

AMRG March 4th Business Meeting Minutes

The meeting convened at 16:30 with Ken Chiacchia presiding.

1. Chair Report / General Announcements
 - a. A draft budget for 2008, and other financial information was handed out. Members were encouraged to read the material in preparation for a budget vote in April.
 - b. We need ideas for fund raising activities.
 - c. Andy asked if the current dues of \$35 is no longer sufficient to cover group membership fees. Ken explained that ASRC dues will be increasing and that dues outgo is beginning to outpace income.
 - d. PSARC's political problems were mentioned. Without getting into specifics, it was explained that PSARC difficulties are having no serious effect on AMRG at this point.
2.
 - a. There were no callouts in February.
 - b. PSARC status / roster: Our paperwork has been submitted. We are in compliance regarding the number of members ranking FTM or higher. We are not yet in compliance with NIMS certifications.
 - c. The trailer is ready. Until a more permanent storage venue can be decided upon, Andy will keep the trailer at his house.
 - d. The ANRG/ASRC jacket proposal has been tabled for now as no one has volunteered to coordinate the project.
 - e. The cave rescue proposal has been elevated to the planning stage.
 - f. Web Upgrade: Our new web provider did not work out. An alternative provider will be found in a month.
 - g. The Board of Directors will address fundraising projects.
3. Recap of Board Meeting

There was no meeting, but the proposed schedule of future meetings is:

Monday, April 7th, 2008 – New board elects officers, approves 2008 budget. Discusses fund raising.

Monday, June 30 – Board approves supplemental/updated 2008 budget.

Monday, Sept. 29 – Board approves 2009 budget.

Monday, Dec. 29 – Main agenda items TBA
4. News From External Organizations
 - a. 501(c)(3) status: All forms have been submitted. We are waiting for a reply.
 - b. ASRC meeting April 12 (BoD and general membership) to be held in West Virginia. Email Dale if you intend to go.
 - c. PSARC meeting May 3 (during SAREX)
 - d. NCRC update: DCNR & NCRC are altering gates at local caves to allow SKEDS to pass through..
 - e. MRA update: Chris showed a video produced by MRA. Chris will burn copies for those who request a copy.
5. Training Report:
 - a. Previous trainings debrief –
 1. MRA winter training: 4 teams participated. Had snow for a change.. Added ice climbing this time.
 2. March 16th night training encountered problems
 - b. Upcoming training opportunities:
 1. March 8,9 & 15 ICS-300, Alleg. Co. EMA
 2. March 13-April 10 Amateur Radio Technician class, Alleg. C. EMA
 3. March 19 HAZMAT awareness, Alleg. Co. EMA
 4. March 22 AMRG field training, crime scene & clue awareness, Raccoon Creek State Park, time TBA.

5. April 25-27 VaSARCo state conference.
 6. April 26 & 27 ICS-400, Alleg, Co. EMA
 7. May 1-4 Pa. SAR-EX – we will have activities for AMRG members!
 8. June 15 – Advanced Grid Team (DCNR curriculum) class, Fayette Co. (registration required)
 9. June 19-21 MRA summer conference, Stowe, VT.
- c. Dog training update: Roaring Run training was tough, but went well.
6. Member Business
- a. Dues & release form collection continue.
 - b. FTM/L checklists: Bring checklists to trainings so that they can be checked off. Current FTLs are encouraged to bring a checklist and begin recert.
 - c. Election of AMRG Officers:
 1. Commander – Bill nominated Dale Lersch. Scott seconded Dale’s nomination. Dale was elected unanimously.
 2. Operations Officer – Dale nominated Chris Ruch. Scott seconded Chris’ nomination. Chris was elected unanimously.
 3. Training Officer – Dan Becky nominated Bill Evans. Scott seconded Bill’s nomination. Bill was elected. The only negative vote came from Bill.
 4. Board member #1 (3-year term) – Dale nominated Bru Randall. Chris seconded Bru’s nomination. Bru was unanimously elected.
 5. Board member #2 (3-year term) – Chris nominated Don Scelza. Scott seconded Don’s nomination. Don was elected unanimously.
 - d. Membership Vote:

Dale nominated Bard Kronket for membership. Chris seconded the nomination, Bard was unanimously accepted for membership.
 - e. Ken & Heather will be moving to a 26-acre farm in Harmony. Look for an announcement about a moving party sometime around the end of April.

The meeting adjourned at 19:31. A training on crime scene awareness followed.