

# SEDONA WESTERNERS MONTHLY MEETING

MARCH 10, 2022 – VIA ZOOM

## Call to Order – Welcome

Trail Boss, Dave Minott, welcomed both new and returning members to our monthly meeting, starting the meeting at 7:02 pm.

## Sedona Red Rock Trail Fund (SRRTF)

Our annual donation campaign launched January 14<sup>th</sup> and ended February 15<sup>th</sup>. There was \$10,000 in donations by Westerners' members as individuals. There was also a \$1,000 donation by the Sedona Westerners organization through the Trail Keepers, who also matched our donation with \$1,000. So, there was a total of \$11,000 in Westerners' donations, with a \$1,000 third-party match. For comparison, last year the total donated was \$7,000 and in 2020 it was even less.

## Bylaw Changes

The Board voted to approve a number of Bylaw changes at its meeting of August 18, 2021, and February 23, 2022. Per our Bylaws, the proposed changes were summarized for Members at the February monthly meeting, prior to being voted upon at this monthly meeting. Trail Boss, Dave Minott, emailed a summary of the proposed Bylaw changes to all Members on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and again on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. He had requested Members to read the proposed changes carefully prior to the March monthly meeting. The Members were then to vote on accepting the Bylaw changes at this monthly meeting (March 10, 2022).

### **Proposed Bylaw Changes – Motions and Votes**

- **HISTORIAN POSITION:** "I hereby make the motion to amend Article 15 of the Bylaws to restore the name of the Historian to Old Timer (Historian), the traditional name of the position." Motion made by Mark Bealafeld, seconded by Dave Vanderwater. The vote was 2 against, and 35 for. **Motion approved.**
- **ASSISTANT HIKE BOSSES:** "I hereby make the motion to amend Article 15 of the Bylaws to add the following position by name: Assistant Hike Bosses (Assistants to the Hike Bosses for the Amblers, Dogies, Drovers, Mustangs, Roughriders, Rustlers, and Trackers)". Motion made by Michael McCafferty, seconded by Mark Bealafeld. The vote was unanimous for. **Motion approved.**
- **NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR:** "I hereby make the motion to amend in Article 11 of the Bylaws the description of the duties of the Immediate Past Trail Boss to add the following sentence: The Immediate Past Trail Boss normally serves as Chair of the Nominating Committee that recruits nominees to serve in the Elected Offices during the next hiking season." Motion made by Kelly-Leigh Thomas, seconded by Mark Bealafeld. The vote was unanimous for. **Motion approved.**
- **AMEND CLIFF WALKER DUTIES:** (Deletes "arranges for cultural heritage experiences for Club members"). "I hereby make the motion to amend Article 15 of the Bylaws to read as follows as

regards the Cliff Walker position:

Cliff Walker (Coordinator of Cultural Resources Education). The Cliff Walker is the overall “Ambassador” of the Club, specifically to the archaeological personnel of the Coconino National Forest. In addition, the Cliff Walker provides consultation to Hike Bosses and Leaders, on teaching proper site etiquette. Term of office is two years.” Motion made by Donna Forsythe, seconded by Patti Pierce. [Note that a member brought up in discussion that the next time in the future that the bylaws are reviewed, that it should be considered to remove the Cliff Walker position. It was then said that past and present Cliff Walkers (and Rangers) should weigh in on this topic and then make a recommendation to the Board]. The vote was unanimous for. **Motion approved.**

- **LOOKOUT POSITION:** “I hereby move to amend the Bylaws to eliminate the appointed position of Lookout, and to transfer the responsibilities of this position to the Ranger.” Motion made by Dave Vanderwater, seconded by Patti Pierce. The vote was unanimous for. **Motion approved.**

### **Elected-Officer Nominees for 2022-2023**

Note that the Immediate Past Trail Boss chairs the Nominating Committee that recruits the nominees for next season’s Elected Offices.

Nominating Committee Chair: Terri Petrescu

Nominating Committee Members: Donna Forsythe, Sophia Sweeny, Hassan Hosseini

### **Elected-Officer Nominees for 2022-2023**

Trail Boss: Donna Forsythe (Succession from this year’s Wagon Boss)

Immediate-Past Trail Boss: David Minott (2021-2022 Trail Boss)

Wagon Boss (VP; Trail-Boss Elect): Ray LaPorte

Wrangler (Secretary): Sophia Sweeny

Foreman (Treasurer): Mark Bealafeld

Prospector (Membership Chair): Michael McCaffrey

Chuckwagon Boss (Food/Entertainment Coord.): Martha Blaney

Top Hand #1 (Actively Hiking Honorary Member): Jim Kemper

Top Hand #2/#3 are multi-year commitments, not up for re-election

Ambler Boss: Jan Taylor

Cactus Dodger (Roughriders) Boss: Dr. Kelly-Leigh Thomas

Dogies Boss: Lora Ellis

Drover Boss: Kelly Malek

Mustangs Boss: Jim Sweeny

Trackers Boss: Charlie Schudson

Rustlers Boss: Deb Hicks

It was questioned whether anyone at the meeting had any further nominations; there were none.

Per the Bylaws, vote to approve these Elected-Officer nominees to be held at the next monthly meeting, April 14, 2022. The new Officers would be installed at the May meeting.

**Appointed-Officer Recruitment (In Progress) for 2022-2023 by Wagon Boss, Donna Forsythe**

Ranger (Forest Service Liaison): Amanda Maxwell

Roundup Boss (News Articles): Dick Williams

Old Timer (Historian): **TBA**

Sunbeam (Card Sender, Counselor): Peg Cook

Point Rider (Webmaster): Clint Gelotte

Cliff Walker (Cultural Resources Ed): Gary Morgan

Asst. Prospector (Membership): **TBA**

Asst. Point Rider (Webmaster): Al Gore

Asst. Cactus Dodger (Roughriders) Boss: Trish Travis

Asst. Mustangs Boss: Gary Morgan

Asst. Dogies Boss: Lisa Celeste

Asst. Drivers Boss: Hassan Hosseini

Asst. Rustlers Boss: **TBA**

Asst. Amblers Boss: John Petrescu

Asst. Trackers Boss: **TBA**

Per the Bylaws, vote to approve these Appointed-Officer nominees to be held at a future Board meeting. If anyone is interested in any of the open positions, please contact Wagon Boss, Donna Forsythe whose contact information is found at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>

### **Votes (Foreman's Report, Monthly Meeting Minutes)**

Our Treasurer is called the Foreman, who is presently Mark Bealafeld. The **Foreman's Monthly Reports** for the month of February 2022 were posted on our website for review by our members. Motion to approve the Foreman's Reports was made by Alan Gore and seconded by Mark Bealafeld. The vote was unanimous. **Motion approved.**

The **Minutes of our last Monthly Meeting held February 10, 2022**, as a "draft" posted on the website by our Wrangler, Sophia Sweeny, also needs Membership approval. Motion was made by Judy Dolloff and seconded by Mark Bealafeld. The vote was unanimous. **Motion approved.**

### **Hike Boss Reports**

<b>Amblers Boss:</b>	Judy Dolloff
<b>Cactus Dodger (Roughriders Boss):</b>	Ken Ferguson (Absent) – report given by Kelly-Leigh Thomas, Assistant Cactus Dodger
<b>Dogie Boss:</b>	Harry Strong
<b>Drover Boss:</b>	Ray LaPorte
<b>Mustang Boss:</b>	Jim Sweeny
<b>Rustlers Boss:</b>	Patti Pierce
<b>Trackers Boss:</b>	Charlie Schudson

Bosses thanked those who led, co-lead and tailgated on the past month's hikes, gave information on the criteria for their level of hikes, and shared news of some upcoming hikes.

Note: The Trackers mentioned that they are offering several events this spring: there is a hike to Rock Art Wall in Loy Canyon with a talk by Scott Newth on March 23, 2022. There was so much demand, that a second date has been set for November 16, 2022. There will also be a visit to an Audubon center for a birding talk by Rich Armstrong on April 27, 2022. Lastly, there will be a condensed one-day hiking course offered on April 27, 2022; this will contain all the material covered in the three courses that have been offered earlier this year. If you have not yet signed up for any of these events that you might be interested in, please contact Tracker Boss, Charlie Schudson, who's contact information can be found at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>

### **Notice of Upcoming Event on the Trails**

Erica Gratton of Trail Running Escapes had notified our Trail Boss, Dave Minott, of an upcoming Trail Run on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and April 3<sup>rd</sup> that her company will be sponsoring, approved by the City of Sedona. They will be putting up signs and some trash receptacles around April 1<sup>st</sup>, and removing them after the event on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## Officer Reports

**Prospector** (Membership, Michael McCaffrey): Membership is up to 410, of which 153 are new members and 33 are honorary members. We are delighted to note that not only is the total number at this time above last year's, but it is also greater than that of 2 years ago.

**Foreman** (Treasurer, Mark Bealafeld): Our Treasurer related our current financial picture.

**Sunbeam** (Sunbeam, Peg Cook): Absent. Our Trail Boss, reported that there was no news.

**Ranger** (Forest Service liaison, Michael Henry): There were 5 reports filed this past month. Three of these were of graffiti, one of illegal trail marking and one of a illegal fence across Forest Service land. A reminder that photos and GPS coordinates furnished by Westerners' hikers are of vital importance when reporting instances of graffiti, transient camping, and excessive trash. Resources are limited for researching and remediating these situations, and, with the available technology almost everyone has these days, pictures and GPS coordinates save time and effort.

**Cliff Walker** (Cultural Resources etiquette, Gary Morgan): reminded all that when using our tracking apps, to please make sure that it is not making a public recording; some apps make it difficult and you have several buttons to click to allow that designation. Also, please ensure that when taking photos ruin sites to turn off the GPS on the photos.

**Historian** (Sandi Heysinger) Wishes to thank everyone who has contributed photos for the year book. Her message is, please keep them coming!!

**Chuckwagon Boss** (Patty Persons, Chuckwagon Boss): Absent, no report.

**Roundup Boss** (Red Rock News articles, Dick Williams): Greatly appreciates those who have submitted articles. Dick says that we still need more articles, so keep them coming. Dick notes that the articles are really not that hard to write, and he can help massage the articles that have some off-trail content. Additionally, if you do not feel comfortable actually writing prose, Dick asks you to just send him some content bullet points, and he will help write the article from those. The number of articles is getting rather low and submissions would be greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or want to submit an article, please email the Roundup Boss, whose contact is on our Officers page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>

## Guest Speaker

Our Wagon Boss, Donna Forsythe introduced our Guest Speaker, Mike Schroeder, who has been a commercial pilot and assists with LightHawk's Mexican Wolf Transport Project. The Topic of his presentation was "Reintroducing Wolves Back into the Wild in Northern Arizona". He played a brief movie entitled: "The Journey: A Life Saving Story". This presentation brought up many interesting facts, among them:

- Grey wolves have been hunted to low numbers and some states allow hunting of wolves
- To help with the low wolf population, the Airborne Wolf Relocation program places wolf pups born in captivity into a wild wolf den to be fostered
- The pups are less than two weeks old

Meeting was adjourned at: 8:39 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sophia Sweeny, Wrangler