

March 2022

Meeting Minutes, March 23rd, 2022

National Smokejumper Association Board of Directors

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NATIONAL SMOKEJUMPER ASSOCIATION

NSA March 23, 2022 Board of Directors Minutes

Board Members Present: Bob McKean, Bill Derr, Fred Cooper, Chuck Sheley, Larry Lufkin, Jim Lindell, Jim Cherry, Denny Breslin, John Berry, Joe Stutler, Pat McGunagle, and Mike Bina.

Guests: Brent Russ, Financial Advisor

1. Call to Order.

Bob McKean, President, called the Zoom meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. PT time. He announced that he accepted Pferron Doss' resignation from the board.

2. Agenda and Consent Agenda.

Bob asked for two motions to A.) approve the agenda (HO #1); and B.) to approve the consent agenda in which the October 13, 2021 minutes (HO #2a) and the Facebook report (HO #2b) were bundled.

Both motions were made, seconded, and following no discussion, approved unanimously.

3. Financials and Treasurer's Report. (HO #3a and 3b)

John Berry reported that the NSA holds assets totaling \$1,406,979 and that there has been a 12.6% increase from October 2021 and a 2% decrease from December 2021. He reported that CD rates are improving and detailed the treasurer's actions since July 2021 that were made in

consultation with the investment committee. Brent Russ reviewed the balance sheet and answered questions.

Motion was made to accept the treasurer's report, seconded, and following no discussion, motion passed unanimously.

4. Investment Report. (HO #4a and 4b)

John reported that the committee looked at the Value Fund that has less risk and decided not to pursue a bond fund. He indicated that committee agreed to continue with the CD ladders. The CDs returned \$7,000 with a total of \$575,000 invested. A question was asked about different and unique types of CDs and John indicated that the NSA CDs have to comply with Montana standards. John reviewed the investment allotted spread to ensure a diversified portfolio. He pointed out that cash was higher than the investment committee's target. He presented a graph showing the growth of NSA's investments since 2014 to present. In that period the NSA investment of \$40-50,000 grew by 8.8% to \$1,285,151.

5. TRAMPS (HO #5a and 5b)

Fred Cooper submitted a report on the trails program. He indicated that there are some promising signs with younger jumpers becoming involved and others such as Bob Smee are stepping up to continue the newsletter. Question was asked getting community volunteers to assist with manpower, but due to not using jumpers or associates, liability issues are a concern.

6. Life Member Fund Policy Amendment (HO #5)

A motion was made to amend the following current NSA Life Member Fund policy that reads: "The LMF will retain a minimum balance equal to, or greater than, the amount of number of LMs multiplied by the subscription value of a LM (\$1000)" to be changed as follows: "The

principal amount of Lifetime Memberships purchased by subscription (\$1000) will be held in the Lifetime Member Fund. Donated funds, resulting in a Life Membership by accrual, will be held in the fund(s) designated by the donation(s), and not credited to the LMF. Expenses associated with Life Members will not be charged against the LMF."

An amendment to the main motion was made to replace the phrase "purchased by subscription" with "acquired by subscription." The amendment was seconded, and following discussion, the amendment passed. The amended main motion was voted upon and passed unanimously.

7. Web site Update

Larry Lufkin reported that the web master, John Robinson, has been reviewing the Scholarship Committee web application feature on the web site. He indicated that it is working well and will wait until the next cycle of scholarships are processed before making any revisions, if any are needed. He stated our web host has not engaged us. Larry said John is doing very valuable daily maintenance on the web site to ensure that it is running efficiently.

8. Legacy Fund Update

Mike Bina reported that the Legacy Fund has 15 individuals who have committed to the *Keep the Flame Legacy Jump List* thus far accumulating \$27,000. He indicated that of these 15 jumpers who have committed, six of them are current board members. Given that there are 12 board members, this accounts for 50% of the board. Those making the commitment specify that their donation be placed in a restricted fund. They stress their desire that the principal of their gift not be budgeted but rather generate endowment growth that could be used annually for operational needs. Some have opted to put the NSA in their wills, but other are making one-time or installment cash gifts.

9. Reunion

Chuck Sheley reported that the reunion is “a go” according to discussion with Lynn Sprague. It will be held in Boise on August 12-14. Chuck indicated that he will be sending out a packet of information for people to register. The board agreed to have a formal board meeting that will be held the day before. Chuck suggested coming in Wednesday so that the board meeting can be held on Thursday before the reunion starts.

10. Nominations Committee Policy Motion (HO #8)

A motion was made, seconded, and following discussion, the proposed Nominations Committee Policy was approved unanimously. Bob McKean appointed Mike Bina to chair this committee. He asked Mike to recommend potential committee members for him to appoint.

11. Election of Board Members (HO #9)

The following slate of board member candidates was approved unanimously: Bill Derr 2015 to 2025; John Berry 2016 to 2025; Mike Bina 2019 to 2025; Denis Breslin 2019 to 2025; Patrick McGunagle 2020 to 2025.

12. Forest Service Museum Proposal Motion (HO #10a and 10b)

A motion was made, seconded, and following discussion, the proposed Museum Partnership Proposal was approved unanimously.

In addition, following the approval of preceding motion, two other related motions were made, seconded, and following discussion were approved unanimously.

Motion 1. The NSA Executive Committee moves that the President appoint an ad hoc Smokejumper Historical Preservation Museum Committee composed of Chuck Sheley, Larry Lufkin, Jim Lindell, and Mike Bina, to explore options and develop for board approval, a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement with the National Museum of Forest Service History. The purpose of the MOU would be

to comprehensively ensure the preservation of Smokejumper history, contributions, and legacy. The MOU would include, but not be limited to specifying responsibilities of each agency, guaranteed museum space, prominent locations and quality of displays, funding commitment, deliverables, timelines, resolution procedure, terminal clause, etc.

Motion 2. The NSA Executive Committee moves that the President appoint an NSA ad hoc Smokejumper Historical Preservation Museum Capital Campaign Committee composed of Jim Cherry, Chuck Sheley, and Mike Bina to develop and implement a revenue generation plan and strategy to raise funds consistent with amount designated in the NSA/National Museum of Forest Service History Memorandum of Understanding.

13. 1939 Smokejumper Experimental Group Nomination for FS Museum Honor Roll (HO #11)

A motion was made, seconded, and following discussion, the proposed 1939 Smokejumper Experimental Group Nomination for the Forest Service Honor Roll and a \$2,000 application fee was unanimously approved.

14. NSA Proposed Position Statement HO #12.

A motion was made to approved all of the 13 points. Following a second and discussion, a motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion. The proposed amendment was to approve all the points with the exception of points #11 and #12. Following extensive discussion, the amendment was approved. The main motion as amended was then voted upon and passed unanimously. Fred Cooper offered to reformat the 11 points under three categories. Denny Breslin and Joe Stutler offered to assist Fred.

15. Wrap-up.

Bob thanked the board for their attendance and participation. Chuck Sheley was thanked for his efforts to increase membership by 8% or over 100 new members.

16. Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and approved.

Submitted by Mike Bina, NSA Board Secretary.

March 24, 2022