

Minutes of the SVSVC Monthly Meeting, Aug. 11, 2020, Olney Mill Park, Olney, Md.

Submitted/prepared by Darla Fera and Martin Brown

Attendees: Pat Astill, Kathy Berry, Janet Brown, Martin Brown, Mike Cannon, Maribeth Evans, David Fenster (via Zoom), Nancy Fenster (via Zoom), Darla Fera, Alice Filemyr, Jeff Giddings, Pat King, Tony Laing, Karin Mironescu, Jone Parr, Yvonne Pennington, Tom Peto, Carolyn Thurber

Administrative Business

Call to Order by Club President Tony Laing at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes of the June meeting (as prepared by outgoing Recording Secretary Jeff Giddings) were approved.

Treasurer's report as submitted by Club Treasurer Alice Filemyr was approved.

Committee Reports:

- **Membership:** Carolyn Thurber circulated a new members' sheet and reported that the club has recently added one new. Membership renewals continue apace. Carolyn provided several updates to members' addresses.
- **Publicity:** Nothing to report
- **Wellness:** Nothing to report
- **Sales:** Nothing to report

Wednesday 5km Walks: Pat King reported that the walks are going smoothly and, relatively speaking, have been well attended. Tony thanked Pat and Nancy for organizing the Wednesday program.

Club Group Walks: Maribeth said that she will likely resume organizing these walks in September.

Old Business

Newsletter: Tony announced that the latest (August/September/October 2020) newsletter is now available online. Next newsletter deadline: Oct. 15.

Airports Special Program: Mike announced that we now have 92 books sold. (Tony indicated he wanted to buy books, thereby increasing the number sold to 94.) It was suggested that we publish on the SVSVC website an "honor roll" list of those who completed the program. Mike said he would look into this. Mike was cautioned to be sure to get the permission of anyone who would be included on the list before posting such information.

Mike suggested that SVSVC sanction a Gravelly Point (Va.) walk, as the VVA appears to have passed on doing so. He will follow up with VVA about this.

Ijamsville Seasonal Walk: The walk has now been sanctioned as a seasonal event — to run from Sept. 1 through Dec. 31. Will likely be renewed next year as a YRE. Walk creator Kathy Berry was thanked for her efforts.

Events Coordinator: Tony thanked Jone for many years of outstanding service as the SVSVC events coordinator. He also mentioned that if anyone wants to step up to replace her, he or she should contact him. As of now, the job of events coordinator is being shared by several persons.

Big Give: Deadline has been moved to Sept. 10. A \$100 contribution from SVSVC has been authorized.

Parallel Registrations: With respect to our seasonal walks and YREs, the discussion centered around the need to coordinate the consistency of coverage of the walk in the physical walk boxes and what is said about the walk in the online start box.

Other: Yvonne and Pat, on behalf of the Greenbelt Club, reported that a Haines Point walk has been sanctioned but access to Haines Point remains closed.

New Business

Checkpoint: August edition is now available on the AVA website.

Starting Point books: Carolyn is taking orders. Deadline is Sept. 15. Cost is \$25; make checks payable to SVSVC.

Master Calendar: Tony reported that the review of the calendar is on schedule.

Participation in YREs: Alice put together a spreadsheet evaluating the costs to sanction events and the number of walkers per event. Her analysis showed that a more cost-effective approach for less popular events would be *not* to pay to sanction them (\$20 per year and an additional \$5 per quarter in which a walk is active), but rather to reimburse AVA on a “per participant sanction fee (PPSF)” basis (\$1 per participant). A discussion ensued.

Alice’s analysis and the argument she advanced was persuasive: The club voted to reimburse the AVA on a PPSF for our less popular walks in 2021.

Newsletter: Newsletter editor Janet Brown initiated a discussion questioning the continued relevancy of the newsletter. With so much information now online, and the ability for information to be easily emailed to members, does the newsletter still have a function?

It was suggested that the newsletter come out only twice a year — in the fall and spring. The possibility of creating an electronic searchable archive of at least 5 years’ worth of newsletter also was discussed. Janet mentioned that only about 20 members receive the newsletter in print. Is this task still necessary?

The club decided to table this topic until the September meeting, when a decision about the newsletter’s future will be decided.

Other:

- Tony reported that two new walk programs are forthcoming: (1) honoring veterans and their organizations; and (2) all about the five Great Lakes.
- Yvonne announced that anyone wanting to help her organize the slate for the Atlantic regional director and deputy director elections should contact her. The election is next March.
- Alice said the date of the next club audit is February 2021. The audit will cover approximately 18 months, as the club changed its fiscal year from a federal fiscal year to a calendar year.

Potential 2021 Sanctioned Events

Tony said the club is attempting to move all events cancelled in 2020 to 2021. Walk organizers and outside groups will be contacted as appropriate. More information will be forthcoming as dates are firmed up.

Next Meeting: Sept. 8, Olney Mill Park, 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment: Tony adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.