

## Sedona Westerners Board Meeting – February 20, 2023 Via Zoom

Meeting called to Order – 4:00 pm

Present: Donna Forsythe, Ray LaPorte, Dave Minott, Al Vander Peut, Dave Vanderwater, Kelly-Leigh Thomas, Kelley Malek, Deb Hicks, Jim Sweeny, Sophia Sweeny, Jim Kemper, Charlie Schudson, Lora Ellis

Guest: Curt Kommer

Absent: Jan Taylor, Mark Bealafeld, Adrienne Pichette, Michael McCaffrey

### Agenda

1. Approve Board Meeting Minutes from the August 17, 2022 Meeting
2. Strategy to recruit the next Wagon Boss
3. Updates on open ended matters - SRRTF, Trail Closure project, Hike Database Refresh
4. Discussion to include a description of the Scouts on our website with all the other groups. It would appear here: - <https://sedonawesterners.org/groups.php>

**Approve the August 17, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes:** Motion to approve was made by Al Vander Peut and seconded by Dave Vanderwater and was approved by the Board unanimously.

**Strategy to recruit the next Wagon Boss:** It was mentioned that the Covid gap has interrupted our momentum and continuity. Possibilities were presented included:

- Approach the position as a shared responsibility (Events Programmer and Wagon Boss as Vice President)
- Instead of a 3 - year commitment, perhaps reducing to a 2 – year commitment
- Clean up both positions
  - o Wagon Boss + Events Programmer
  - o Trail Boss + Holiday party/Picnic coordinating committee

**Action item:** Trail Boss will go back to Nominating Committee and see if we need to do a 1 – year change of the positions, or if we need to change the bylaws to reflect permanent changes to the responsibilities. Trail Boss to report back to Board.

**Follow-up:** Trail Boss emailed the Board on February 27, 2023 with the following 1-year change of positions to accommodate the issues discussed:

1. Dave Vanderwater will accept the nomination to become Wagon Boss next year but will not become Trail Boss the following year. This will be a one-year commitment.
2. Terri Petrescu will take the 3rd and final year of Dave's Top Hand position on the board next year.

3. Terri will accept the nomination to become Trail Boss the following year - after Ray's term.

4. Terri will not become Immediate Past Trail Boss. Ray agreed to stay on for a second year in this position.

5. In the meantime, we will begin to develop and recruit the following year's Wagon Boss which will put us back on track for a normal succession plan.

A motion was made by Sophia Sweeny and seconded by Kelly-Leigh Thomas. All fifteen Board members voted unanimously to approve the aforementioned stop-gap succession proposal. The Motion passed.

**Updates on Open-ended matters:**

- **SRRTF:** Our Sedona Red Rock Trail Fund donation campaign, which ends on February 28<sup>th</sup>, has an anonymous matching donation of \$2,000.
- **Trail Closure Project:** there are currently about 10 slots that still need filling for volunteers to man the Shuttle stop and the intersection of the Cathedral Rock Trail and Templeton Trail.
- **Hike Database Refresh:** the cleanup is going very well and is currently ahead of schedule.
- **Sedona Shuttle:** The Trail Boss will meet with the city transit manager, as the shuttle will be expanding their services. The Trail Boss asked for a liaison – Charlie Schudson agreed to attend such meetings with the Trail Boss.

**Discussion to include a description of the Scouts on our website with all the other groups** It is noted that currently, there is no description for the Scouts on the website. It was also questioned whether an amendment to the bylaws would be needed. Kelly-Leigh Thomas, the current Cactus Dodger, drafted a description which the Board asked to have shortened.

**Action item:** Kelly-Leigh Thomas will get back to the Board with the amended description for further critique and possible motion and vote.

**Follow-up:** Kelly-Leigh emailed the amended description to the Board for further review and sent it out to the Board on 2/22/2023. The amended description is as follows:

The Scouts, a group of approximately 24, hike together 2-3 times a week developing new hikes for our database and leading the Saturday Rough Rider hikes (the most challenging hikes). Each hiking season, the Scouts nominate their Hike Boss, the Cactus Dodger, who plans the year's hiking schedule, organizes Scout activities and participates in appointed and elected positions in the Club.

The motion: "To adopt the following text and post it on our website to describe the Scouts of the Sedona Westerners," that was made by Kelly-Leigh Thomas and seconded by Al Vander Peut, let the record show that, 16 board members voted in favor of the motion, thus the motion has carried.

**Note:** After a discussion with Jim Kemper it appears that no changes to the bylaws are necessary.

**New Items:**

- **Possible Hike Leader Course or Guidelines:** in the course of the discussion above, an idea was proposed about this. Al Vander Peut mentioned that in the Trail Boss files, there should be a pdf that mentions about 20 points for hike leaders. Trail Boss will look into this and report back.
- **More Scout representation at monthly meetings:** this was also mentioned in the discussion with the Board, and Kelly-Leigh will be attending the March and April general monthly meetings.
- **Possible Communications position:** the Trail Boss mentioned that this might be something for the Board to think about for the future.

**Old Item:**

- On January 4, 2023, an email was sent to the Board by the Trail Boss, Donna Forsythe, concerning that the Past Trail Boss is currently not physically able to perform his duties of chairing the Nominating Committee, as is in the Bylaws. The current Trail Boss makes the motion that the Immediate Past Trail Boss, Terri Petrescu, take over chairing the Nominating Committee this year.
  - o Motion was made by Trail Boss, Donna Forsythe, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Sweeny
  - o 13 out of 17 officers voted via email. The motion carried unanimously in favor of Terri Petrescu to become the Chair of the Nominating Committee for this year.

Trail Boss, Donna Forsythe, ended the meeting at 5:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophia Sweeny  
Wrangler