

MINUTES
PWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
March 19, 2020 – 8:03 – 9:04 p.m.
Conference Call due to Covid-19 concerns

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Tom Adams, Janet Caille, Mike Corbin, Elaine Green, Bob Hansen, Janis Kloster Katina Mallon, Jack Morgan, Linda Reiter, Sandy Sticken, Bruce Williams, Jim Zakely, and Kristy Wumkes (USFS Liaison).

Board Members absent: Karen Roth, and Mike Shearer.

Advisory Board Members: Kevin Cannon, Dave Cantrell, Bob Manuel, Alan Meyer, Karl Ritters, and Celia Walker.

PWV Members, Other: None.

NOTE: An earlier conference call was attempted from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Additional people were on that call including Board members Karen Roth and Mike Shearer, Advisory Board Members Fred Allen, Chuck Bell, Randy Ratliff, Margaret Shaklee, and Mark Snyder, and PWV member, Tom Collins. Due to technical difficulties (no one could speak on the call, only chat notes were available and not everyone was signed onto the web presentation as some were only available via phone), the call ended after a straw poll about Spring Training was conducted. Once the technical issue was resolved, Board members were quickly called, messaged or emailed, (and as many Advisory Board members as time allowed) and call started again at 8:03 p.m.

AGENDA. Elaine Green said the agenda had been revised. She asked if there were any other additions or corrections to the agenda. Seeing none, the agenda was adopted.

MINUTES. Elaine asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Seeing none, the minutes were adopted.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

(A) CHAIR REPORT. Elaine Green gave no report (due to time constraints and conference call limitations). However, during the meeting, Elaine asked Bob Hansen about the status of the last two Affiliation meetings. Bob was unable to address the call, however, he could use the chat feature. General consensus was that the last two Affiliation meetings need to be cancelled. Alan Meyer mentioned that the Collindale Golf Course and CB Potts are currently closed. Bob said via Chat that he would cancel the remaining two meetings.

Elaine asked that everyone be mindful of Kristy Wumkes' time and funnel requests through Elaine.

(B) CHAIR ELECT REPORT. Mike Corbin was on the call but unable to address the meeting via phone connection.

(C) IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR. Tom Adams had no report (due to time constraints and conference call limitations).

(D) USFS REPORT. Kristy Wumkes, USFS Liaison, gave a Covid-19 update saying that new restrictions continue to arrive almost hourly. Currently in Colorado group meetings of more than 10 participants in public spaces are not allowed. The volunteer stand-down is affecting everyone. Kristy thanked everyone for their patience. Alan Meyer showed a screen of

the not-so-new volunteer patch that the USFS is phasing in. The new one is based on the USFS shield. PWV should phase the new patch in as able. Kristy has been working with the PWV Uniform committee. Sandy Sticken said that PWV just bought 100 old-style volunteer patches. Kristy said there is no deadline for the phase-in. Kristy will keep PWV apprised regarding the Covid-19 situation, and said that she thinks PWV is making a good decision in cancelling Spring Training.

Elaine Green mentioned that PWV is being asked not to use USFS logo without getting permission from the USFS. Kristy said use of the USFS shield should go thru the USFS Washington office.

(E) TREASURER'S REPORT. Sandy Sticken had no report (due to time constraints and conference call limitations).

(F) SECRETARY. Janet Caille presented a 'Help Needed' program proposed by two of our second-year members, Heidi Johnson and Brian Canning. Heidi and Brian had emailed Janet March 19th about creating a help function for any of our PWV members that might need assistance during the social distancing currently occurring. Janet said Celia Walker was also emailed by Ruth Janitscheck about assisting PWV members who aren't able to get out or may be ill. Some suggested help that a 'Need Help' committee member could do would be to deliver groceries, prescriptions, shovel sidewalks, etc. Janet made the following motion, that was seconded and amended to include 'by using the PWV mailing list'.

Move to approve a Need Help project within PWV by using the PWV mailing list.

Janet explained she thinks the process could work by setting up an email list, like NeedHelp@pwv.org, which would be linked to committee volunteers. Heidi and Brian have already started recruiting potential volunteers. Janet said this committee could function somewhat like the Trail Patrolling Committee or the Webteam, where if a request was sent in to the committee, whoever 'volunteers' for the help needed, could send a reply all to the committee, to let committee members know a task was being resolved, and then complete the task. A global email to the PWV membership could be sent explaining the program and how to get assistance. Janet doesn't anticipate that the setup will be too difficult. It's hard to anticipate how many people might have a need. Elaine mentioned that already two Board members are self-quarantined. Kristy Wumkes said that she had wanted to make sure members were OK with their emails being used for this function, since this is a bit removed from the PWV mission statement. Celia Walker said she sees this more as a social function. Further discussion occurred. Alan Meyer mentioned that PWV Member Relations now deals with social activities, member retention, and care and concern (hospitality) functions that are very similar in nature, i.e., sending cards, taking flowers, etc. The function was thought to be a little extra-curriculum but within the caring community of 'be safe and have a little fun'. Elaine Green said that member care is more important now than ever. The motion carried.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

(A) SUPPLEMENTAL TRAINING. Linda Reiter said the Supplemental Training class on Wildflowers will be cancelled, and Tuesday Tectonics is To Be Decided. Linda is waiting for an update from Susan Cruz on how the Wilderness First-Aid class went.

(B) FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. Janet Caille presented the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance (NWSA) WSP grant request from the Photo/Video committee for \$1924. Alan Meyer displayed the created power point for this topic. Janet said she had

talked to Peter Skiba about submitting an NWSA WSP grant request. Peter created a list of equipment needed (basically a handheld portable camera and better lighting capabilities to do interview videos), totaling \$1924. Basically, the two proposed videos to be created are a 'Safety on the Trail' video and a 'Stock Recruitment' video. 'Safety on the Trail' will continue to address the WSP characteristic of Education, for which the Canyon Lakes Ranger District (CLRD) currently has a 10 rating for each of our four wilderness areas. We need to maintain this rating. A 'Safety on the Trail' video could be shared across the country and certainly with our Region 2 Stewardship groups.

The 'Stock Recruitment' video, we hope will help with the Workforce Capacity element. CLRD has a 4 for this characteristic for each of our 4 wilderness areas. There has been some work done on this in the past, but the Photo/Video Committee (P/V) wants to do a very nice video to help in this area. Additionally, the Photo/Video Committee hopes to complete editing on the George Wallace video that was filmed last year but not yet completely edited.

Janet said that in talking with NWSA Executive Director, Randy Welsh, last year about why PWV was not awarded a grant for \$8498 last year, Randy said the reviewers didn't feel inclined to award a grant for additional Photo/Video equipment when a sizeable amount was awarded the prior year. Also, while PWV's grant represented a match of several thousand in-kind hours, PWV didn't offer any matching funds. Randy thought our chances of receiving a grant would be enhanced if we did offer to match some in a dollar amount.

Janet said that for this year's grant request of \$1924, using just a third of the estimated hours needed, PWV would be contributing \$5,086 in in-kind volunteer hours. The following motion was made and seconded.

Move to approve \$724 from the budget if PWV is awarded NWSA WSP grant for Photo/Video equipment.

Discussion ensued. Janet said that in 2019, thanks to some wonderful donations, PWV did have a nice income stream. Janet said if we offer \$724, then our grant request is for only \$1200. Janet said the videos produced by the P/V Committee are excellent, professionally done, and have had a very positive impact. The video produced in 2018 for the Kids In Nature (KIN) program, resulted in more than double the number of requests for KIN hikes by agencies, and almost double the number of children served (from 85 to 160). Linda Reiter asked about past videos that have been created and what has been accomplished. Janet said that in 2018, 4 videos were created: recruitment, Kids in Nature, weeds and trail maintenance. Janet reiterated the KIN stats and the 3 videos to be completed this year per the grant. Janet said the videos could be shared this summer with potential recruits, which could be especially helpful if we cancel Spring Training. Dave Cantrell suggested that we offer the George Wallace video to NWSA for publication, and Janet concurred. All our videos can be shared with our Region 2 wilderness stewardship groups. The motion passed.

(C) RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE. Jim Zakley was unable to address the phone conference although he was on the call. Jim's report was displayed on the call and Elaine mentioned of relevance for the Spring Training discussion that 50% of applicants are over 60, a dangerous age category for coronavirus concerns and the safety of bringing folks together. Celia Walker said it is very nice this year to have many applicants who are younger including 12 who are in their 20's, and 10 in their 30's. 53 is the average applicant age. Celia would like to keep as many recruits as we can for next year and it's important to keep in contact with them between now and October 1.

74 active applications

72 would need to be interviewed - 2 interviewed last year and were acceptable

Gender Breakdown: 29 Female - 45 Male

Age Breakdown:	70's = 11 (14.9%)	50.0 % are 60 or over
	60's = 26 (35.1%)	20.3% are 40-50
	50's = 9 (12.2%)	29.7 % are 30 or under
	40's = 6 (8.1%)	
	30's = 10 (13.5%)	Median Age = 60
	20's = 12 (16.2%)	Average Age = 53

Oldest - 75 (3 individuals)

Youngest - 21 (1 individual)

Hiker – 70

Stock – 4 (although one who indicated stock appears to have no stock experience)

(D) SAGEBRUSH SESSIONS. Linda Reiter reported that the Sagebrush Session to have been held on Young Gulch Trail on April 11th has been cancelled due to coronavirus concerns.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS. None.

NEW BUSINESS.

(A) SPRING TRAINING ‘PLAN C’ OPTIONS. Mike Corbin couldn't participate on the call, but we considered the three options for Spring that he had submitted. Elaine mentioned that an academic study she had recently seen said the peak for the coronavirus will likely be in June and again in August. Unfortunately, this virus will be with us until a vaccine is developed, which may be 12-18 months. Elaine said we are looking at some long-range accommodations we need to make in order to keep both recruits and current members safe. Decisions can be changed as we go forward if the situation changes, but we need to make some announcements and decisions so we can move forward and not leave people hanging. Elaine asked different Chairs who have Spring Training responsibility to speak to this question. Linda Reiter said if no Spring Training is planned, PWV won't have a Kick Off Night. The following motion was made and seconded.

Move to cancel Spring Training, and all related activities (recruitment, KON, etc.) for this year and move them to 2021. (From Mike Corbin's options, Option 3 and 3a).

Elaine mentioned that the current CDC recommendation is for groups larger than 10 to not meet. Jack Morgan said that it is unlikely that things are going to solidify in a positive way in time to hold Spring Training. Linda Reiter said it's important that everyone who has a stake in this not be kept hanging, whether working on recruiting, KON, Role Players, etc., and it is important to make a very specific statement. Bruce Williams said from a Mentor perspective that perhaps Mentors can work with potential recruits, taking them on shadow type patrols. Bruce concurred with the recommendation to hold off until next year. Bob Manuel said everyone is going to understand, it's been a tough year, and hopes everyone can think about joining next year. Celia and Jim have talked about ways to keep new applicants engaged. Alan Meyer said, thinking back to the first chat of the evening and comments made, that maybe this year we can focus on some of our newer members, i.e., 2nd year members going out again with

Mentors; looking inward to help retain members. Celia Walker and Jim Zakely have talked about possibilities for this year quite a bit. Celia said one of the things they have thought about is how can PWV retain as many of these applicants as possible for 2021. PWV has 74 applicants now; some will drop out for all kinds of reasons. If PWV can stay in touch with them through the summer season, we are likely to keep 40-50. Next year, we won't need to recruit as many, but would perhaps like to fill it up to 80 again. David Fanning is working on additions to the video that is used for recruiting. To help keep applicants engaged, we could email different information to them approximately every 2 weeks, i.e., the recruitment video, Training Manual chapters, some of the other newly created videos, KIN, Trail Maintenance, Authority of Resource training, Ultra-Light Backpacking, etc. It would take a concerted effort but would be worthwhile. The result of this approach might result in one of the best classes of recruits ever.

Bob Manual expressed consensus on the positive impact of potentially sending videos. Linda Reiter suggested that if the ban is lifted, perhaps we could have a social event for the applicants. Celia said that come January, hopefully if this is behind us, PWV could go ahead and interview, and would know how intensively we needed to advertise for additional recruits. The hope is PWV could field 8 animal groups. Recert training could be held on a different day. Celia said PWV could pick up as many in 2021 as we would have had in 2020 and 2021. Elaine mentioned that once patrolling is resumed, applicants could potentially do shadow patrols, turning to our Mentors to help with that effort. Kevin Cannon expressed concern if PWV would not be training Recerts for two years. Janet Caille explained the thought is not to exclude recerts next year, but potentially train them on Sunday of Spring Training. Recerts could have Kick Off Morning Sunday morning, and then do the Training Trail. Recruits would maintain their normal Sunday schedule. Due to concerns about have a quorum, a roll call vote was asked for. 11 Board members voted aye, 3 of which could only vote via the Chat feature. PWV currently has 14 Board members so 8 or more represents quorum. One 'nay' vote came in via email after the meeting. The motion passed. Bruce Williams recommended that Elaine send out one comprehensive email notifying our members about ALL events being cancelled, rather than each individual committee sending out multiple emails. Elaine will be asking everyone responsible for calendar events to remove events from the calendar or mark as cancelled. Janet suggested something be put on pwv.org and Karl Ritters recommended that Elaine put together an article about the cancellations, to also be sent to members. The notice should be posted on FaceBook too. Alan Meyer said per Elaine and Kristy's request, that PWV members can no longer schedule a patrol, as that function has been disabled for now.

Elaine expressed thanks to Alan Meyer for helping to make the meeting happen. The meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Janet Caille, Secretary

Next Board Meeting: **April 16, 6:30 p.m.**

Addendum to the minutes from the **Executive Committee**:

Elaine Green emailed the Executive Committee Feb. 29, 2020, asking the Executive Committee to approve the 2019 Fact Sheet, created by Julie West. The Executive Committee approved via email and on 3/7/2020 and Elaine asked Janet Caille to post on the Google drive and also asked Karl Ritters to post on pwv.org.