

Evergreen State Volkssport Association
Board of Directors Meeting
November 17, 2020
Zoom Meeting ID #813 3573 3019

1. President Joe Blazek called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. Attendees were welcomed and guests Tom Baltus, Regional Director, and Ed Hainline, VP of OTSVA, were acknowledged.
2. A quorum was declared. Those in attendance were: Joe Blazek, ESVA President; Todd Oberlander, ESVA VP; Holly Spaulding, ESVA Secretary; Sharon Moats, ESVA Treasurer; Dennis Standridge, Eastern Area Coordinator; Lynn Blazek, Central Area Coordinator; Sandi Severtsen, Northwest Area Coordinator; Tony Holt, Central Puget Sound Area Coordinator; Carolyn Warhol, South Sound Area Coordinator; Burt Paynter, Southwest Area Coordinator; Sherry Ogur, Challenge Committee Chair. ESVA Representatives present were: Liz Morrison, Capitol Volkssport Club; Russ Kruse, Central Washington Sun Striders; Mike Nagan, Emerald City Wanderers; Jerry Williams, Evergreen Wanderers; Sharon Moats, Interlaken Trailblazers; Dennis Standridge, Lilac City Volkssport; Todd Oberlander, Olympic Peninsula Explorers; Diane Wagner, Over the Hill Gang; Eleanor Borgardts, Pathfinder Volkssport Club; Sherry Ogur, Sound Steppers; Dorothy Steedle, Vancouver USA Volkssport. Also in attendance were Allan Heritage, President of Lilac City Volkssport Club and Chase Davis, President of the Pathfinder Volkssport Club.
3. Eleanor Borgardts made a motion, seconded by Carolyn Warhol, to approve the minutes of the April 25 BOD meeting as written. The motion carried.
4. The passing of members Pat Patterson, Roy Bauska, Millie Haupt, and Quinn Best were announced. Members were asked to forward these names to karen@ava.org so they may be included in the necrology report at the AVA convention next year.
5. Treasurer Sharon Moats reported that the 30 Sept account balances are: \$17,974.74 checking and \$25.75 savings, for a total of \$18,000.49. Of note: 1. Five years ago, on June 30, 2015, our bank balance was \$31,272.05. We have slowly and deliberately reduced our balance. 2. Our income for this first quarter of fiscal year July 1-Sept 30 is \$375 for membership dues and \$40 for sales of challenge books. Three clubs have not paid dues yet and reminders have been sent. 3. Expenses have been \$1513 per info shown on reports. 4. Records of the ESVA financials have now been reduced from 9 boxes to 2 boxes retaining the past 7 years data as required and other essential records for the organization. The Income Statement is a summary only, and Sharon is happy to provide an expanded version upon request.

Sharon submitted her resignation in anticipation of the election of Chase Davis as Treasurer later in the meeting.

6. Vice President Todd Oberlander reported on the status of the ESVA YRE/SE Review Program. 75% of ESVA walks have been reviewed. There remain 150 walks that haven't been reviewed. Soon 31 walks will need to be re-reviewed as it has been five years since they were reviewed. We are in danger of falling behind in our review program as more walks cross the five year mark. Todd asked that he be notified of any new walks or changes to existing walks so that they may be reviewed.

7. Area Coordinator Reports.

a. **Eastern Area, Dennis Standridge.** Group walks are continuing because typically there are only six to eight people at group walks.

b. **Central Area, Lynn Blazek.** Group walks are continuing because there are only six regular walkers that attend. Club meetings are being held online. A new walk in Yakima will start in April 2021. The Icicle Gorge walk will be back next year.

c. **Northwest Area, Sandi Severtsen.** The Tulip Trekkers have had 25 new members since May. All walks in the region will have both online start boxes and physical start boxes soon.

d. **Central Puget Sound, Tony Holt.** Tony reviewed walking events coming up. He was pleased to announce that the Remlinger Farm walk in October had 270 participants.

e. **Sound Area, Carolyn Warhol.** Some clubs in the area are meeting by Zoom meeting. Capitol Volkssport Club has cancelled the annual holiday walk.

f. **Southwest Area, Burt Paynter.** Clubs are planning travelling guided walks and group walks for early 2021 and spring.

8. Challenge Committee Chair Sherry Ogur announced two new challenges for 2021. Walking Down Memory Lane will reintroduce old walks. Original challenge books and awards from the past will be used for those who do the walks. Dorm Batson is designing a patch for another new challenge called Honoring Our First Line Heroes. This challenge will start July 1.

9. The Executive Committee made the following motion: Amend the ESVA Standing Rules Section 5 Finance 2nd sentence to read: "The only names on the bank accounts of the organization shall be the Treasurer's and at least one of the following ESVA positions: President, Vice President, or Secretary." The motion was seconded by Mike Nagan. The motion was carried unanimously.

10. The Executive Committee made the following motion: Beginning in 2021 all ESVA clubs will utilize either #1 or #4 in the participation block of their club's registration log sheets. Clubs may continue to use existing registration log sheets with another wording until they use up their existing log sheets. After that, all clubs will use registration log sheets with the participation block language agreed upon.

#1.	IVV Participant \$3.00	#4.	IVV Participant. \$3.00
	Club Participant \$2.00		Guest (donation \$_____)
	Guest (donation \$_____)		

After an active discussion of the motion, it was tabled.

11. Proposed changes to ESVA Review Program were discussed. **Proposed Action:** In an attempt to get more YRE/SE evaluations completed, this discussion paper proposes that the pool of eligible reviewers be increased in some way so that additional evaluations may get completed. One part of this proposal would be that club members would be allowed to review their own club's events if they had no involvement in the development of the event (pre-walks, group club walks of the event, map and walk direction development, etc.) and have not walked the event.

This would allow for some additional people on the local club level to review and evaluate ESVA events as long as they have had no previous involvement with the event in question. As an example, club officers could ask new members if they would be willing to do certain reviews. They would be brand new to the event with (hopefully) no preconceived notions about the event they would be reviewing.

After a discussion, there was general agreement with the proposed action. A motion will be prepared for the next BOD meeting.

12. New Business.

a. Carolyn Warhol nominated Chase Davis for the ESVA Treasurer's position. As there were no further nominations for the position, Joe Blazek called for a vote. Chase Davis was elected ESVA Treasurer unanimously. Chase Davis will be the primary signer for all ESVA accounts and Holly Spaulding (ESVA Secretary) will continue as secondary signer for ESVA accounts.

b. Regional Directors Report.

1. The national office will move in December and they ask that clubs and individuals hold off on mail from at least 12/10 to 1/10 so things don't get lost in the shuffle. They are moving into two facilities, with a small building near the downtown and a little larger space for back support about 5 miles to the west.
2. Get sanction requests in ASAP for early year walks (TGW, GW, TE) so stamps can be made and shipped before the office move.
3. The AVA convention is moving forward and registration information should be uploaded in December before the office move.
4. Bylaws webinar November 18.
5. National Award nominations are due to AVA committee 1 Dec. Any last candidates for Distinguished Achievement or Trailblazer?
6. Budget wise, AVA is slightly better off than we had hoped, but still below budget. I encourage individuals to continue walking as much as possible and for clubs to continue uploading events on OSB to expand our walking opportunities. Use good judgement on TGWs and TEs during our enhanced restrictions from Gov Inslee.
7. Congrats NW region members for outstanding support to Big Give. We had the highest # of individual donors (86) and clubs (22), second highest \$\$ raised at \$17,407.41, which was just \$350 less than the SW region. Also had the highest total of club \$s donated at \$4535.00, which was \$1400 more than the nearest region. If we

added in Nancy W's donation, we were way over the top. Big Give 2021 will be in September, so keep saving those pennies.

8. There were 41 participants in the summer challenge with 2637 walks. Winners were:

1st Place: Jean Ohl, Vancouver USA Volks @ 290 walks

2nd Place: Janet Paige @ 218 walks 3rd Place: Pat Jewett, CRVC @ 150 walks.

\$100 drawing went to Karen Younkens, Capitol Volkssport Club.

9. Club closures: Eugene-Springfield Mossbacks, Yachats Coastal Gems, and soon for Turnaround Trekkers. Walks are being adopted by other clubs. Earlier in the year we also had Border Crossers close and last year we saw the Key Peninsula club close. Please work with your clubs to keep the rest of our clubs alive and well.

10. RD/DRD candidates still being accepted. Contact Sharon Moats, Bob Morrison or Sam Korff.

11. How about an annual or permanent waiver for walkers? In the OSB we have a permanent waiver for walks done through OSB. I propose that we extend that waiver to physical start boxes and traditional events to reduce contact and speed up registration. Recommend walkers pre-register for group walks on YREs through OSB to limit contact and speed up registration.

c. Members were asked to let Todd Oberlander and Chase Davis know of any new walks or bikes. Todd will add them to the list for review and Chase will add the information to *The Northwest Pathfinder*.

d. *The Northwest Pathfinder* editor, Chase Davis, let us know that they have lost their only advertiser, Walking Adventures. Walking Adventures has suspended operations for two years. Chase is seeking bids from other printers in an effort to lower the cost of publication.

e. Ed Hainline will be coordinator for the Winter Walking Contest. He will send details of the contest to ESVA Secretary Holly Spaulding for distribution to ESVA clubs.

f. Other announcements. The Christmas Ships Walk in Portland, OR, is cancelled. The regional conference in Medford, OR, is still a go for May. November 27, an Opt Out walk in Vancouver, WA, at Bagley Park is still on.

13. A date for a winter Executive Committee meeting will be announced. There will be a spring Board of Directors meeting either by Zoom or in person. Details to be determined.

For clubs that are hosting traditional events under COVID conditions need to follow safety guidelines such as registering outside, having a short registration period, requiring masks during registration, asking people to bring their own pen, etc. Perhaps traditional events should offer only 5K options since restrooms aren't available along most routes.

15. The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Submitted by
Holly Spaulding, ESVA Secretary

Joseph L. Blazek ESVA President