

MINUTES
PWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
October 19, 2 6:30 – 8:35 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Janet Caille, Gerry Cashman, Jim Greuel, Alan Meyer, Bob Meyer, Randy Ratliff, Mike Reynolds, Margaret Shaklee, Celia Walker, Holly Young, and Kevin Cannon (USFS Liaison).

Board Members absent: Jeff Dean

Advisory Board Members: David Cantrell, Mike Corbin, Sandy Erskine, Jerry Hanley, Jacques Rieux, Karl Ritters, Jim Shaklee

PWV Members: Tom Adams, Jack Morgan, Linda Reiter, Peter Skiba, Jim Zakely

PWV Guests: none

Chair Margaret Shaklee asked Board & Advisory Board members to introduce themselves to the attendees, and welcomed Peter Skiba and PWV member candidates for election to the Board.

AGENDA. The agenda was adopted as presented with the addition of two items and the postponement until November of Jim Greuel's LNT presentation. Later the Strategic Plan presentation by Jim Shaklee and Jerry Hanley were also postponed to November meeting.

MINUTES The September minutes were approved as presented.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

A) CHAIR REPORT. Visit from USFS Regional Staff: On November 14-16, 2017, the National Wilderness & Rivers Regional Program Managers (Ralph Swain, et al.) will be meeting at the Forest Supervisor's office in Fort Collins. The group will be going on a field trip to Young Gulch Wednesday, 11/15, from about 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a hike and conversation on the flood and rehab work. Margaret asked if it would be appropriate for representation from the Restoration Crew to be present. Kevin Cannon will find out and let PWV know. PWV has been invited by Ralph Swain to host a social gathering on Wednesday, November 15, likely 6-8 p.m. and possibly at a local craft brewery. At the event, Kevin Cannon, as Liaison to PWV, will introduce PWV and say a few words. The PWV Board would give an informal presentation about our organization, our mission and current projects. Margaret has asked Fred Allen to look into the best venue. It was noted that more than half of the regional staff are familiar with PWV from work experience.

National Wilderness Workshop: Dave Cantrell, Jim Shaklee, and Margaret Shaklee attended the Workshop held in Russellville, Arkansas, October 2-5. PWV participated on a panel titled "Stewardship Groups: Best-Fit for Wilderness & Your Community." Margaret spoke about the Needs of wilderness, the Opportunities for volunteering, and the Willingness of individuals to volunteer in Northern Colorado. Chuck Bell, also in attendance, introduced the newest wilderness volunteer organization (AIM Wild) and how it will probably target a community of organized groups when seeking volunteers in Arkansas, Illinois, & Missouri. Randy Rasmussen

of Backcountry Horsemen of America (BCHA) spoke about volunteering in wilderness from the perspective of a single nationwide organization. Dave Cantrell was the panel moderator and introduced the concept to the attendees. Dave presented a brief Powerpoint photo presentation to the Board about the workshop and reported that evaluations indicated the panel was well received. Dave noted that the 2018 national meeting will be in Gunnison, Colorado, at the end of September and will include field work, training, and meetings on stewardship performance. He encouraged PWV members to attend.

Margaret recognized **Jerry Hanley** as a champion for PWV and presented him with a PWV Certificate. His dedication to the endowment fund and leadership for strategic planning are exemplary, along with his sense of humor and commitment to PWV.

Reflecting on her year as PWV Chair, Margaret thanked all the Board members for making it interesting, challenging, fun, and amazing. PWV weathered a three-foot spring snowstorm and the quick turnaround from camp to campus. She marveled at how well it turned out—even though snowed in herself. Recertification went well and we are moving forward on that front with enthusiasm. PWV mourned the loss of one of our favorite members and survived delay before we found a chair-elect. Margaret commented that this has been her best year in PWV and hopes she made a difference to Poudre Wilderness Volunteers, because Poudre Wilderness made a difference for her. She loved her job.

B) USFS REPORT. Kevin Cannon reported that PWV members volunteered 23,954 hours this year, and removed 2,658 trees. This represents 65% more trees cleared than typical within a season. 3,537 trees were removed by all CLRD volunteer groups, but only 70% of the trails have been cleared. PWV submitted 973 patrol reports. He was impressed with this year's new members, of which 90% did six patrols or more. Kevin said this speaks volumes about our process for training and recruiting. Kevin reported that in 2018, **volunteer agreements** can be done with digital signatures.

Next year, some of the work going on may affect PWV: **Buckhorn Canyon** road will be permanently realigned and fixed, which will take most of year. **Crown Point** road may be closed most of the year because the timber company has been given an extension for yet another year. Work around the west end of **Granite Ridge** should take only 1 more month, but that trail should be open for most of next year even if work takes longer than planned. Regarding **Trail Head hosting in winter**, the District Ranger is comfortable with year-round hosting if high visibility vests are worn. Jim Shaklee and Holly Young conveyed that high visibility vests from their programs are available for this use. Mike Corbin suggested the need to document in the Operational Handbook that wearing the vests is a USFS requirement. Kevin noted the District Ranger was surprised PWV doesn't **patrol in the Fall**, wearing blaze orange vests, as done in Virginia. This needs further discussion, given hunting is far more prevalent in Colorado. Kevin stated the USFS budget won't be known until March 2018.

C) TREASURER'S REPORT. Bob Meyer presented the breakdown of PWV Income and Expenses to October 16, 2017. He reported the only change to be that donations are up \$500-\$600, with the King Soopers (Kroger) check as the main change. With still no invoice from

Larimer County, he expensed out \$8000 for the one week of work. Mike Corbin offered to press the County for an invoice, but noted PWV hired them for two weeks, not just one, so \$16,000 is the appropriate amount. Bob reported PWV is about \$10,000 behind receipts this year. Memorial contributions should total \$3320. We received no restricted cash this year for trail **restoration**. Operating reserve is up to \$26,410. YEE and member recognition expenses are yet to come in. Bob has sent out e-mails to committee chairs to start the 2018 budget process. The December meeting will include budget discussions.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

A) AD HOC NOMINATING COMMITTEE. This year's candidates for Director were presented: **Tom Adams, Elaine Green, Jack Morgan, Linda Reiter, and Jim Zakely.** Each provided a short statement regarding his/her candidacy. **Elaine Green** was not present, but had attended a previous Board meeting.

Margaret asked for nominations from the Floor, and there were none. Nominees were asked to leave the room.

Margaret requested a motion to add additional Board officers, to be called Members at Large. It was moved and seconded.

Move to add two new officers, titled Members at Large, to the Board for a three-year term.

The By-laws allow only three new directors to be elected annually, but more directors can be added if they are officers, per Article IV, Section 1. Members involved in previous modifications to the By-laws related that large Boards may be less effective than smaller ones. Others commented that more members are needed so the pool of experienced members grows from which Chair-Elect nominees are can be drawn. The 2018 Board would have 14 if two more are added. There will be opportunity to look at By-laws later to make them consistent with what PWV now needs. An *ad hoc* committee will discuss future revisions to the By-laws. This change does not impact the quorum, which remains 50% of members. Amending the By-laws requires a 2/3 vote of the Board, which would currently be eight. New officers are not on the Executive Committee. Board membership for the last five years has been between 12 and 15 members. After further discussion, the motion was approved.

Written secret ballots were distributed, resulting in unanimous election of all five candidates to the Board. The motion was made and seconded to elect Board Officers:

Move that Board Officer positions be elected as follows:

- (a) Tom Adams – Chair Elect*
- (b) Bob Meyer – Treasurer*
- (c) Janet Caille – Secretary*

The motion was approved.

New Board members were welcomed back into the room, notified of the results, and congratulated.

The following motion for an existing Board 2018 vacancy was moved and seconded:

Move that Holly Young be elected to the Board to fill an existing vacant seat that expires in October 2018.

The motion was approved.

B) FUND RAISING COMMITTEES. Jerry Hanley and Karl Ritters presented the plan for updating the web design for donations, in response to the August motion that donation access be more prominent on the home page and redesign be reconsidered. A test website, karl.pwv.org, is currently available. “Volunteer” and “Donate” options are prominent, attached to the photos. “About Us” is now a tab, not a photo. “Donate” offers two choices: donate online or donate by mail. “By mail” leads to a modified form that allows designation to either endowment or annual operating budget. Modifications suggested included adding \$100 as a donation amount, allowing donations to both endowment and annual on one form, reminding about employer matches, reversing dollar amounts so the largest is first, reformat the top around the PWV logo, adding the statement “we do it all with no paid staff.”

The new design includes a description for the operating fund donations, but it needs revision. Additional links have been added about the Wilderness Wall, Endowment Fund details, and donor testimonials. Donate online goes to Colorado Gives and avoids PayPal or other mechanisms. Suggestions include adding \$100 as an option on that page, which would require removing \$120, which is a good amount for monthly recurring donations. The suggested edit of replacing NoCo with Northern Colorado may be difficult because of character limitations. It was asked whether we receive more on-line or paper donations. If most donations are on-line, we might want to remove on-paper option to reduce the number of clicks and take donors straight to on-line options. Any changes to the main PWV web page, formatted on a template, would be difficult. The time-line for completion is several weeks. Margaret would like to announce this website change at the Year End Event. The Board instructed the committee to proceed with the proposed changes, incorporating suggestions as they find appropriate.

C) LNT COMMITTEE. Postponed to November

D) NWSA WEBINAR ON CLIMATE CHANGE. Jack Morgan related that Janet Caille and Dave Cantrell have worked with NWSA to see where climate change information could be included. They are planning a webinar to broadcast November 1, noon MDT. The experts will include Dana Blumenthal, USDA and Linda Joyce, USFS. A panel of Bob Drage of PWV, Dave Green with Southern Appalachian Stewardship, and Nora Kaufmann, Friends of Nevada Wilderness will relate their experience, leading to conversation with experts and “boots on ground.” Those watching can then ask questions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A) STRATEGIC PLAN

- (1) Training and Patrol Metrics –postponed to November
- (2) Strategic Plan Committee. It was moved and seconded:

Move that a Strategic Plan Committee be established to monitor the plan, to evaluate annually and to work with other standing committees to develop their plans.

The motion was approved.

It was moved and seconded:

Move that Jerry Hanley be appointed as Strategic Plan Committee chair;

The motion was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- A) Board date for December meeting. Randy Ratliff asked if the Board wanted to adjust the date since it is so close to Christmas. The meeting date was moved to December 14 by consensus.
- B) Alan Meyer and Gerry Cashman will need separate e-mail notifications in the interim until the Advisory Committee members are finalized.
- C) Alan Meyer informed the Board that new queries for Year End categories are now available on the USFS Patrolling website summary page, and he demonstrated access to them.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: **November 16, 2017, 6:30-8:30 PM**

Submitted by Celia Walker, Secretary *pro tem*