

MINUTES

WPRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Manitowoc Maritime Museum
Manitowoc, Wisconsin

Wednesday, May 14, 2008
10:30 AM

I. **CALLED TO ORDER:** With the presence of a quorum, President Joe McLafferty called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

II. **ROLL CALL:**

Joe McLafferty, President	Marty Kosobucki, President-Elect
Roger Kist, Past President	George Pinney, Park Chair
Steve Peterson, Region I Rep	Sara King, Region II Rep
Erin Winch, WTRS Chair	Pat Grulke, Region IV Rep
Rebecca Price, Aquatic Chair	Derek Donlevy, Student Co-Chair
Tom Kautz, Emeritus Chair	
Maria Andersen, Student Advisor	
Steve Thompson, Exec Director	

Guests:

Excused Absence: Yvonne Monfils, Jim Mattke, Lori Williams, Erica Wilson,
Erin Winch

III. **ACCEPTANCE OF EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Moved by Steve Peterson to accept the excused absence of Erica Wilson who is in Ireland for the summer, Yvonne Monfils, Lori Williams, Erin Winch and Jim Mattke; second by Marty Kosobucki. Motion Carried.

IV. **ACCEPTANCE OF PROXIES:** Moved by Steve Peterson to accept the proxy of Jim Mattke to Joe McLafferty, the proxy of Erin Winch to Pat Grulke and the proxy of Lori Williams to Roger Kist; second by Derek Donlevy. Motion Carried. **It was also noted that Derek Donlevy was granted voting privileges for the Student Section in lieu of Erica Wilson's absence.*

V. **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:** None.

VI. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Moved by Roger Kist to approve the Meeting Minutes from the March 5, 2008 Board of Directors' Meeting; second by Steve Peterson. Motion Carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Community Fit Proclamation:** Joe indicated that the Community Fit Proclamation and information packet had been disseminated to the membership to encourage them to promote community health and wellness in May and throughout the year. A proclamation from Governor Doyle has been signed for the month of May and sent to the Association as well for Community Fit. He also explained Shape Up program that occurred on May 7th Statewide as Community Health and Fitness month.
- B. WPRA Strategic Plan:** Steve and Joe related that the previously mailed Strategic Plan draft for 2009-2011 reflected WPRA's increasing sophistication and skill with strategic planning, and moves the plan to a more strategic and less tactical focus. This strategic plan reinforces the core business lines of WPRA as a statewide association: Public Awareness, Public Policy, Citizen and Professional Development, and the Development and Dissemination of the Body of Knowledge. The previous 2006-2008 plan had five goals, as does this plan. Three of the initial goals, Advocacy, Knowledge and Awareness remain essentially the same, although a new goal, Citizen/Professional Relationships has been added. A Business Plan was also mailed to the Board that outlines the specific tactics and objectives that would need to be met, along with a timeline. Moved by George Pinney to accept the Strategic Plan and Business Plan as presented; second by Rebecca Price. Motion Carried.
- C. Annual Conference:** An update on the 2008 Annual Conference and Trade Show at the La Crosse Convention Center was provided. Several new programs and activities were added by the Committee. On a special note, the Awards Banquet will be held on Wednesday evening this year instead of Thursday evening. Pat Grulke also indicated that the educational sessions would also have outcomes listed as part of the session description to give the membership a better understanding of the topic and content.
- D. 2009 Membership:** (Steve Thompson for Jim Mattke) indicated that the approved three year tiered membership cost outlay had been distributed by the Regional Representatives for viewing by the membership.

VII. OLD BUSINESS – ACTION:

- A. Board Governance Next Step:** Joe McLafferty and Marty provided an update from their regional presentations, and the subsequent feedback that they obtained, as well as results from the various Section Board Meetings. The Regions were extremely receptive and helpful in discussing the information on the governance issue. A motion was made by Rebecca Price, second by Pat Grulke to accept Option 3 as the new Board structure for WPRA. Motion Failed.
Moved by Marty Kosobucki to adopt Option 1 with the addition that the Student Section Chairperson be a voting member; second by Roger Kist. Motion Carried.
Moved by Roger Kist to authorize the Sections to make the determination who will serve the two year term on the WPRA Board; second by Steve Peterson. Motion Carried.

Moved by George Pinney to set January 2010 as the start for the new governance structure with staggered terms for the Section representatives; second by Roger Kist. Motion Carried.

Joe McLafferty explained informed the Board that the final acceptance would be in November during the Annual Meeting. If the governance structure/bylaw change is approved in November, the Sections will then need to amend their rules of order to comply with the State Association bylaw change, and to bring these forward to the Board in 2009 for review and approval.

- B. **Legislation:** Marty related that the Legislative Committee would be reviewing the Elected Official nominations for 2008 and making a selection in later June of this year. Nominations must be received into the WPRA Office by June 1. The WPRA Legislative Committee and membership were able to convince Senator Kohl to sign-on to the Dear Colleague letter for the Land and Water Conservation Fund on April 3rd. Marty also indicated the Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association (WPRA) is reviewing the feasibility of petitioning the state legislature to increase the WRS requirement of 600 hours to 1000 hours for part-time employees.
- C. **Friends of WPRA Update:** Steve related that the Friends of WPRA was being reviewed by the State Association's accounting firm before anything is forwarded on to the state. Steve also indicated that he attended the Foundation meeting in April, and assured their Board that the FWPR would in no way compete with the Foundation for membership monies.
- D. **NRPA Legislative Forum Overview:** Roger indicated that he, Joe and Steve represented WPRA in Washington DC. Visits with the two Wisconsin Senators and eight Congressman all took place, and three priorities were emphasized: Land and Water Conservation-State Assistance Program, Urban Park & Recreation Recovery Act, and the PLAY Every Day Act.

IX. OFFICER REPORTS:

- A. **President:** Joe McLafferty introduced a draft resolution related to part-time employee hours and the Wisconsin retirement System. This was suggested by Mike Kading and could save thousands of dollars per year for agencies that use part-time staff in their operations. Moved by Roger Kist to approve WPRA's support toward implementing this resolution; second by George Pinney. Motion Carried.
Joe McLafferty will contact Michael Kading to determine if his legislator is interested in introducing this legislation for consideration. In the meantime, the WPRA Office will attempt to solicit feedback and support for the Wisconsin League of Municipalities, Wisconsin Town Association, etc.
- B. **President-Elect:** Marty related that he had emailed a revised committee work plan and structure on the Conference Committee for the Board's review. Moved by Steve Peterson to accept the revised Conference Committee work plan and structure; second by Roger Kist. Motion Carried. This will go into effect starting in 2010.

- C. **Past President:** Roger Kist indicated that he and Steve just returned from the NRPA Board of Trustees' Annual Spring Meeting in Portland, Oregon. NRPA is attempting to finalize candidates for the vacant Executive Director position.
- D. **Secretary/Treasurer:** Steve (for Yvonne Monfils) reported the First Quarter Financial Report for WPRA: Revenues-\$97,820.18, Expenditures-\$114,397.31. Net-\$ -16,577.13. Typically the first and second quarters have a deficit, and the third and fourth quarters have positive net revenues, as the bulk of the revenues come in during these two quarters. Moved by Steve Peterson to approve the 2008 First Quarter Financial Report; second by Pat Grulke. Motion Carried. Joe also reminded the Section Chairs that the 2009 budget submittals were due into the WPRA Office, no later than July 10th.
- E. **Executive Director:** Steve disseminated a copy of a Membership Code of Ethics for the Board to review. The code would not be binding, but rather would identify principles that we hoped the membership would use as a guide. A copy of the revised Executive Search format was also discussed. Based on the March 5th Board Meeting, Steve identified Non-Member Fees associated with assisting these agencies with vacant positions, job descriptions, etc. Moved by Steve Peterson to approve the Executive Search fee proposal; second by Rebecca Price. Motion Carried.
Steve expressed his thanks to Marty Kosobucki for developing the price outline and packages for the Executive Search format.

X. **SECTION REPORTS:**

- A. **Aquatics:** Rebecca Price reported on the following:
The Aquatic Section facilitated 5 aquatic technician workshops throughout the state during the month of April. There were 82 total attendees. Topics included new test kits, new technology, updates to the pool codes and general pool maintenance. This Friday, May 16, Sun Prairie will host the 2008 Aquatic Seminar. The seminar begins at 8:30 am and will include information on facility management, swim lesson techniques, handling difficult situation and patrons.
- B. **Emeritus:** Tom Kautz indicated that he just mailed the Emeritus members a letter outlining the plans for the upcoming Annual Conference, the Lifetime and Emeritus membership fees, as well as a request for them to contribute to the Dr. George Wilson Emeritus Challenge Fund.
- C. **Park:** George Pinney related the following: The Park Section held its Annual Meeting after Spring Workshop at Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells on March 13, 2008. After a spirited discussion on the Governance options presented, a unanimous vote was cast to support a modified "Option 1" of the 4 options presented. It was recommended to add the Student Section Rep. It was felt that both the 1 yr and 2 yr terms for the Student Rep had merits and that the Student section should help decide which one worked best for them. The preference was for a 2 year term.
The Section also voted to hold next year's Spring Workshop at Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells on February 26, 2009. A room rate of \$62.00 per night for a single room with an \$8.00 charge per additional person was also approved. This

rate is good through the weekend.

The Park Section's next meeting is May 20, 2008 in New Richmond, WI.

The Summer Parks Tour will take place in Platteville, WI July 23-25, 2008.

- D. Recreation:** Steve Thompson for Lori Williams reported on the following: The Recreation Section meets monthly, usually in Sun Prairie. Since the last WPR board meeting we met on March 28th, April 18th and May 9th. We have been working with a Rec Section sub committee on the summer staff leadership-training workshop. The committee is working with presenters Kris Henker and John Harrits who collectively have over 40 years experience in the outdoor education area. Their program is designed to provide both new and experienced playground leaders and summer staff an inexpensive toolbox of experiential games and activities that can be played for fun or with purpose. Upon completion of this program participants will have a list of items for their toolbox, a list of retailers to purchase toolbox items, and a list of games and resources that can be used. The flyer was approved by the Recreation Section, distributed and also posted on the WPR board website. Considerable discussion has occurred as it relates to the continuation of the leadership workshop beyond this year. Finding someone to take the lead person/ liaison role and to keep the lines of communication open with the Recreation Section is a necessity for it to continue.

In regard to WPR board governance the Rec Section voted at the March 28th meeting in favor of Option 1 with the addition of the non-voting student section rep. A lot of discussion occurred as to the implications of the change with regard to the two-year term. It was noted that changes would need to be made to address these and other issues that arise.

The Recreation Section has been busy with conference sessions and planning. The schedule is set and all the details are being finalized. The Fun Run and Rec Section meeting will be held Thursday afternoon back-to-back, 4-5pm, and 5-7pm respectively, prior to the evening activities.

At the April 18th Section meeting A motion was made and second to recommend purchase of 2 LCD projectors for the WPR board office. Motion carried. Due to busy schedules, shrinking budgets and rising gas prices the Recreation Section has cancelled its July 18th meeting normally held in the Dells at Noah's Ark. The next scheduled meeting will be August 15th in Sun Prairie. Please also note that our October meeting will be held on the 1st at 9am in Sun Prairie to accommodate annual awards evaluation.

- E. Student:** Derek Donlevy reported that he and Marty Kosobucki made a special presentation to students and faculty at UW La Crosse to encourage participation in WPR board. Mike Ulrich also provided a presentation to promote involvement and attendance at the Fall Conference.

**Roger Kist also related that he made presentations at UW Stevens Point and at Aurora University.*

- F. WTRS:** Pat Grulke for Erin Winch indicated that the following business has transpired with WTRS since the last Board Meeting:
- Discussion and approval of Option 3, board governance reduction.
 - The section met on March 12 and confirmed speakers for 2008 WPRA Conference in La Crosse.
 - WTRS assisted with the Midwest TR symposium social. The conference was Held April 27-30 in Lake Geneva.
 - The section continues to look at new ways to encourage students to become involved with WTRS and invite them to attend a section meeting held at the WPRA Office.

XI. REGION REPORTS:

- A. Region I:** Steve Peterson indicated the following from the last PARPRO Meeting:

Tim Miller gave an overview of Flambeau Mining area at Rice Lake and the creation of Park Land and opportunities it has presented to his Department and the Community.

Board Governance Proposals was brought up with much discussion. There was great discussion given by the membership present. When discussion ended and a vote was taken, the results were:

Option One 21 Votes Comments on Option 1

Option Three 1 Vote 1) Eliminate past president position 5 votes

2) Add students section 3 votes

Information given before vote had an effect on outcome of student position on option 1. Voting information was read to membership and passed on to Joe for delivery to full Board.

Discussion was given on the new illegal bats that are on the ASA Lists. What are the various Recreation Departments doing with the bats? Group discussion was held, and various modes of regulations were given by different communities present.

Discussion was held on the Stewardship Program, DNR - NR115, UPAAR.

A reminder to all that May is Community Fit Month.

Steve handed out the NPSI information and encouraged all to have someone attend.

- B. Region II:** Sara King provided the following report:

Our March 20 meeting was hosted by Ashwaubenon at their Village Hall. The main topic of discussion was the Board Governance. The board-prepared PowerPoint presentation was given, followed by discussion.

On April 17 the NEWPRO meeting was held at the Appleton Family Ice Center, which included a tour of the facility following the meeting.

Our next meeting is Thursday, May 15 at 10:00 am in Manitowoc. There will be a "Pre-Park Tour Splashpad Information Presentation" given by Mike Hardy of Commercial Recreation Specialists, to help promote the Park Tour.

- C. **Region III:** The following report was submitted by Jim Mattke:
- **April 17, 2008.** PARR 3 meeting in Beloit. Many different speakers and presentations, with about 30 people in attendance. Meeting also included a presentation on WPRA Board Governance by President Joe McLafferty and President-Elect Mary Kosobucki. After the presentation there was some discussion and a vote taken via paper ballot by the region on the four different options being considered. By a majority vote of 80%, PARR 3 favors Option #1, with a non-voting Student Rep. also being added.
 - **May 8, 2008.** PARR 3 meeting in Fitchburg.
 - **No PARR 3 meetings** scheduled for this summer. Next meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2008 in Sauk City.
- D. **Region IV:** Pat Grulke reported SEPRC met March 26 at the Urban Ecology Center in Milwaukee and April 23 in the Town of Brookfield.
- Updates:** Board of Governance Presentation was given by Yvonne & Joe. 16 members voted for Option 1, with the inclusion of Student Representation.
- Option 2 – 3 votes, Option 3 – 2 votes, Option 4 – 3 votes.
- Dan Kaemmerer, DNR presented information regarding DNR grants & 2008 Stewardship changes.
- Annual SEPRC Lifeguard competition will be hosted by Cedarburg.

XII. NEXT MEETING: The next Board Meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2008 in Baraboo.

The WPRA Board was invited to tour the Cobia at the Manitowoc Maritime Museum where history was made when submarines were made in Manitowoc during World War II.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Marty Kosobucki to adjourn the meeting at 12:25 PM; second by Tom Kautz. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve

Steven J. Thompson, CPRP
Executive Director

