

VOLKSSPORTING ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

2:30 pm Saturday April 20, 2008

Archie Browning Sports Centre

1151 Esquimalt Road, Victoria (Esquimalt), V9A 3N6

Attendance:

Board Members: Ethel Hansen, Joan Sanderson, Kaye Farmer, Brenda Dudfield, Jim Carfra

Voting Members:

Garden City Wanderers	David Cattrall
Juan de Fuca Pathfinders	Ed Kucey
Mt Cheam	Brenda Dudfield, proxy
Surrey Trekkers	Brenda Dudfield
Vancouver 'Venturers	Verni Brown
Victoria 'Y'	Jim Carfra,

Observing attendees: Murray Farmer; Judy Haynes; Frank Dudfield; Sheila Purser; Richard Green; Frances Aknai; Beverley Cattrall; Hazel Dunham; Carol Halverson; Bruce Howe; Michael Schlegel; Gord Keeble

1 CALL TO ORDER at 2:34 pm

- a) Moment of Silence was observed for walkers who had passed away in previous years.
- b) Verification of attendance confirmed - 6 out of 12 Clubs represented. (There had been a snowstorm up island, which prevented other clubs from attending.)

2 AGENDA

- a) Additions to agenda – none added
- b) Adoption of Agenda – Motion by Jim Carfra, seconded by David Cattrall.

3 AGM 2006

- a) Approval of the Minutes - Motion made by Jim, seconded by Len Ed Kucey, that the minutes be adopted as circulated. Carried
- b) Business arising from the Minutes - there was none.

4 REPORTS

- a) President:

Ethel reported that she had attended 2 CVF Board meetings at the convention and 3 conference call meetings. She had been on the 'CVF Business Plan' and 'Future in IVV' Committees.

New BC YRE/Seasonal Challenge Programme books have been redesigned to include the new walks. Thanks to Sharon Belton for the design.

A new Seasonal (starting May 1, 2008) Director's walk has been developed in Golden, with a Covered Bridge. The start point is at the BC Government Tourist Information Centre. The Information Centres want up to have walks in Government centres in Mt. Robson and Osoyoos.

The Victoria International Walking Festival has donated a measuring wheel and proceeds from walks operated by Richmond Trailblazers and Vancouver 'Venturers have been received by VABC. Richmond Trailblazers continue to operate one walk and Juan de Fuca Pathfinders operate two seasonals, with proceeds going to VABC. Thanks to these Clubs.

A new affiliate member, Cowichan Family Caregivers Support Society, will host a walk on May 24, 2008 at Shawnigan Lake. This is a new area.

A new walk information collection system has been devised with the help of Kaye Farmer and Wendy Pratt. Everyone has been frustrated in the past with the way information was processed by CVF for the World Book, and VABC for Volkssporting BC and the web site. This year Clubs will receive forms electronically, or paper copies, to be checked and returned no later than July 15. VABC will then submit the information to CVF and they in turn will send out

the partially completed Sanction Forms for verification, completion and signatures.

Ethel continues to work with Michael Tauber of TS Computers to keep the website up to date. New Flashes are posted whenever walk information is different from Volkssporting BC.

There will be a group of walkers going to the Okanagan, September 13 – 16 with VABC hosting the only Cheese Factory walk in Canada. There will be a potluck dinner in Peachland and walks in Kimberley and Golden.

Ethel said she is leading a group to 'walk all across Canada' to Wolfville Convention, leaving May 9.

Ethel thanked the Board for making her job easier; to Club Presidents, walk contacts and everyone who share their thoughts and ideas about Volkssporting and who work so hard to keep it full of fun, fitness and friendship.

Jim asked about the CVF relationship with IVV. There were a lot of negative feelings about the way things were done. The new IVV organization will be presenting new Statutes and Rules and Regulations in England in July. Some amendments may be needed and if these are accepted we will continue our association. If the rules are not accepted and we feel we cannot be part of IVV by September 2008 we will withdraw. Our membership fees are \$1,500.00. The time frame is 2 years to withdraw and join with another organization, e.g.: AVA, Scandinavia. It is looking positive.

- b) Vice-President: Jim said his job was not onerous! He presented a new rate advert sheet for Volkssporting BC and encouraged Clubs to get sponsors to defray costs.
Jim said that in 2009 the walks offered by the International Walking Festival would be resurrected. The three Victoria Clubs would coordinate the volkswalks without entertainment, nothing lavish. A walk on Friday with a potluck 'meet and greet'; walks on Saturday and Sunday, finishing at 12:30 pm.
He also suggested having the VABC Annual Meeting on Sunday afternoon.
- c) Secretary:
Brenda reported that she has been the Lower Mainland Representative, has distributed Volkssporting BC and there have been two Board Meetings during the current year.
- d) Treasurer:
Joan submitted her report, which is attached.
We are in good shape.
The Board has made the decision to give contacts for the Director's walks a break and they do not need to pay for doing their own walk. Brenda will pass on the information.
MOTION: was made by Ed Kucey, seconded by Verni Brown that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. CARRIED
- e) Materials Manager:
Joan said sales of books are down from last year. Full report attached.
- f) Sanction Coordinator:
Kaye said this was her favourite job, and she may nag, but feels she is a help to Clubs. YREs are up; Events are down; there are more BC Director walks but no fees go to CVF. Twenty-five percent of the sanction fee comes back to VABC to compensate for the work done locally, it is our main source of income. CVF office has a paid person who does the rest of the country.
If a Club sponsors a walk, with proceeds to VABC, the Club only pays the insurance fee of \$10.00.
Kaye explained the statistical sheets that were handed to Clubs.
She will work with Ethel on the collection of data for 2009 walks.

5 CLUB REPORTS

BASTION CITY:

There was snow in Ladysmith so the club representative didn't attend. Club was in transition phase. No president. Have 5 map walks; a new YRE and Seasonal. Membership is down to 34 from 60.

GARDEN CITY:

David Cattrall reported they had a membership of 150 in 2007. Very active. They had 5 YREs and 23 Events. The Club hosted the 2007 Convention. They had special walks on Saltspring Island, in Port Angeles, and in Oak Bay with a Pot Luck supper at Christmas. They have a new Executive, which is a sign of health in the Club. 2008 have a busy schedule. They are planning 2009 and will resurrect the Victoria "Blossom Walks" and become an associate member of VABC. The three Victoria Clubs would coordinate the weekend, which would be April 17 – 19, 2009.

JUAN DE FUCA PATHFINDERS:

Ed reported there were 19 members, 6 run the club, which works well. They have converted 2 YREs to fund-raiser walks for VABC. Will add a Goldstream event next year and 1 YRE on West Saanish Road. The "Trailblazer" was a nice job.

MOUNT CHEAM:

No report.

RICHMOND:

No report.

SURREY TREKKERS:

Brenda reported that there were 85 members so far this year, down from over 100. They have 8 YREs, same as last year and 13 Events. Events were already planned for 2009.

VANCOUVER 'VENTURERS:

Verni reported as Past-President. Members were down from 50 to 45, which affected events in 2008. They gave 3 YREs to become BC Director walks, which saved the Club \$270, they have cut back 2 map walks, \$80 which helped finances. They have accepted donations for the \$5 CVF fee. The Club covered the rest of the fees.

Had a bank balance of \$100 at the end of the year. The executive is struggling, with no President or Vice-President. The Treasurer will not continue next year. A slim executive. Verni said she was the Secretary, and continued the Club newsletter and volunteering for walks. She thanked the Surrey Trekkers for supporting all the walks in the Lower Mainland financially.

VICTORIA "Y":

Jim reported 45 members. The Executive has been in place 4 – 5 years and in no rush to change. They are in good shape financially. Walks are well attended. It is a level playing field with other Clubs, which are harmonized.

6 ELECTIONS

In the absence of Past President, Manfred Koestlmaier, Ethel continued with Elections.

Nominations were received for Vice-President, Treasurer, Sanction Coordinator, and Materials Manager. There were no nominations from the floor, or for other positions.

- a) Vice-President: Jim Carfra, was acclaimed
- b) Treasurer: Joan Sanderson was acclaimed
- c) Director – Editor of Volkssporting BC – vacant
- d) Director – Sanction Coordinator – Kaye Farmer, was acclaimed
- e) Director – Web Coordinator – vacant
- f) Director – Materials Manager
- g) Director – Publicity and Marketing – vacant

Questions were asked from the floor regarding the vacant position and Ethel explained:
 Volkssporting BC editor need skills using basic Excel spreadsheets with layout.
 Web Coordinator also should be familiar with Excel, information is used to
 put onto the web site.
 Publicity/Marketing – should have some skill in marketing.

Ethel thanked the Executive for their work. Joan has organized the materials to keep a better track of sales and reports are excellent. Ethel thanked Kaye for her help and support.

7 NEW BUSINESS:

None.

8 OLD BUSINESS:

None.

9 NEXT MEETING

Sunday, April 19, 2009, same location, following the Revised “Blossom Walks” weekend.

10 ADJOURMENT

Ed MOVED adjournment of the meeting at 3:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Brenda Dudfield
 Secretary to VABC