

VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION OF B. C.
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Held Saturday, October 28, 2006
At the home of Joan Sanderson, 4264 Richfield Terrace Victoria

Meeting called to order by President Ethel Hansen at 1:55 pm; with Vice President Jim Carfra; Treasurer and Material Manager Joan Sanderson; Secretary Brenda Dudfield; and Sanction Coordinator Kaye Farmer in attendance.

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Joan reported a total cash balance of \$9,544.08 in the TD/Canada Trust and ING Savings. Income since April was \$1,139.35; expenses totaled \$770.67.

Sanction Coordinator: Kaye reported she sends sanctioned walk information to Joan and CVF Treasurer. This year there are 168 scheduled walks, same as 2005. So far for 2007 there are 134. Twenty of these are part of the 20th anniversary celebrations requiring a special year slug showing 1987 and 2007. There will be 3 World Walking Day and 2 National Walking Day Events. These 5 are also 20th anniversary events.

There are 71 YREs in 2006 plus 3 new BC Director walks in 2007. Insurance to be paid by VABC for Director's walks. There may be seasonals in Princeton and a YRE in Keremeos.

Eight YREs/Seasonals will qualify for the Lighthouse Programme in 2007.

The new Yellowhead Programme will have 3 walks in BC – Hope, Kamloops and Prince George.

Mt. Cheam's Clayburn Store YRE was discussed as the store where the Start Point is, closes on Holidays and for a couple of months during the year. It was suggested that the Registration Box be moved to the Matsqui Rec Centre and people could drive to the start and do the walk all year.

Statistics: As of Sept. 30, 2004 participation in events was 7,353. On the same date in 2005 6,203; and in 2006 6,221. We are holding our own over last year, but lower than in past years.

In 2005 statistics showed approx. 35% of Volkssporting in Canada took place in BC.

Publications: Footpaths won't be published in 2007; walks will be listed in the World Book; Volkssporting BC and on the CVF and VABC web sites.

Materials Manager: Joan reported she is selling the Capital City, Winter Walking and Lighthouse Programme and Regular books.

President: Ethel reported there will be a YRE in Salmon Arm next year. The VABC web site has a link to the CVF Convention. Ethel thanked Kaye for her work with the Sanctions and for obtaining information for the walks.

OLD BUSINESS;

Brochure being developed by Brenda Loveridge has been put on hold since the publication of the CVF brochure and as we have no sponsorship from the Running Room.

Inactive Clubs in 2007: Northern Lights in Chetwynd YRE has been dropped; West Coast Walkers – New Westminster YRE has been taken over by Surrey Trekkers, and other walks will become Director's walks. Wine Country walks remain Director's walks.

Walk to Edmonton: The trip was a success, minimum of 13 people did most walks with some local people joining the group. Ethel said she is planning a "Walk to Wolfville" in 2008 doing the Capital City and Yellowhead challenges. Joan was interested in assisting in the planning of a 3 week trip. "Walk to Victoria" –VVVC has asked for 2 sanctions to walk from Vancouver City Hall to the Tsawwassen Ferry, there have been no requests for a sanction from Swartz Bay to Victoria.

Elderhostel and Volkssport: The September programme with Bastion City, Juan de Fuca and Garden City Clubs went well, from both sides. The provider can promote in BC excluding the Victoria area. The plan is to expand the programme into the Okanagan in the Spring, 2007.

NEW BUSINESS;

ING account: Joan reported that excess funds were invested in an ING account to receive more interest but only Albenia has access to the account. Joan is to request Albenia transfer the funds back into VABC TD/Canada Trust account and then other plans will be investigated for the money.

Insurance: Jim said that CVF has Liability Insurance, but it doesn't cover Volkssporting's Social Events where alcohol is served, unless awards are presented. He investigated this on behalf of Victoria's International Walking Festival.

Volkssporting Interest – Langley: Ethel said that a lady who lives in Langley has approached her about starting a Club in Langley. The Surrey Trekkers have a YRE in Langley and cover that area. Contacts for all the clubs in the Greater Vancouver area has been sent. Brenda is willing to walk with her on an upcoming walk. Ethel will send her information about starting up a Club if she persists with her request to start a club..

CVF New Walking Programmes; VABC Special Programmes?: There will be new challenges in 2007 – for the 20th anniversary and the Yellowhead.

CVF are working with the AVA on their covered bridge challenge – there are 3 in BC: Whistler - a covered pedestrian bridge over Fitzsimmons Creek on the YRE route; Golden which has the longest lumber bridge in Canada and Keremeos. Ethel will look into putting YREs in those places.

Education Walking Programmes going past schools and universities has been suggested, also Brew Pub/Wine/Cheese challenge.

“Walk BC” - 5 people completed the programme in 2004; 14 in 2005; 11 in 2006.

We discussed a new “Walk BC” programme utilizing YREs. - to walk ALL YREs and Seasonals in BC. The province would be divided into 3 areas - Vancouver Island, Vancouver area and the other walks in BC (we are to think of an appropriate name). Awards will be in 3 levels - to achieve Bronze do all walks in one area; Silver walks in 2 areas and Gold all walks.

Brenda suggested that Frank Dudfield could look into places for a “Walk BC (or Canada) in Europe” programme as there is in U.S.

Volkssporting BC 2007: Will have a full page for the CVF convention, supplied free. There are about 200 copies left of 2006 edition. 1,800 will be printed for 2007 – as we felt many would be given out at the CVF Convention. Kaye and Ethel to obtain quotes for the same number of pages.

AGM and Board Meeting 2007: AGM will be on Saturday, March 10, 2007 at Gleneagles Community Centre, West Vancouver, with VVVC being the hosts. Island attendees can catch the 8:30 Nanaimo ferry; everyone will do the walk, have lunch and then the meeting.

The Board Meeting was set for Saturday March 3, 2007 in Victoria again at Joan’s following the Strawberry Vale Community Hall walk.

Advertising Information: Volkssporting BC rates have been the same since 1994. A banner ad on the web site is \$100, excluding the set up and preparation. Jim took historical advertising information to revise. Ethel to send a short note to Clubs to see if they would like to advertise instead of sending just a donation to VABC. The Washington State “Pathfinder” lists all our walks for free.

Other: Brenda said a member had suggested having YRE routes posted on web sites, but as maps are copyrighted it is not a good idea.

Board positions – Ethel is willing to run for another 2 year term as President; Brenda will run for Secretary; vacant positions at present are: Director at Large; Editor of Volkssporting BC and Web Coordinator. The latter two positions require skill in using Excel spreadsheets as Web Master uses that format to make changes on the web site and for printing Volkssporting BC

Meeting concluded at 4:25 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Saturday March 3, 2007, Victoria, at Joan’s following the Strawberry Vale Community Hall walk.

Brenda Dudfield
Secretary