

Sitzmarker Board Meeting Minutes

Dave Bernstein's

05/05/2009

Submitted 05/28/09 by Kitty Plunkett, Secretary

Present: Chris Fogel, Joel Hardgrave, Helene Minot, Linda Piasecki, Joe Riter, Nancy Ruscetti, Bobbie Surbey, Glenn Watts, Tracy Zimpleman. Mike Harrison was on the premises but was helping set up the party during the board meeting.

Joe Riter, President, brought the meeting to order, and stated that he is not big into Roberts Rules of Order and wants our emphasis to be on Sitzmarkers as a social club with activities, with less emphasis on rules and process.

Several members wanted to add items to the agenda – Linda Piasescki, a report on the last raffle, and Helene, an update on membership and advertising.

Joe suggested that these items would be covered under Board Reports.

There was a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting. All approved.

Joel said that he mailed out the approved minutes from the previous meeting, which dealt with the use of credit card points, transition of the new board, and confidentiality.

Linda reported on the last raffle and gave a roll of tickets to Chris Fogel. The April 5th raffle resulted in a \$51 profit, and there was \$164.19 profit for the full year. Linda gave Chris a full report of the expenses. Raffles as a regular feature of Sitzmarker meetings will be discontinued, but Joe said we could still do them on occasion.

Joe said he would like to nominate Urey Lemen as newsletter editor. Chris moved that we approve. All were in favor. It was decided that we should start funneling stuff (newsletter items, articles, pictures) to him.

Helene volunteered to be the other member on the executive board. It was put to a vote and all approved.

Joe noted that he would like our board to lead, not through authority, but through activity, with lots of participation. He would like to see people busy, engaged. He would like to see more Sitz members involved in planning and helping with activities. He would like to get people's names in the newsletter – he would like them to get credit for helping.

Chris added that we should facilitate rather than control.

We could do more ski trips, special events, as well as other activities. We should ask ourselves, "Who could we bring in to help us do what we do?" Joe said that Mike Harrison, for instance, needs more help with parties.

Glenn commented that he would like to see us get past doing what we've always done. For instance, we should have gone electronic a long time ago with the newsletter. He added that Sueze Watson rescued one ski trip by putting it on "Meetup," and that we should consider using "Meetup," which has brought "thousands of people out of the woodwork."

We could, for instance, do bike trips, and a broader-based golf tournament.

Joel asked if Glenn wanted to advertise the golf tournament on "Meetup."

Discussion followed about "Meetup" and about upgrading our use of technology in general. Apparently Gary Lucero has advertised special events on "Meetup." Joe said that possibly Sitzmarkers could use a website for "Meetup." A site costs \$100 for six months.

Chris Fogel suggested that payments for ski trips could be made online through Paypal.

Joe suggested that an advisory committee should be formed to investigate these things. Joel said he could lead this. Chris wants to be included, too. Joel said he needs a five – person committee to work on this.

There was discussion about the Sitzmarker web site. Since the webmaster was not in attendance, further discussion was postponed until the next board meeting.

Bobbie brought up membership confidentiality. Joe mentioned use of a pass code to prove membership.

Helene said that everyone should have a membership list that's updated once a month to be sent by email. Helene will get the list from Judy. We will tell folks the list needs to be confidential and proprietary.

A discussion followed about the use of such a list. Joel said there's an expectation that the list not be used for advertising.

Bobbie suggested that confidentiality, membership, and privacy issues should be handled by a different and separate committee (from the technology committee). Until these matters are resolved, she doesn't feel comfortable having a copy of the list. She said that Judy Gilman would like to join her on this committee. She suggested that if there could be non-board members on the committee, she would like to have Jocelyn Torres (an attorney) on it. Joe said that participation by nonmembers should be encouraged. He suggested the composition could be two board members plus two non-board members. Helene said she did not want to be on it.

It was suggested that people should be asked if they wanted to be in the directory and what personal information they wanted included.

Traci suggested that just as important as attracting new members is keeping the members we have by being friendlier. Glenn agreed and thought that board members in particular should reach out to new people.

There was discussion about how often emails about activities should be sent to members. Joel said that he needs some lead time, but Glenn thinks information should be more immediate.

Chris said that he will send out the corporate report but he wondered if this was the secretary's job. Chris' email is cfogel@swcp.com.

Helene said she will advertise our meetings in "Duke City Fit" and "I.Q." She plans to put her own phone number in as we don't know how to retrieve messages from the club number. When this glitch is straightened out, it will be Bobbie's job to retrieve the messages.

Bobbie mentioned Craig's List as a possible advertising site.

Joe wondered if there was a charge for advertising in "Duke City Fit" or "I.Q." Helene said she would find out.

Helene said if we are having a meeting on a certain topic we want to advertise, she needs two months lead time. Nancy said she usually doesn't know the topic or presenter earlier than two to three weeks in advance of the meeting.

Tracy said that Water Ski Weekend would be July 10th and 11th. She will email something out to get a committee together. (Tracy will be away May 24th through June 12th.)

Nancy said the annual picnic meeting at Supper Rock is on the first Tuesday of June at 6:30, but Mike Harrison won't be here. She is thinking of changing it to the 2nd Tuesday. Joe said he wants the board meeting at O'Neill's on the first Tuesday, regardless. Nancy thinks that we have the room reserved. Helene suggested that the board meeting be at 7 p.m. just for next month.

Joel noted that emails about Sitz News and Socials are sent out by either Mike Harrison or Joel, or both, so new members' contact information needs to go to both of them.

Bobbie said that when we advertise the board meetings, we need to advertise the agenda. Discussion followed about member input at board meetings. A suggestion box has been used in the past, but we could make five minutes available at the end for member comments. Joe said he would put it on the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned before all of the margaritas were gone. Thanks for a great party, Dave and Sheree!

