

VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Board Meeting

Held at the WorldMark Resort, 120 Kingston St

Saturday November 10, 2007

Present: President Ethel Hansen, Vice-President Jim Carfra, Treasurer and Materials Manager Joan Sanderson, Sanction Coordinator Kaye Farmer, Secretary Brenda Dudfield

Meeting was called to order at 1:40 pm

MINUTES of the previous meeting held on March 3, 2007, were approved as circulated.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jim gave a report about Advertising. He had analysed a previous proposal from Obelisk Creative Designs and also talked to Mike Tauber, of TC Computer Services, who handles the VABC web site. Action: Create a new, single page, rate sheet to be given to clubs in BC. Jim

Kaye said that Oregon and Washington are combining their "Pathfinder" schedule and advertise all BC walks, at no charge.

Rates for Volkssporting BC are set at 1/8 page - \$30; 1/4 page - \$50; 1/2 page - \$75 and full page \$100.

Members would be charged half of these rates. In addition, Michael determines if there is a one-time set-up charge (usually \$30 which is payable to Michael).

NEW BUSINESS – Reports:

President Ethel reported about the Survey on how VABC can help clubs which was handed out at the VABC AGM on March 10, 2007. There were only 6 surveys returned, mainly because Clubs didn't have enough time to complete it.

5 said VABC should assist troubled clubs

2 said help train clubs and officers

3 wanted us to publicize volkssport events

1 wanted us to resolve scheduling conflicts

None wanted recognition for volunteers

1 wanted us to sponsor larger events

2 wanted us to provide equipment – but there were no suggestions

3 wanted us to stock and sell volkssport merchandize – we do stock some items, however CVF is getting away from selling clothing

1 wanted us to try and form new clubs

We had a discussion about sales.

Vice-President Jim told us that the wrap-up meeting of the Victoria International Walking Festival would be held on November 20 as they will not be carrying on in that format. Equipment will be disposed and any funds distributed. Jim said that David Cattrell, new president of Garden City Wanderers, and his wife Beverley, are keen to resurrect the walks that were held prior to the IML coming on board. These walks would be a Tri-Club, 2-day event from Archie Browning Rec. Centre, using the Vancouver Island Walking Festival walks with distances up to 42 km. Visualised 200 volkssporters, trails would be marked with control points. It was felt there would be enough volunteers on the day. There's plenty of parking, have routes/maps already in place. Food/drink would be available from the Concession Stand. There would be no pre-registration so would not be onerous. It was expected to be held in 2009, in April and hopefully draw walkers from across the country.

Secretary Brenda – did not have a report.

Treasurer Joan – reported a bank balance of \$4,873.65, with a \$5,000 GIC, which is due in January. Total amount is \$9,960.65.

VABC. Upcoming bills include paying CVF \$5 for each Club member in VABC (12); \$50 CVF membership dues; insurance for each YRE/SEAS; Approximate cost of Volkssporting BC is \$2,000; Michael's contract for Volkssporting BC and web site for 2008.

Sanctions Co-ordinator – Kaye reported forms from Clubs should be back by November 20. There were 145 events this year but only 108 so far for 2008, but more could be expected, projected 115 for 2008. There will be an increase in YREs with Seasonal walks in Tofino, Ucluelet, Cedar, Oliver, and Summerland. There will be a larger number of Director walks in 2008. Statistics year to date are close to last year's totals. Most clubs are very good at getting stats to her quickly after a walk.

Materials Manager – Joan reported that she isn't selling much. It was suggested that new walkers be given the first Green event book free, after completing the "Five Free Walks" booklet, as an encouragement to use books. We discussed ways of identifying the books.

We discussed ways of adding the new YRE walks to the BC Challenge book – 4 for the island and 3 interior.

New YRE in Golden will be in the covered bridge programme, a seasonal, Ethel is checking out start locations, and is hopeful the Tourist Office can accommodate us. At present it is 11 km. Will be May 1 to Oct. 15.

Equipment to buy: Ethel said she would like to have a wheel for measuring walks, as it is inconvenient to borrow from clubs when she needs one. Jim said he was sure the VIWF would give her the one they will be disposing of.

2008 AGM – Jim said he couldn't find a suitable place in Sidney, but that the Archie Browning Sports Centre at 1161 Esquimalt Road, Esquimalt is available for Sun April 20 – it is affordable, the lounge could be used for Registration of the walk; a soup and sandwich lunch could be provided for \$8.00 (vegetable soup, plus one other; 4 or 5 different sandwiches) tea and coffee. Those attending would be asked to register ahead with their order. The bar would be open for those who wanted something stronger. The rooms have been booked until 4 pm. Walk at 10:00 am; lunch 11:45 am to 1 pm; Open session 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm and AGM 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

Information from CVF Board Meeting – Ethel reported that there are two new CVF Walking Programmes starting in 2008 – 1 - Wine, Cheese and Brewery – utilizes YRE and event walks.
2 - Scholarship Walking Programme is for YREs **only** – a self-monitored programme, at the walkers' discretion. Ethel suggested a sheet be placed in the front of sign-in books listing the names of the schools and wineries, cheese factories and breweries on the route.
Charitable status – A soccer case was upheld by the Supreme Court of Canada, and charitable status was removed. No hope for us.

Volkssport Canada – according to the survey although people have email, most want a paper copy. Need to push for more ads, so it is self-sufficient.

Sponsorship CVF are revising the personal walking programme, for schools in hopes Bell Canada would use it for their initiative to encourage walking in schools.

2009 CVF AGM – Gateway Walkers of Callander, Ontario will host the AGM at Nipissing University in North Bay, Ontario May 22-24, 2009.

Liability Insurance: The sign-in sheets from walks should be kept for 3 years + 1 day. It is Third Party Liability Insurances. Any Club sanctioned or authorized event is covered, i.e. pre-walks, and recognisance trips.

Number of events across Canada for 2008 is down. YREs the same. Board is looking at joint CVFAVA Programmes for 2009 – Rivers; Possible other new program in 2009 is a Remembrance (cenotaphs) Walk Program.

Next Meeting Saturday, April 19, 1:30 pm following walk in Victoria
Meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Brenda Dudfield, Secretary