

# Seneca Valley Sugarloafers Volksmarch Club

## Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes. July 9, 2019

**Meeting Called to Order:** 7:30 pm by Tony Laing

**Attendees:** Alice Filemyr, Jeff Giddings, Maribeth Evans, Darla Fera, Carolyn Thurber, Pat King, Dave and Nancy Fenster, Martin and Janet Brown

**Minutes of the Previous Business Meeting:** Approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Submitted by Alice Filemyr.

1. The AVA Annual Report is done and Tony Laing and Jeff Giddings signed the report. Alice will send it to AVA along with the Maryland Form 990-N filing confirmation. If there are any discrepancies found by the Audit Committee, then she will send in an amended report.

**Membership Report – Carolyn Thurber:**

1. 1 new member this month.
2. Carolyn has sent 2 reminders regarding the annual dues. Two families have stated they will not renew. 27 families have paid their dues so far. She will send another reminder shortly.

**Publicity Committee Report – Diane White:** Diane told Tony that there was nothing new to report.

**Sales Committee Report – Darla Fera:** Nothing new.

**Wednesday 5K Walks:** The schedule of walks for July has been sent out.

1. Lake Whetstone YRE 5K will be the walk for tomorrow.

**Club Group Walks – Maribeth Evans:**

1. Maribeth led the group walk June 29 with two other walkers. It coincided with the MVA meeting.
2. July group walk is still TBD. Maribeth is watching the weather and will send out an email.

**Old Business:**

1. **May, June, July Edition of the Club Newsletter** is on Sugarloafers.org.
  - a. Deadline for submissions to the next edition is July 15, 2019.
2. **Status of the Airports Special Program – Carolyn Thurber**
  - a. Books are only available from Mike for now. He sold 17 books at the convention in Albany.
  - b. There will be a test walk of the Green Farm Conservation Park on Monday, July 15 at 9 am, to measure the distances for a new 5k and 10k YRE that will qualify for the program.
3. **YRE at Brooke Grove and YRE on Matthew Henson Trail**
  - a. Nothing on Brook Grove 10K trail.
  - b. Maribeth Evans discussed the Matthew Henson trail and the available parking lots for this YRE.
4. **New Website Hosting - Email issue**
  - a. Jeff Giddings stated that he is still monitoring the situation, but no one has complained recently about not receiving the club emails.
5. **AVA Convention, June 11-13, 2019, Albany NY**
  - a. Neither the club website or newsletter won either competition.
  - b. Alice Filemyr stated that there were 218 clubs in good-standing at the start of the convention. Of those clubs there were 198 credentialed for voting at the convention meetings.
  - c. Results of the election of new AVA officers; David Bonewitz as president, Nancy Wittenburg as vice president, Cecilia Miner as treasurer, and Chase Davis as secretary.
  - d. There was one bid to host the next convention, Madison Wisconsin. This bid was accepted without dissent.
  - e. There were 3 motions for bylaw changes.
    - i. Change from fiscal (July 1 to June 30) to calendar year (Jan 1 to Dec 31) - approved
    - ii. Change the committee structure from president-appointed committees, to have committees appointed by the AVA executive director - approved.
    - iii. Allow the addition of up to 3 at-large members to the board - approved.
  - f. Free walkers were not eliminated at the convention, but there were several impassioned pleas for clubs to eliminate/reduce free walkers. Alice Filemyr stated that our Standing Rules give the

Executive Committee the ability to end free walkers with a simple majority vote. She presented several options for SVSVC to address the free walkers situation in support of AVA:

- i. Eliminate free walkers starting Jan 1, 2020.
  - ii. Eliminate free walkers starting July 1, 2020.
  - iii. Count all free walkers, then donate to AVA the normal participation fee for those walkers.
- g. The free walker decision was tabled and club members are asked to be ready to take it up later.
6. **Future Bus Trips**
- a. New York City trip - Apr. 18, 2020 is a possible date with a possible two-day option.
7. **Rockville Senior Center Annual Health Fair on Wednesday May 22**
- a. Tony Laing, Carolyn Thurber and Martin Brown attended.
  - b. They said that attendees were looking for health advice and no new members were generated.
  - c. However, the Senior Center has a walking event every other month. Martin will hand out club information at the next walk event.
8. **Bylaws Review**
- a. There is much work to do on the Bylaws and Standing Rules.
  - b. Janet Brown will put an announcement in the newsletter asking for volunteers for a committee.
9. **Other**
- a. Tony Laing asked about changing the name of the club. Alice Filemyr stated that it could be done through a mechanism known as "doing business as".

#### **New Business:**

1. **This month's AVA Checkpoint is online.**
2. **Little Bennett Park, Clarksburg OSB YRE**
  - a. Jeff Giddings reported that this event is ready for sanctioning as an OSB YRE that will start Jan. 1, 2020. He passed around maps of the 5K and 10K trail to the members present.
4. **Maryland Volkssport Meeting June 29, 2019**
  - a. The Atlantic Region Convention will be hosted by the Keystone State Volkssport Association, next year in Columbia PA, in conjunction with Susquehanna Rivers multi-day event.
  - b. The next MVA meeting will be held Sept. 28, after our Frederick Oktoberfest walk.
5. **Master Calendar Review**
  - a. Audit committee is needed and Martin Brown and Dave Fenster volunteered. They will meet with Alice Filemyr after the Kentlands group walk on Jul. 31.
  - b. Maribeth Evans reported that all current YREs have been submitted and approved for next year.
6. **Other**
  - a. The 3rd Thursday of the month was selected for the combined "all members" club dinners.

#### **2019 SVSVC Sanctioned Events:**

1. **Urbana Seasonal - Aug. 1 - Dec. 31.: – POC Kathy Berry**
  - a. Urbana Seasonal is ready for opening. The event brochures were available at the last club meeting.
  - b. Kathy Berry is working on a new event in Ijamsville, MD.
2. **Frederick Oktoberfest - Sep 28, 2019: – POC Allison Andrews, Jone Parr** No information.
3. **Muddy Branch Greenway Trail - Oct 12, 2019: – POC Jone Parr**
  - a. Paul Hlavinka has said that we can use the Discovery Center as the start/finish point for this event.
  - b. Alice Filemyr and Jeff Giddings will meet with Jone Parr in August to help with the walk directions.
4. **Seneca Creek Moonlight Walk - Nov 16, 2019: – POC Tony Laing, Jone Parr**
  - a. After discussion, Alice Filemyr made a motion to charge \$3 per participant over the age of 12 for this event. The motion was seconded and passed without dissent.

#### **Possible 2020 SVSVC Traditional/Seasonal Events:**

1. North Valley Stream Park, Olney Indoor Pool Park, Old Gaithersburg/Washington Grove, Westminster Breakfast Walk, Frederick Oktoberfest

**Door Prize Drawing Winner:** Jeff Giddings

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:54 pm