

INTERNATIONAL RIGHT OF WAY ASSOCIATION

Arctic Trails Chapter 71
Executive Board Meeting
July 24, 2019

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:09 p.m. by the President, Steve Taylor, in Brewsters Restaurant, Airport Way, Fairbanks Alaska.

Roll Call: Present were Sharon McLeod SR/WA, Tim Sprout SR/WA, Charlie Parr SR/WA, Stu Pechek, Steve Taylor, and George Stefan.

Approval of the Minutes: Sharon moved to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2019 Executive Board meeting with an amendment to correct Evelyn Melville's name and Stu seconded. The minutes were approved.

Treasurers Report: Steve reported the checking account balance was \$4,185.26 as of June 28. Reimbursement to Sharon for the International Education Conference is estimated at \$500. Steve will attend the Fall Forum in Boise and is tying it into the tail end of his FNSB travel, so the only cost to Chapter 71 will be his Seattle-Boise travel.

Committee Reports

Education (Steve Taylor, chair): Steve will organize an Education Committee meeting to plan out the next several years of courses and seminars. Sharon reported that Staci Quinlan of GVEA wanted to help with the chapter's education committee. Steve asked if anyone else wanted to chair the Education Committee, and George offered to.

Membership (Tim Sprout, chair): Tim distributed copies of a July 17, 2019 email regarding free IRWA memberships and conference registrations. Tim and Steve discussed William (Henry) Irving, PLS, for potential free membership. Stu motioned for Dian Siegfried, Laurie Swartz, and William Irving to receive the free memberships and Sharon seconded. All approved. Steve will reach out to all three and clarify how long the new membership offer extends, Calendar or Fiscal 2020.

Professional Development (Pat Thayer, chair): No updates

Program (Vacant): Steve will put together a list for programs to begin in September. Stu offered that he and AJ Wait could present, adding that Bill Butler's update on the North Pole water expansion is a possibility. Charlie recommended an IGU presentation, and Steve recommended a presentation from the Interior Alaska Trails & Parks Foundation. Steve commented that we can continue with Miguel's for the venue, but we could all keep our eyes open for other options. Stu suggested Denny's. Sharon suggested a different table configuration at Miguel's, not the long table setting. It's difficult to hear from the back, and there is a noise issue.

Web & Blog (Charlie Parr, chair): No updates.

Nominations: Sharon will call for awards at the end of October to prepare for the Christmas Party.

Budget: Steve will send an email requesting volunteers for next year's Budget Committee. Charlie offered to help.

New Business: Steve reported that Rakhshan Mazarei has been appointed as HQ Chief Financial Officer. Sharon commented she met him and was impressed, that he was very nice and a pleasure to work with. Steve explained that the IRWA reorganization really upset people and discussed the history of such a large board and issues with proxy voting. There wasn't good communication on the reorganization and possible shenanigans. Sharon explained there was internal misuse of funds and that there has been no word at all from HQ on the budget. Stu commented on the difficulty in California with their records and transparency.

Tim distributed the Boise, Idaho 2019 Region 7 Fall Forum registration form and went over the highlights:

- C105 on September 25
- Symposium on September 26 covering three topics: Relocation, Legal Topic—Special Benefits/Project Influence, RW Acquisition and Dispute Resolution
- Forum on September 27

Steve said Cora may go to the Fall Forum, and he'll contact her.

Old Business: Sharon explained the status of several IRWA members and awards:

- Norm Lee of Montana is going through cancer treatment.

- Bernie Lea is leaving for Utah. He was given honor at the last forum. The organization was affected by “Bernie-isms”—a joke regarding his language.
- Leslie Finnigan was awarded the Balfour Professional of the Year. That’s two years in a row the award has been given to Region 7 members.
- Seattle won the Newsletter of the Year.

Steve thanked Stu for his past year of service as Chapter President, and Stu passed the gavel to Steve.

Next board meeting: August 21

Meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Minutes Approved 8/27/19 By:  Steve Taylor, President