Meeting Minutes, January 13th, 1998

National Smokejumper Association Executive Committee

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Laird Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

I. **Minutes**: Copies of the Minutes of the NSA Executive Committee meeting held on 16 Dec 1997 were distributed and checked over by those present. Jack Demmons asked for a correction in the treasurer’s report, stating that the discrepancy between the Video Fund amount shown in the treasurer’s report and his accounting was not the $500 reported, but was actually over $2000. Laird Robinson suggested that this be taken up later in the meeting under Old Business. With this correction, Larry Anderson moved that the Minutes be approved. Jack Demmons seconded and the motion carried.

II. **Membership**: Phil Davis reported that as of this date, 01/13/98, the Data Base stands at 4854. The membership is 1097 with 52 delenquent as of 31 Dec 1997. Regarding the delenquencies, Jack Demmons stated that Aviation Magazine sends out three notices before cancelling membership. Phil Davis suggested that he run labels for reminders for two months after the one sent reminding members that their membership was due to expire the following month. Jack suggested that different colors be used for each mailing with red being used for the final reminder. Chuck Wildes suggested that we make calls for followup.

III. **Treasurers Report**: Laird Robinson first called attention to the fact that due to Lowell Hanson's resignation, Jon McBride had accepted the position of Treasurer. Jon McBride first handed out a letter from Barry Reed stating the results of the year-end audit. A copy of that letter will accompany these minutes. Jon next handed out a copy of the Treasurer’s report. Jon emphasized the fact that this report is only a summary of the condition of the various funds and anyone wanting more detail can contact him for the information. He did call attention to the fact that under expenditures, the cost of the newsletter is only shown on a quarterly basis, so the monthly treasurer’s report expenditures will vary considerably from month to month. Jack Demmons brought up the need for a petty cash fund for office use for postage and other operational costs. Larry Anderson moved that Jack submit an approximate monthly petty cash need and that Jon set up such a fund. Ed Courtney seconded the motion and the motion carried. Jack also stated that he had called all people who had ordered merchandise and traced checks, which had not been cashed. At this time the subject of the discrepancy between the funds that have reportedly been received and that which has been deposited at the bank, was broached. Jack Demmons stated that the discrepancy amounts to about $1200. The committee held considerable informal discussion and agreed that there is no way to accurately trace the cause. Since the checks were never cashed and Jack Demmons had a record of their being received, the committee agreed that they must have been misplaced or lost completely. Jack showed a copy of the form that he sent out to people who purchased materials, to trace down who had not gotten their orders and also who had not gotten back their canceled checks. Laird suggested that we also put a notice in the next news letter for people to report any lack of merchandise or failure to get their canceled check. Lon Dale stated that any stop-payment costs should be covered by the NSA.
IV. **Video Fund**: Jack Demmons stated that he had conferred with Fred Rohrbach about the video fund and that he and Rohrbach were off about the same amount from what was stated in the treasurers report from the missing checks referred to above, as well as the cost of some airline tickets that were purchased for the project at another location.

V. **Old Business**: Laird Robinson stated that he had talked to Dave Nelson at Redding about the year 2000 reunion and that Dave had inquired about the dates suggested by the executive committee as well as the procedure that was used to organize the last reunion. Laird asked Barry Hicks to follow up on this since he had done much of the planning for the last reunion. Laird also asked Phil Davis to locate in the previous minutes the suggested dates for the reunion. Laird also asked Phil to see that all board members were informed of the date chosen for the upcoming board meeting, which is to be held Friday, Apr 10, 1998 at the Bob Marshall room at the Missoula Smokejumper base. Phil stated that the date and place would be in the Minutes for both the December and January executive committee meetings and highlighted in red on those copies sent out to board members. Laird also reported that he had attended the last meeting of the National Forest Service Museum. He stated that the subject of the removal of the remains of the Ford Trimotor at Big Prairie was brought up by Stan Cohen of the Museum of Mountain Flying. Stan had given a run down on the efforts made so far to get clearance to helicopter it out and that those efforts had been rather fruitless. Roger Savage handed out more lists of jumpers sorted by base and year trained, and asked those present who trained in the same year to check them over for errors.

VI. **Video Report**: Barry Hicks stated that he had talked to Fred Rohrbach about the progress of the Smokejumper Video. He stated that Fred had contacted the Region Six air operations officer and that the planning and permission to make some special jumps for video recording were in progress.

VII. **New Business**: Laird stated that four positions on the Board of Directors were expiring this year. Those directors whose terms are expiring are Laird Robinson, Larry Anderson, Lon Dale, and Jerry Timmons. He also stated that since both he and Larry were directors because of their election as officers of the organization, those positions would not be filled until they were no longer officers. This would leave only two director positions to be filled. He stated that nomination forms would be included in the next newsletter.

VIII. **News Letter Report**: Jack Demmons stated that the newsletter is ready to go to press except for the Presidents message. He stated that the letter should be ready for mailing by next week. Roger questioned the need for secretarial help and Jack stated that the-cost was more than the amount budgeted and that the greatest need was for help in handling membership. Some informal discussion was held regarding the lack of younger jumpers in the organization. Ed Courtney suggested trying to make the newsletters more relevant to the younger jumpers.

Laird set the next meeting date for Feb 10, 1998 at 07:00 PM. He also stated that the next National Forest Service Museum meeting would be at 4:00 PM on Feb 12th in the Regional Forester Conference Room at the Federal Building. The subject of the spring Adopt-A-Highway clean up was broached, but no date was set.

There being no other business, Ed Courtney moved that the meeting be adjourned. Roger Savage seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 08:55 PM.