

Eastern Pennsylvania Region Stated Meeting Minutes

November 11, 2012



- I. **Section Chiefs Meetings and Region Director/Advisors Meeting from 8:35 AM to 9:30 AM**
- II. **Call to Order**

Bob Bernatos, Regional Director, called the regular meeting of the Eastern Pennsylvania Region to order at 9:35 AM on November 11, 2012 at the Blue Mountain Ski Resort. Thank you Blue Mountain for hosting. Minute of silence to remember all of our Veterans and our departed patrollers.
- III. **Secretary Report**

Minutes have been duly posted on the EPA website. Motion made by George Hannon to approve Minutes; Paul Spear seconded. Minutes approved.
- IV. **Introductions**

Burt Mitchell, NSP National Chairman
Bob Scarlett, National Legal Advisor
John Lawson, National Board Member
- V. **Legal Presentation - Bob Scarlett**

EPA Region is an important one.
EPA Region patrollers vote.
EPA Region has two candidates running for the National Board.
Update on legal issues at National level.
NSP is Pro Active.
NSP has had no dues increase.
NSP top leadership is not working together.
NSP is providing a better product and services to ski areas.
NSP relationship with a majority of the NSP Division leadership has never been better.
Divisions in the last few months have shown their importance.
NSP programs doing well (including affiliate programs).
OEC Instructor Insurance has increased to protect Instructors.
Presented financial trends.
Presented endorsement revenue trends
NSP Board politics is not going well - five Board Members sued NSP.
More information regarding lawsuit on NSP website.
Consequences of lawsuit.
Offered constructive suggestions.
Burt Mitchell commented that things are on the mend.
John Lawson commented that some issues have to be taken care of but overall people in the NSP are wonderful people.

VI. **Special Awards Presentation - Steve Buzzard**

The following awards were presented at the Fall Annual Meeting:

EPA Hank Jansen Outstanding Rescue Award: Robert Wetter, Spring Mountain

MVP Southwest Section: Rick Wester, WhiteTail

MVP Central Section: Tom Newpher, Bear Creek

Eastern Division 2012 Patroller Achievement Award:

Ski Roundtop:

Roger Gorman

Carl Urich

Mike Legg

Mollie Clark

Leanne Spurlin

Dan Miller

Jim Hanks

Bill Capers

Sno Mountain:

Joe Budney

Sam Arfanella

Len McNabb

George Fueshko

Julie Mancus

Whitetail:

Bob Vovke

Mark Clem

Patroller's Cross: Kevin Hughes, Whitetail

Yellow Merit Star:

Carolee Baker, Jack Frost

William Bogler, Jack Frost

Nancy D'Ambrosio, Jack Frost

James Derzon Ski Liberty

Forrest Harris, M.D. (Alumni)

Purple Merit Star:

Steve Sobelewski, Ski Liberty

Sam Pellerite, Blue Mountain

John Rollhauser, Ski Liberty

Jenna Jarriel, Ski Liberty

Kevin Scallan, Ski Liberty

National Appointment:

Chris Raup #11318

Cindy Bensel #11332

Steve Buzzard #11298

National Runner-Up for Outstanding Nordic Patrol: Upper Delaware Nordic

VII. National Elections

Ron Helm gave a brief presentation on his candidacy

Gerit Lewisch gave a brief presentation on his candidacy

John Lawson gave a brief presentation on his candidacy

Bob Bernatos presented the remaining candidates Nominee Feedback Forms

VIII. 75th Anniversary - Burt Mitchell

Attended the 75th Anniversary event at Stowe, VT

Excellent event

Stone monument presentation in front of Vermont Ski Museum

Video presentation

Upcoming Denver celebration

Outlined additional celebratory events (see NSP website)

IX. History - Bob Bernatos

Would like history built and kept on online website

X. S&T Refreshers - Bob Bernatos

Section S&T advisors will organize and run toboggan refreshers in their sections.

Mountains with own staff will sign off on their patrollers.

Will finalize all of this at the next S&T meeting.

Lunch break at 11:25 PM. Meeting reconvened at 12:05 PM

XI. Section Chiefs Meeting Reports

A. Northern - Paul Spear

- Elk had some snow at top of mountain
- The Hideout has 6 new people; starting YAP program; went from 4 patrollers to 17 patrollers; received grant for patrol equipment purchase
- Sno Mountain filed for bankruptcy/reorganization; 5 new people; hosting first SEMM Clinic
- Upper Delaware Nordic cleaning trails from Hurricane Sandy; lost one patroller who left to start Valley Forge Nordic/Bike Patrol
- Elk mountain 12 new people; made capital improvements to snowmaking; hosting numerous events this season

B. Pocono - Susan Ballek for Dina Manoway

- Big Boulder using "Patroller 101" to incorporate patrollers on to their patrol
- OEC 5th Edition issues were discussed.

C. Southwest - Dick Bense

- Second Advance Evac Lift Clinic held this year
- OEC Refreshers have been better than in the past; people are getting a lot more out of them
- New OEC test does not represent what the patroller needs to know
- Head Injury information is being shared in schools, and head injuries are being treated more seriously by all
- High failure rate for SEMM due to candidates being unsure of expectations; suggested demonstrations at clinics by evaluators
- Whitetail requested Fall Meeting weekend be changed to another day as it falls on their On-the-Hill Refresher
- Bob Bernatos said that Sharon is working on preparing better information for the requirements/expectations of becoming a senior

D. Central - Kurt Adam

- Blue Mountain EFAT (Enhanced First Aid Training) required of all Patrollers; offering S & T Training on Monday nights for Senior training
- Eagle Rock has new PD; holding SEMM test
- Valley Forge Nordic/Bike Patrol--New
- Spring Mountain and Bear Creek are doing combined OEC program; Spring Mountain is offering SEMM Training
- Bear Creek changed On-the-Hill format; By-Laws/Procedures Manual distributed to Patrollers; no Tough Mudder; Senior S&T training on Monday nights

XII. Program Updates

1. S&T - Bob Bernatos

- Evening Challenge Test to be held at Camelback; very limited number will be allowed--must be very strong S&T candidate
- S&T sign-offs--more information coming
- New toboggans are in; each section will get a toboggan; course must be registered with National in order to use the toboggan

2. SEMM - Greg Johnson

- Changes have been made to clinic dates; check calendar
- Evaluations will be held at Eagle Rock and Shawnee (check calendar for dates)
- Working on 2014 dates
- Would like “pass rate” to increase; train first; evaluation second.
- Registration will be posted soon on the website.

3. MTR & Avalanche - Rich Hartman

- MTR this coming weekend at Blue Mountain; still have openings
- Avalanche course on February 9th

XIII. License Plate Update - Howard Rosenthal

- Up to 222 license plates sold
- Suggest “advertising” in patrol rooms
- If you didn’t get your plate after a prolonged period of time, contact Howard.

XIV. By-Law Amendment - George Hannon

A provision was drafted for using electronic balloting as an option; updates drafted clarifying the By-Laws. Motion made by George Hannon that the “EPA voting officers approve the draft By-Laws Amendment Number 2 as previously circulated and currently presented at this Fall Officers’ Meeting.” Sean Fassett seconded. Discussion ensued. A call to vote by Bob Bernatos. All voted yes. Motion carried.

XV. Command and Control of a Major Event - Steve Sobolewski

Understanding Incident Command was presented. Stressed the importance of ICS training for Patrols. Reviewed triage principles.

XVI. Narrowbanding Radios - Greg Mohr

Explanation of narrowbanding radios and update on requirements. Specific radios discussed.

XVII. Finances - Bob Bernatos

- Cash Reserve Drawdown - Bob Bernatos stated that the issue will be discussed at the Spring meeting.
- Expense Reimbursement - New form is on the website.
- Financial status presented.
- Budget presented. Motion was made by George Hannon to approve the budget. Seconded by Sue Ballek. All voted yes. Motion carried. Budget approved.

XVIII. OEC Refresher Wrap-Up - Dennis Zercher

Summary of this year's OEC refreshers. 1456 patrollers - 1187 have been through a refresher; 133 are registered for the next (final) refresher totaling 1320 patrollers; 136 patrollers still not accounted for. Comments have been positive. Next year's calendar is set and will be posted on the website.

XIX. Region Elections - George Hannon for Bob Davies

Upcoming elections in 2013 were discussed. Information will be on the website.

XX. Open Discussion

- YAP regional seminar will be held at Blue Mountain March 2 and 3, 2013. It's free. Those interested but are not YAPs are welcome to join. Division YAP seminar is being held March 15-18, 2013 at Smugglers Notch. Participants are required to have passed their OEC and S&T prior to attending the event.
- Alumni Program event will be scheduled on the website. If other mountains could volunteer for sponsoring additional events, it would be appreciated.
- Day with the Pros will be scheduled in March.
- Instructor Development will be brought to your mountain if you can get ten confirmed people to attend.

XXI. Adjournment

Thanks to Gary Lombardo and Blue Mountain for hosting the meeting. Thank you everyone for attending. Spring Officers meeting will be on Saturday, April 20, 2013 at Blue Mountain. Motion made by Greg Johnson and seconded by Dennis Zercher to adjourn the meeting at 2:20 PM. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by: Nancy Mayberry