

2016 Vertical Section Business Meeting

July 22, 2016

Ely High School, Ely, Nevada

Call to Order: VS Chairman Terry Mitchell called the meeting to order at 10:06 am in room 23. The number of members present was 12.

Approval of minutes from last year's meeting - July 15, 2015. Approved by unanimous consent as published.

Announcements - Kurt has cut up some old ropes into 30' lengths and is giving them away.

1) Officer Reports.

- a) **Chairman's Report:** Terry Mitchell. Terry is looking for feedback on having the meeting on Friday. Bill Boehle suggests having the meeting and awards on Wednesday providing we can get the awards ready. Jenny Clark suggested giving awards out after the meeting. Gary Bush suggested moving the workshop to Wednesday and having the meeting and awards on Thursday.
- b) **Treasurer's Report:** Ray Sira reported the VS has 3 bank accounts with a total of \$12,547.82. Payments for the 2014 & 2015 workshops have been received. A full report was available at the meeting and will be published in the Nylon Highway.
- c) **Secretary's Report:** Ray Sira reported we have 228 members. 35 members were dropped for being inactive. Emails were sent out to people whose membership was expiring. NH#59 was mailed to those who are paying for it. Waiting on NH#60.
- d) **Editor's Report:** Tim White was not present but is willing to continue as the Nylon Highway editor.

2) Committee Reports.

- a) **Climbing Contest:** Terry Mitchell reported that Bill & Miriam Cuddington were not able to attend this year's convention. Peter Hertl (who ran the 2015 contest) was also unable to attend. A committee of vertical section members was used to run the contest. There were 67 individual climbs. The information will be sent to Miriam Cuddington who will write the article for the NSS News. We are looking into a method of printing the contest award certificates in the future.
- b) **Rebelay Workshop:** Gary Bush. 9 people tried the beginner course and 7 tried the advanced course. John Woods & Gary Storricks helped out with the Dial-in session. They were busy all day.
- c) **Vertical Techniques Workshop:** Kurt Waldron. 21 people attended. There were 16 no shows. We need to look into a way of creating a waiting list. The smaller group size seemed to work well. Kurt suggested adding in the knots station again. This would help decrease the group size. Other suggestions made were adding time to the first rotation, adding a student choice rotation as the last rotation, starting at 9:00, elimination down climbing with the frog system and using non-instructors as rack attendants. Kurt says the systems are in good working order. He is looking for feedback from the instructors. He is also looking at upgrading the handouts for the students. We may be able to use information from the NCRC instruction manual.
- d) **Education:** Terry Mitchell. Bruce Smith has retired from the position. Gary Bush needs someone to encourage grotto instructors to use the instruction manuals put out by the VS. Kurt Waldron, Bonnie Armstrong, Ken Alwin, Gene Harrison and Terry Mitchell volunteered to form an Education committee until

an education coordinator can be found. Terry will head this committee for now. NOTE: After the meeting, Terry realized that the correct name of this committee according to the VS Bylaws is Training Committee rather than Education Committee.”

- e) **Awards:** Terry Mitchell. A Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Bruce Smith earlier in the week. Ken Alwin was appointed as the new chairman of the awards committee.
 - f) **Bylaws:** Terry Mitchell. No Bylaw changes were considered this year.
 - g) **Symbolic Items:** Bill Boehle's report is included in the Treasurer's report. We had a total of about \$502 in sales income this past year and \$99 in expenses. Expenses include updating the climbing contest record board.
 - h) **Web Page:** Gary Bush reported that there has been no new update to the web site. NH#60 still need to be put up on the website. Bill Boehle has give Gary some videos of some historic climbs. He also suggested creating a page for those who have received the Lifetime achievement Award.
 - i) **Out Reach Committee:** Jon Schow was not present. Terry reported that Jon would like photos to post to the VS Facebook page. The Facebook page has 786 likes.
- 3) **Old Business:** None
 - 4) **New Business:** None
 - 5) **Elections:**
 - a) **Secretary-Treasurer (1-year term):** Ray Sira was nominated for another term. There were no other nominations. A motion was made and carried to suspend the rules, and Ray Sira was elected by unanimous consent.
 - b) **Two “At-Large” Executive Committee Members (2-year terms):** Terry Mitchell and Mike Rusin were nominated for the two positions. A motion was made and carried to suspend the rules, and Terry Mitchell and Mike Rusin were elected by unanimous consent.
 - c) **The Executive Committee** reelected Terry Mitchell as Chair and Miriam Cuddington as Vice Chair. Tim White was reappointed as Editor. Bill Cuddington was reappointed as the Climbing Contest Coordinator. Kurt Waldron was reappointed as the Vertical Techniques Workshop Coordinator. The Education Coordinator position will remain unfilled for now.
 - 6) **General Discussion:** Bonnie Armstrong noted none of the workshop ropes were marked with date of purchase or length. She was also not aware if there was a safety officer present during the contest or workshop. Jim Hall has done this in the past but was not present this year. Kurt was trying to do this at the workshop. Gene Harrison asked to see the VS safety plan.
 - 7) **The VS Business Meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.**

The Vertical Session: There were no presentations this year.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Sira, Vertical Section Secretary-Treasurer May 30, 2017.