracks on social media. Al mentioned that we should educate our members that if they use tracking apps on their phones, that they should check to make sure that the settings have that the tracks are private and not public. It was mentioned that the All-Trails app seems to default to public unless changed. Al agreed to write an announcement for our February meeting.

Action item: Al Vander Peut will write an announcement to address educating our members on public vs. private settings on tracking apps.

4. Dave Minott (Wagon Boss), mentioned that in investigating the history of our organization, he saw that a long time ago, the Forest Service had allowed organizations to adopt-a-trail. The Sedona Westerners had adopted the Little Horse Trail. It was discussed whether the Forest Service currently has this program. This item will be tabled for a future meeting.

Tabled item: Does the Forest Service still have the adopt-a-trail program?

5. In the discussion of item #4 above, it was also asked if the Friends of the Forest has any programs that the Sedona Westerners' can adopt as an organization? This item will be tabled for a future meeting.

Tabled item: Does the Friends of the Forest have organizational volunteer programs?

Terri adjourned the meeting at 3:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophia Sweeny, Wrangler