

Executive Committee Meeting
September 30, 2022
In-Person Meeting

- **Call to Order.** President Joe Blazek called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm PST. In attendance in addition to the president were: Todd Oberlander, Vice President; Diane Howell Evans, Secretary; Chase Davis, Treasurer; Dennis Standridge, Eastern AC; Lynn Blazek, Central AC; Sandi Severtsen, North West AC; Pam Greig-Davis, South Puget Sound AC; Sharon Moats, Regional Director; and Ed Hainline, Deputy Regional Director. Absent were Tony Holt, Central Puget Sound AC; Burt Paynter, Southwest AC; and Sherry Ogur, Challenge Committee Coordinator.
- **Establishment of Quorum.** Diane Howell Evans declared a quorum was established.
- **Welcome to members and guests.** Joe welcomed EC members in attendance.
- **Acceptance of April 23, 2022 EC Meeting Minutes as written.** Ed Hainline made the motion to accept the minutes from the April 23, 2022 EC meeting as written. Todd Oberlander seconded. Approved.
- **Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Chase Davis reported total expenses for the 2022 fiscal year were about \$2900 with the ending June 30, 2022 checking and savings balance of \$13,932.71. Association is spending the balance down but at this point in time no bottom line has been established. Committee needs to review and consider possible bottom line.
- **Report on Walk Review Program.** Vice President Todd Oberlander reported 72% of the YRE reviews have been completed at this point in time. But in January 2023, 55 YRE events will return to the walk review list to once again be reviewed.
- **Area Coordinator Reports.**
 - **AC Dennis Standridge** (Eastern) – reported the Lilac City Volkssport Association is restarting their twice weekly group walks once again in October after being shut down for a period of time due to the summer heat and then smoke from forest fires.
 - **AC Lynn Blazek** (Central) – reported the Sun Striders club is adding 4 biking events and two walking events for 2023. The two walks are in Sitka AK and Selah WA. The new biking events include the following trails: Riverfront Bike Trail (Richland), Yakima Greenway Bike Trail (Yakima), Ferry County Bike Trail (Curlew Lake) and Apple Capital Loop Trail (E. Wenatchee). The club is hosting ACE-WG (AVA Community Event – Weekday Guided) walks on Thursday mornings which are successfully recruiting new club members.
 - **AC Sandi Severtsen** (North West) – reported on the following clubs:
The Olympic Peninsula Explorers hosted a walk at Anderson Lake State Park during the NW Hiking Weekend with the 4+ Foolhardy Folks Club on August 19-21, 2022. Very nice walk by club and kudos to Todd Oberlander for ensuring all aspects of the walk went smoothly.
The Sound Steppers are hosting a new challenging walk in 2023 in Snohomish which starts at Lord Hill State Park. They are also adding two 6k distances to their 2023 YRE list.
 - **AC Tony Holt** (Central Puget Sound) – Sharon Moats reported for Tony in his absence. Clubs in the area all seem to be healthy. YREs are doing well with new ones being developed. OSB gradually becoming more popular. Cooperation with outside organizations is becoming more difficult and a sudden withdrawal of permissions for an FS Family Wanderers event caused some last minute but successful alternate planning by the club.
 - **AC Pam Greig-Davis** (South Sound) – reported on the following clubs:
Capitol Volkssport Club. Club is offering members a new Chinese Zodiac challenge program which began in April and already has completions by 3 members. The club's Sept 15th Amtrak trip to Portland to participate in the 5-T's walk was canceled due to an impending national railroad strike. Upcoming walks include the Salmon Run walk on October 15th in Tumwater and the Holiday walk on December 10th in Olympia.
Daffodil Valley. Club has 2 remaining events in 2022 – the Color of Sunrise walk in Puyallup and

the Friday after Thanksgiving “OptOutside” walk in Sumner. There will be 4 traditional walks in 2023 and all the club’s YREs are now on the OSB.

Evergreen Wanderers. Club’s upcoming walk on October 8th follows trails in Swan Creek Park as well as the newest section of the Pipeline Trail and is rated 2C. Event starts at the Eastside Community Center in Tacoma.

Over-the-Hill Gang. Club is hosting its’ first guided walking event since COVID on Wednesday, Oct 26th, in DuPont.

NW Pathfinders. Club is doing fine and has a club meeting tomorrow while in Winthrop.

- **AC Burt Paynter** (Southwest) – No report due to absence.
- **Challenge Committee Report.** Joe Blazek reported Sherry Ogur and he had reviewed and updated the ESVA Challenges web page and suggested everyone check it out.
- **RD and DRD Report.** Sharon Moats reported the early bird special pricing for the February IVV Olympiad is in effect until Oct 31st so walkers still have time to save some dollars. The NW region is the #1 region in registrations for the IVV Olympiad!
- **New Business.**
 - **Correspondence.** None
 - **Announcements.** Joe Blazek reminded all clubs to forward any officer updates to Diane and to the AVA. Ed Hainline updated everyone on the Central Oregon Salute multi-event weekend scheduled for Sept 14-17, 2023, in Bend, OR. Plans at this time include 9 walks, 2 bikes and a swim.
 - **Winter Walk Challenge Contest 2023.** Chase Davis indicated money was already allocated in the 2023 budget for the Winter Walk Challenge Contest but he recommended the prizes be changed from gift cards to cash due to the additional \$7 purchase fees for gift cards. After a brief discussion the EC agreed to change the prizes from gift cards to checks from the ESVA. Discussion also addressed the current prize levels and adding a 4th level prize of \$25 with the justification the ESVA was saving \$21 due to the elimination of the 3 gift card purchase fees. Ed Hainline moved a \$25 prize level be added to the contest beginning with the 2024 Winter Walk Challenge. Dennis Standridge seconded. Approved. Discussion of the challenge rules regarding participation eligibility, particularly the donation amount, resulted in the suggestion the minimum \$1 donation be increased to \$2. Todd Oberlander moved the donation of \$1 for participation eligibility be increased to \$2 immediately with the 2023 contest. Sandi Severtsen seconded. Approved. Ed Hainline volunteered to continue as coordinator for the Winter Walk Challenge Contest.
 - **Pacific Crest Trail walks/hikes info.** Joe Blazek reported that 12 walks/hikes qualify for the PCT special program. Joe, Tom Baltes and Don Reed helped Nancy Wittenberg create the information for the WA and OR areas. You can contact Nancy for the purchase of the PCT Special Program record books.
 - **YRE/Seasonal Events for 2023 – new, changed or dropped.** Todd Oberlander discussed the need for volunteers to review new and changed 2023 YRE/Seasonal events. At the current time Todd does not know the total number of new or changed 2023 events. Sharon Moats will forward a list to Todd once all the 2023 YREs/Seasonals events are sanctioned. Todd will review the list by the end of March and then forward to Diane Howell Evans the list of those events which need to be reviewed and Diane will forward to the Club Presidents to assign to volunteers.
 - **Update of ESVA Budget Drawdown.** Chase Davis stated the current ESVA account balance is \$13, 932.71 and projections at the current expenditure levels forecast in 4.8 years we will run out of money. Discussion ensued of various bottom line levels and planning strategies. Chase Davis made a motion that a Capital Assessment Committee be created to review the budget and develop a drawdown strategy and submit their recommendation to the Executive Committee. Lynn Blazek seconded. Approved.
 - **ESVA Sponsored YRE/Seasonal Sanctioned Events.** Joe Blazek introduced 3 possible ocean

beach walking trails in the Forks WA area that the ESVA could sanction as seasonal events to offer a variety of walks across the state, attract new people to our sport, assist in the 39 County Challenge as well as any future challenge programs. These events would not compete with any member club events in the area and would be offered through the OSB. The 3 beach walks are Cape Alava/Sand Point; Rialto Beach/Hole in the Wall; and Second/Third Beach. Sandi Severtsen made a motion to approve the 3 ocean beach trails submitted by Joe Blazek for sanctioning by the ESVA. Ed Hainline seconded. Approved.

- **Pathfinder Issues.** Chase Davis discussed the unexpected change of publication printers and the resulting change in fees per issue. ESVA funds the publications each WA club receives for their club and each event they sponsor. EC needs to discuss publication costs and ESVA funding with the Board of Directors at tomorrow's meeting.
- **Delegates for San Antonio TX.** Joe Blazek discussed the AVA General Membership Meeting to be held in conjunction with the IVV Olympiad and Texas Trail Roundup (IML) in February 2023 in San Antonio. No elections will be held in February but since the meeting agenda is still an unknown at this time, there might be a possible need for a delegate. Will discuss at BOD meeting tomorrow.
- **Other.** None.
- **Next EC and BOD Meetings.**
 - **Next ESVA Meetings** – will be zoom meetings in January. Dates and times will be decided at the Board Meeting.
 - **Spring Annual Meetings** – meet at Capitol Volkssport Club's April 28-29, 2023, event in Lacey WA at the Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs building (same location as club's 2022 Wild and Woodsy event).
- **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm PST.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Howell Evans
ESVA Secretary

Reviewed:

Joe Blazek
ESVA President