

December 1998

Meeting Minutes, December 1998

National Smokejumper Association Executive Committee

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NSA Executive Committee Meeting

Draft: Minutes

Date: 12/08/98

Location: NSA/MMF Office at the Missoula County Airport.

Members Present:

Laird Robinson	Tim Aldrich
Larry Anderson	Bud Clarke ✓
Jon McBride	Carl Gidlund
Roger Savage	Art Jukkala ✓
Jack Demmons	Chuck Wildes ✓
Phil Davis	

Laird Robinson called the meeting to order at 07:06 PM.

Minutes: Phil Davis handed out copies of the minutes of the meeting held 17 Nov 98 for approval by the committee. Larry Anderson moved for approval as written. Carl Gidlund seconded and the committee approved the minutes as written.

Treasurer's Report: Jon McBride handed out copies of the Treasurer's Report for 8 Dec 98. He briefly went over the report explaining entries. As usual, a copy of that report accompanies these minutes. He reported that, over all, NSA is within budget for the year.

Membership Report: Phil Davis stated that at the present time, the total data base for the association is 5169 people, with 1176 members. He reported that, as of 1 Dec 98, there were 32 delinquent that are still being carried as active members. He explained that the reduction in the total data base number from a month ago was primarily from corrections of duplication of names and removal of the names of associate members that are no longer active. He explained that Roger Savage had removed the names of many pilots who were not also smokejumpers and placed them into a separate pilots file. Roger reported that he felt that it was important to keep the master file free of names that were not actually smokejumpers. Jack Demmons mentioned the fact that there were a number of Canadian jumpers that had trained in Missoula in the past which are not included in the NSA data base. He stated that this data is available and volunteered to try and find the names.

Old Business: Action on the "Hall of Fame" proposal, which has been repeatedly postponed because of lack of documentation of previous work done on it, was brought up by Laird Robinson. Phil stated that he had made copies of the packet concerning this proposal and had distributed them to members of the executive committee for study. Considerable discussion among committee members indicated strong reluctance to implimenting a project at this time, which NSA does not have the man power to carry out in a manner fair to all former smokejumpers. It was agreed that a hall of fame at his time would do more harm than good. Tim Aldrich suggested that other recognition such as news letter recognition might be more practical. Laird called for a motion and Carl Gidlund moved that the Hall of Fame proposal be dropped. Roger Savage seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Carl proposed that a letter of explanation of the committee's action be sent to Tom Kovalicky. Laird volunteered to do this.

Jack reported that he had received a request from the Redding reunion committee for the names of people who worked on the 1995 reunion so that they would have names of people to contact if necessary. Apparently no formal records from that reunion have survived, but a short discussion turned up the following volunteers; Barry Hicks, Roger Savage, Laird Robinson, Lowell Hanson, Art Jukkala, Phil Davis, Jon McBride, Frank Fowler, Lyle Brown, Bob Mutch, Jan McClaren, Ed Courtney, Bill Carver and probably many more.

Laird handed out a letter from Chuck Sheley. A copy of that letter accompanies these minutes and requires no further explanation.

Larry Anderson stated that he had done some work on a brochure and suggested that he bring in a sample for review by the executive committee at the next meeting. Carl Gidlund mentioned that Spud DeJarnett was also doing work on a brochure and that Larry and Spud should coordinate their efforts.

Art Jukkala reported on the progress of the Adopt A Trail project. He stated that fourteen people have responded so far. He stated that Carla Cline of the Bob Marshall foundation was coming to Missoula in December and wanted to meet with smokejumper personell. He also raised the question of insurance needs for those people participating, however, no formal action was taken until more information is obtained.

Laird next brought up the topic of the letter from Larry Lufkin which was briefly discussed at the November meeting. He stated that Carl Gidlund had volunteered to put together a proposed action response to solve some of the complaints covered in the letter. His letter to Laird and the 14 point action plan is included with these minutes and requires no further discussion in the minutes.

New Business: Laird handed out copies of a clipping regarding the construction of a Wildland Firefighter Monument at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise. The project's organizer, The National Forest Foundation, is raising funds for construction by selling bricks for the pathway through the half acre site. Carl Gidlund moved that the NSA buy a brick. Jack seconded the motion and the executive committee voted in favor.

Jack Demmons reported that there was one new life member, Richard Kreitzberg MSO 52, since the last meeting. He also reported that Bob Hooper had requested a listing of the Alaska jumpers.

Bud Clarke again stressed the importance of having someone be appointed from each base or sent from Missoula to report on base activities for the news letter. He also stated that he had gotten a supply of rookie pins from T.J. Thompson at the McCall reunion and that he wanted them back or the money for their sales. Jack stated that this was a misunderstanding and that he would see that it was taken care of. Bud also asked for some action to be taken on sale of smokejumper manufactured goods through the association. He stated that he had discussed this with Chuck Sheley at the time that Chuck took over the merchandise job, but that there had been little evidence of any action.

Laird scheduled the next meeting date for January 12, 1999.

There being no further business, Tim Aldrich moved that the meeting be adjourned. Roger Savage seconded and the meeting concluded at 21:10.