

Highpointers Board of Directors Minutes July 27, 2007

Board of Directors was held on July 27, 2007, In Wausau Wisconsin [technically Rothschild]

President Tim Webb called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

Directors present:

Kevin Baker	Robert Hyman	Jim Sutton
Stony Burk	Fred Lobdell	Steve Urbanski
Steve Gamble	Will Mokszycki	Tim Webb
Nikki Hemphill	Craig Noland	

Directors absent:

Ken Akerman	Tom Karchesy
Lillian Elliott	Olivier Kozlowski

Ex-officio, non-voting Directors present:

John Mitchler

Other Club members present:

Dave Covill	Paul Pontiff	Jean Trousdale
Jack Parsell	Mike Rude	Penn Watson

OLD BUSINESS

1. approve Sep-May email minutes – n/a
2. approve May-Aug email minutes – n/a
3. Treasurer's Report – n/a
4. (sic) Robert Hyman reported on the status of the District of Columbia HP. The National Park Service has agreed to the placement of a marker disc in the ground. The disc is presently being designed and will include mention of the Highpointers Club. The cost will be \$983.50, 50% of which will be submitted to the Highpointers Foundation (HPF) to be paid by that organization. The marker is tentatively to be placed in the ground in September 2007, and the official dedication and unveiling is tentatively scheduled for July 16, 2008, the anniversary of the founding of Washington, D. C. The official name of the HP is to be Point Reno. Robert asked the Board about the appropriateness of the Club paying for Pewter benchmarks (by Betty Riser) to give to V.I.P.s.
5. Tim Webb reported on the Jack Longacre Memorial. The Club owns 9.44 acres of what was formerly Jack's property near the Missouri HP. There will be a plaque attached to the summit boulder on Taum Sauk Mountain, and the dedication is scheduled for 2 p.m. on September 8, 2007. Tim also reported for Olivier Kozlowski on the sign project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(this was moved up in the agenda because Jean & Dave had to leave early)

Jean Trousdale reported on the status of the Merc. She said it was doing fine and was operating in the black. Will Mokszycki asked about the approach to investment of the Club and Committees, and the Treasurer, Merc, and HPF reported that non-operating money was invested in Certificates of Deposit (CDs).

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Dave Covill reported on the status of the HP Foundation. HPF received IRS approval for tax-deductible status. HPF has received \$8k in donations. HPF received \$10k from transfer from the HP Club of the Zumwalt Fund and most of the Good Guys & Gal Fund. HPF is conducting fund raising.

Nikki Hemphill raised the issue of the mountaineering books for door prizes that were purchased from Mike Chessler with \$200 of WI-07 funds. It had been planned to auction off the four autographed books, the proceeds were going to benefit the HPF, but Nikki's point was that these books had been bought by the Convention for door prizes and that's how they should be disposed of. Following an extensive discussion, the consensus seemed to be that the books in question were indeed donated to be door prizes, and that's what was decided to be done with them, no formal vote being taken.

Dave Covill reported on the status of the Bradford Washburn American Mountaineering Museum (BWAMM). The organizers of this project (the Colorado Mountain Club, the American Mountaineering Center, and the American Alpine Club) have agreed to a display for the Highpointers Club as a part of the exhibits. Dave suggested that we need a volunteer to coordinate these efforts and work on our museum display. The Highpointers Foundation gave BWAMM \$5,000 to create the exhibit and will donate \$1,000 per year to maintain it.

Dave Covill also reported on his meeting with Mrs. Donna Sterler, owner of the Iowa HP, and her family. She will be donating 1.6 acres, to include the HP, to Osceola County. The Economic Development Coordinator of Osceola County will take charge of developing this land. The 8 acres around the farmhouse will be sold.

Nikki Hemphill reported on the status of Conventions. On a motion by Will Mokszycki, second by Craig Noland, the Board approved without dissent the use of letterhead stationery by the Arizona 2008 convention.

Nikki announced that the AZ 2008 convention would be held from Wed., Sept. 10 through Sat., Sept. 13. The price would be \$65 per person.

Nikki said the WI07 Konvention team had performed in a very cooperative way.

NEW BUSINESS

(at this point, the regular order of agenda was resumed)

1. Robert Hyman discussed adding Washington, D.C., to the Club regions for a possible convention site. John Mitchler discussed what the Bylaws allowed. Tim Webb suggested we take a straw poll of members at the banquet.
2. A written list of state highpoints was submitted by John Mitchler. Robert Hyman noted that the new HP of Washington, D.C. is Reno Point at 409'. On a motion by Craig Noland, second by Will Mokszycki, the list was approved without dissent.
3. Mail-in Voting – stricken from the agenda
4. HP Postage Stamps – stricken from the agenda
5. Craig Noland initiated a discussion of HPC markers on all high points to locate the HP. Will Mokszycki did not believe we needed to identify the highest spot. Craig offered to investigate more and get back to the Board.

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6. Craig Noland discussed reaching out for new members. Robert Hyman suggested a "PR arm" of the Club could contact Rand McNally and MapQuest to improve HP identification. Will Mokszycki suggested we align activities with local events near HPs.

John Mitchler presented two graphs summarizing Club members and memberships. [This distinction arises because memberships are paid subscriptions to one address, whereas members are the number of people in the Club, many of whom share an address with one or more other members.] There are currently just under 3,000 members, and just under 1,500 memberships. The trend is more important than the numbers.

Steve Urbanski noted possible problems with convention venues if there were more members.

7. Craig Noland submitted a written list of honorary members. After corrections (2 added and 2 deleted), Will Mokszycki moved, seconded by Steve Urbanski, to approve the list corrected. The motion passed without dissent.

8. Tracking convention data – n/a

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

A brief discussion of the high points of Mississippi, Michigan, Iowa, and Kansas ensued. Stony Burk met the MS owners, and they were not concerned with vandalism. Mt. Arvon will be closed for about a month next summer because of a logging operation. The highway was closed for reconstruction in front of Hawkeye Point. There have been reports of vandalism at Mt. Sunflower. It was agreed that the Club could do nothing about the last item, and that no action was necessary for the others except that an announcement should be made at the general membership meeting that evening concerning Mt. Arvon access.

Stony Burk nominated Tracy B and Steve in L'Anse for the Paul Zumwalt Award.

Stony Burk noted that the completer plaques are made in WA and painted in NY, so there is cost of postage.

Member Penn Watson raised the point that there had been a change in the criteria for the 40-state pin. Previously, it merely required 40 state highpoints, but the new Directory stated that in addition to 40 state HPs, at least 5 must be from the 4 regions of the country. This change had never been made officially, and it appeared to be due merely to a typographical error. President Webb said he would look into the matter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(at this point, committee reports resumed)

Dave Covill and John Mitchler submitted a written Editors report on the newsletter.

John Mitchler presented a written report for the Liaison Committee.

Web report – none

Membership report – none

On a motion by Robert Hyman, the meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Lobdell, Secretary

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