

Minutes - Trustee Meeting 10/21/19

Present were

President - Milt Miller
Vice President - Scott McClure
Treasurer - Dan Adams
Secretary – Sandy Smart

Trustees present were: Donn Hoying, Mike Lehman, Annette McClure, Tod McKirnan, Nathan Wenning,

Trustees absent: Ben Brown, Tom Cole, John Lake, Mike KcKirnan (sick), Chris Weaver (sick),

Members present- Brenda Daugherty, William Enos, Shelly Moorman

The meeting was called to order by President Milt Miller.

All items brought up in the meeting were addressed with meaningful discussion only, as there was no quorum for official business.

Minutes from the September meeting were accepted.

Financial report was not given.

Membership report - Trustee Annette McClure reported 488 active paid members, 25 Life memberships, 29 worker memberships, and 6 Honorary memberships, which totals 548 members actively supporting our club. 166 members were active unpaid. There were no new applications for membership. The active unpaid members will drop off at the end of the year.

Annette is organizing for next year. She will be updating the window stickers, range cards and New Membership applications to reflect year 2020. She will talk to Doll Printing about printing the range cards.

We will also need more envelopes.

The list of worker members was reviewed for validity.

Milt will get with John Barker to confirm the worker memberships for Brian Epscorn, Bob Herm, Don Leugers, Tony Rotonda.

Milt will also talk to Andrea Cahill about the status of AIM and Jr. Rifle Club.

All other worker memberships were accepted as valid.

Milt asked Tod McKirnan to continue work on getting the previously agreed to committees setup because there are members willing to help out but don't know who to talk to or where help is needed.

Annette asked when and if membership fees should carry over into the following year. In previous years when a new member joined late in the year, the membership would carry over. Milt remarked that there will need to be further discussion about this and documentation added to the membership application if and when the membership would carry over.

Milt also reported that he had been asked about lifetime memberships again. He stated that lifetime memberships have not been revisited since the days of Charles Ayers. Milt will look into this for the next meeting.

Vice President Scott McClure stated he had been contacted by the Mountain Men. They would like to return for a camp-out June 19-20 next year, and have it open to the public.

Discussion followed the request addressing several points:

The Range Committee is concerned over the Mountain Men allowing the public to shoot the weapons they demonstrate. Currently the club requires training before allowing people to shoot on the grounds. Don Hoying asked if the Mountain Men could demonstrate their weapons without allowing the public to shoot.

We need to get a handle on the shooting issue.

Another concern was that none of the Mountain Men are club members. Don Hoying asked how the Mountain Men could bring in shooters but not be members. The club will need to determine how much access to allow them, and what requirements are for this access to be granted.

Shelly Moorman asked if there should be a club oriented event when the Mountain Men are here.

Milt summed up the discussion with

Are we going to invite the Mountain Men back?

Stipulations on bringing them back could include:

- They must be membes
- charging rent
- requiring firearms training.

Nathan Wenning stated he had a gentleman ask about a having Turkey Shoot. If this were open to the public it could make money for the club. He said this type of event would bring another aspect to shooting. Milt remarked that we would need to define how a Turkey shoot would be run.

Tod McKirnan suggested we could provide safety training prior to events. He said he thought that anytime we can open something up and promote the club it will be to our benefit.

Milt remarked that anytime the club allows events to be held on club grounds the club is accountable and liable.

Milt reported that the Range Committee met to discuss the Dr. Aaron Pruitt event situation. He stated that Nathan Wenning and Bob Miehl had met with Mr. Pruitt to discuss the issue. The club followed up the meeting by sending Mr Pruitt a letter detailing the violation and stating that he would be required to attend the next available range safety course and perform one range related work session. To date neither of these requirements have been met. Bob Meihls has reached out to Mr. Pruitt, but he has not received any response.

Nathan said that the letter sent to Mr. Pruitt met the clubs requirement of the club range safety rules section a, requiring a verbal warning for violation of club rules. He felt the club should move on to section b and notify Mr Pruitt that he was under immediate /extended suspension.

Milt stated that we need to be careful how this is handled, as it will set a club precedence.

Tod McKirnan suggested a letter be sent to Mr. Pruitt telling him he was suspended until he fulfills the requirements in the letter previously sent.

Shelly Moorman suggested including a time deadline for Mr Pruitt to complete the requirements.

Don Hoying agreed that a certified / return receipt letter should be sent telling Mr Pruitt he has 60 days to fulfill the requirements of the letter, until then he is suspended from using club facilities.

Dan Adams, treasurer, said a certified / return receipt letter cost around \$20.00 and he was not sure why we would send such a letter, since so far we have had no response from Mr. Pruitt.

No formal decision was made as there was no quorum to conduct official business.

Milt stated that anytime someone sees unsafe activity at the club a "situation report" can be made. All situation reports submitted are documented and filed in the office, no matter what the club response is.

All members are able to make a situation report.

Situation report forms are available in the office.

Shelley Moorman suggested placing a box at the range to keep additional situation reports so they are readily available to members.

Shelly Moorman reported on Youthfest. At this time we have \$2321.00 remaining in the Youthfest fund. There is possibility of an additional \$1300.00 if a conservation grant comes through. This would give us a total of \$3621.00 if the grant comes through.

Milt added that Shelly is still looking for help with her work with Youthfest. Possibly the gentlemen who made the popcorn would be interested. (Tony Moorman?)

Shelly stated she would really like someone to bounce ideas off of when planning events.

Nathan Wenning passed out copies of the updated Firearms Range Safety Rules. Additions to the rules were highlighted in yellow, deletions to the rules were in red, crossed out lettering.

Nathan reviewed the changes, noting the title change to "Firearms Range Safety Rules" from "Range Safety Rules". He especially pointed out the change in range hours from 9:00 am to **1 hour before** sunset or 9:00 pm; whichever comes first. The words **1 hour before** have been removed. The new rule is: Range shooting hours are from 9:00 am to sunset or 9:00 pm whichever comes first.

There was a consensus that the rule changes were acceptable as written.

A question was asked about posting a chart showing sunset times at the range.

Bob Miehls was unable to attend. In his absence, Milt reported on a conversation he had with Bob earlier. Bob was upset that another member, upset about camping sites, had talked to him. Someone had moved one of the picnic tables from the campsites and put it into the lane and also started a fire in the lane with what appeared to be trash from home. The mess left from the fire had not been cleaned up properly by whomever had started it.

Milt suggested that verbiage be added to the newsletter that a fire ring is required when having a campfire. He suggested that 2 fire rings be located at the campground.

An estimate has been gotten from Davis Welding for 2 – 30" fire rings, made from 3/16 inch metal. The fire rings would have welded legs attached which would allow them to be staked to the ground. Cost of the fire rings would be \$165.00 ea. Total cost for 2 rings would be \$330.00 (2 X 165) plus tax of \$23.92 for total cost of \$353.92.

Quarterly Newsletter discussion.

All articles and information to be included in the newsletter should be turned in no later than Nov. 13 to allow time to get it organized, printed and stuffed into envelopes so the newsletter can be sent out by Dec.1.

Annette McClure will provide the membership information.

Milt will continue to write his Presidents message.

Shelly Moorman said Steve Ewry has provided a message on wildlife at the club to include.

Suggestions were made for changes / additions to the newsletter.

The annual cleanup date was suggested to be moved to 1st Sat. in Feb., as it is easier to cleanup the channel when the ice is still frozen. The fire, chili etc will still be provided as usual.

Question was raised as to whether or not we should allow members to showcase their businesses by printing their business cards on the last page of the newsletter.

We could possibly charge \$50.00 for each business card printed.

Additional discussion will need to be had on how to determine which business cards to print.

Would we print the actual business card, or simply print the business information on the cards.

Scott McClure said we would need to determine what type of print to use for the business cards.

Milt said he will contact Doll Printing for suggestions.

There was discussion on whether the club could get the business card information in time for the Dec.1 newsletter. It would need to be a call campaign if determined that we can make it happen.

If we are able to include the business cards in the newsletter we will need to add a note in the newsletter that this is the first time we are including them, and we may continue to if it is feasible.

It was noted that the newsletter is printed on 8-1/2 X 14 paper at a cost of approximately \$600.00.

Shelly said she would like to get people on site socializing again. She suggested holding "how to do" events to highlight activities available at the club. The events would be like beginners day, but only a few hours long. She would like to request suggestions for these types of events in the newsletter.

Milt reminded those present that we need to keep in mind that the club is accountable and liable for any events sponsored by the club.

Mike Lehman, trustee, reported that Mega City has checked the fire extinguishers. He also said that Tom Cole was going to fix the traps in front, but hasn't done it yet. Mike will contact Tom for an update.

Concerning traps, Mike said Doug Depweg was in contact with a guy in Indiana just outside of Fort Recovery who sells bird traps at a cost of \$8.75 a case, \$2.00 less than currently being paid. We are able to obtain samples to test. Currently there are enough traps to last until June. We will wait until spring to test the traps available from the Indiana gentleman.

Shelley Moorman asked who is allowed to shoot trap year round. During the discussion, it was determined this issue had been addressed earlier, and the findings were in the meeting minutes from 8/19/2019. The minutes from that meeting state:

“Jason Ruble Trap for volunteers and members only. Want’s volunteers to be able to use the traps anytime and bring members. Skeet use all year.

After MUCH discussion:

Written Policy needed.

Any “key holder” who has volunteered or knows how to use the equipment can use it, and must be present if anyone else there. Members and their family members only.”

Milt will contact Jason Ruble about writing the policy for volunteers shooting with guests.

Mike Lehman added that someone had brought picnic tables up front for the annual meeting, and they have not been returned to where they belong. Milt said he had brought them up and will take care of getting them returned to proper location.

Tod McKirnan asked about putting a billboard up at the end of the driveway to advertise club events. Milt said there used to be one there, but it fell into disrepair and was removed.

Nathan Wenning asked if there was power out to the sign. No one was sure, it will need to be checked out.

No more discussion was held, the meeting was closed by Milt.

Next meeting to be held Monday, Nov. 18, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Mercer County Sportsmen Association club house