

Minutes of WSGA Board Meeting

18 January 2017

Princess Trouble called WSGA's 18 January 2017 Business Meeting order at 6:30pm.

Board Members in attendance: Avroair (Mark Clemens), BroncosFan4Life (Chandra Day), FenchurchE (Fen Eatough), GeekandGopher (Ray/Brenda Harrison), Ham_sters (Crystal Stidham), Martin5 (Jerry Martin), Mr. Gadget #2 (Gene Reed), Mizdirection (Toni Westgarth), Princess Trouble (Jacquie Vaughn), SirKarp (Rob Norenberg)

Also in Attendance: AndrewRJ (Andrew Johnson), Mc3cats (Chris Brue), Moun10Bike (Jon Stanley), NepoKama (Mitch Eatough), Rambudo (Russell Brendel), Winos_Seattle (Antoine Pin)

Princess Trouble welcomed the board members, appointees and visitors in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Minutes from 16 November 2016 were approved unanimously

Comments: None

Financial Report

Report by BroncoseFan4Life

2017 Chapter Allocations: once I get the current membership amounts and breakdown of types, I will send out your Initial budgets for 2017. I will be updating these quarterly.

PayPal status: in speaking with the IRS, it appears as they have not received updated information from WSGA for a period of some years. I worked with them last week to update a few items, and they are sending me documentation. Once I have in hand, this will be given to PayPal, and hopefully are issues will be resolved.

November 1, 2016 starting balance: \$12,824.30

Income:

- Sales: \$134.10
- Membership: \$96.00

- Total: \$230.10

Expenses:

- PayPal Fees: \$10.57
- USPS: \$22.25
- Chapter allocation: \$145.108
- Internet: \$468.54 (Constant Contact Annual Renewal)
- Total (\$646.46)

November 30, 2016 ending balance: \$12,407.94 (\$416.36 decrease)

December 1, 2016 starting balance: \$12,407.94

Income:

- Membership: \$408.00
- Sales: \$177.40
- Total: \$585.40

Expenses:

- PayPal Fees: \$25.10
- USPS: \$107.00 (PO Box Renewal)
- Chapter allocation: \$1331.43
- Internet: \$172.05 (New Website Host)
- Merchandise Orders: \$1,196.52 (Membership Gift)
- Total (\$2832.10)

December 31, 2016 ending balance: \$10,161.24 (\$2,246.70 decrease)

WSGA BUDGET & HISTORY	2015 Proposed	2015 Actual	2016 Proposed	2016 Actual	2017 Proposed
INCOME					
Membership	\$5,000.00	\$4,022.00	\$4,600.00	\$3,040.00	\$3,500.00
Merchandise Sales	\$5,500.00	\$6,245.00	\$5,500.00	\$8,580.57	\$5,000.00
Campout	\$2,500.00	\$2,147.00	\$2,200.00	\$223.00	\$1,500.00
Ape Weekend	\$15,000.00	\$25,144.78	\$9,000.00	\$8,215.32	\$9,000.00
Fundraisers	\$300.00	\$123.03	\$250.00	\$333.21	\$0.00
Total Income	\$28,300.00	\$37,681.81	\$21,550.00	\$20,392.10	\$19,000.00
EXPENSES					
Postage	\$1,000.00	\$718.54	\$750.00	\$343.36	\$700.00
Internet	\$2,000.00	\$181.51	\$1,500.00	\$727.97	\$500.00
Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$385.64	\$500.00	\$197.73	\$300.00

Dues/fees	\$50.00	\$57.73	\$50.00	\$20.00	\$50.00
PayPal fees	\$800.00	\$1,020.14	\$800.00	\$574.21	\$800.00
Chapter	\$2,900.00	\$2,622.09	\$2,900.00	\$4,135.32	\$3,200.00
Allocations					
Campout	\$3,000.00	\$1,067.95	\$2,600.00	\$1,634.80	\$1,500.00
Ape Weekend	\$10,000.00	\$17,716.03	\$6,000.00	\$9,805.42	\$8,000.00
APE Promotion					
WSGA	\$3,200.00	\$1,095.00	\$3,200.00	\$2,796.43	\$3,000.00
coin/tb's					
Merchandise	\$3,500.00	\$340.50	\$3,000.00	\$1,196.52	\$1,500.00
Small Grant	\$2,000.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
Program					
Sponsorships	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Outreach	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Park Liasion	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
GeoTour	\$750.00	\$39.90	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
NW Trails	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
projectors	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
GPS units	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$177.50	\$150.00	\$328.50	\$100.00
Total	\$30,400.00	\$27,322.53	\$23,750.00	\$21,760.26	\$21,550.00
Expenses					
Net Budget	(\$2,100.00)	\$10,359.28	(\$2,200.00)	(\$1,368.16)	(\$2,550.00)

Comments: None

Membership Report

Report by Avroair

197 members for 2017, we are currently working on nametags. Paypal is broken, so hold off on sign ups until that gets fixed.

Comments: It was asked and affirmed that we could take cash and checks to pay for dues. The new website is being set up to better track the different types of memberships.

Ape Mega-Event

Report by AndrewRJ

The 8th Annual Going Ape Event is scheduled for August 19, 2017. It is early in the year so not a lot is occurring at this time. The following steps have been completed along with a status update below.

- Going Ape 2017 Event Page – The event page has been submitted and awaiting review. I have cleaned up a lot of the language to remove old information and I will add new details as they become relevant (SWAG, status of original container, etc)
- Mega Agreement – The Mega agreement paperwork has been signed and approved. We are a Mega for another year.
- State Parks Event Permit – In an effort to insure that we don't have any potential conflicts with other events we have submitted the State Parks Special Event permit about 4 months earlier this year. Parks has received the permit and cashed the permit application fee (\$25). Speaking with our contact for the permit we need to submit the insurance waiver and final permit fee (\$500) before final approval is given. This is all in line with previous years. Request for the insurance waiver shall go out over the next month likely.

The two thoughts that I have that are new for this year revolve around the following;

- Costs – Based on the budget I have seen from Chandra it seems we kept costs down last year, which is great. I have had several people ask about cost offsetting from sponsors. I admit that I am out of my element on this end, but it may be a way to help offset cost without a huge impact to the event.
- I have yet to hear anything officially, or unofficially from Groundspeak concerning the plans for the Original Ape container. Depending on their plans it could affect the event quite a bit.

Comments: None

Outreach

Report by Mc3cats

As outreach goes, we are in the "quiet time" for requests. I have the GPS units still as no one has requested them. There are no outstanding outreach requests currently. Things tend to heat up towards the spring and definitely in the summer.

Comments: None

NEW BUSINESS

Member Gift

PrincessTrouble reports that the membership gifts have arrived and are set to be mailed out shortly.

Campout

Discussion on which dates would work best for this year's campout and where it might be held, with further discussion moved to the forums.

Paypal Issues

The Webstore is closed until the resolution of the PayPal issues. The social media committee will be posting an announcement to let people know there is a problem and that we're working to resolve it. BroncosFan4Life reports that we are simply waiting for some paperwork from the IRS, as the info at PayPal had not been updated since 2006.

Elections

Avroair announced the creation of the election committee and also opened the election to nominations starting February 1st.

Website Committee

The Website committee showed off the progress they have made on the new website. NepoKama reports the website has a new host and they have started work on the updated site. Things are moving along and they expect to be fully transitioned to the new site by the first of June.

Moun10Bike offered to allow the club the use of his caching photos for the website.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Inland Empire Chapter Report by Martin 5

Past Chapter Events:

12/18/2016

5th Annual IE Chapter WSGA Christmas Party

GC6X119

14 attended logs posted. (Approximately 30 people)

12/30/2016

The Big Year (Movie at the Cave)

GC6X4GB

15 attended logs posted. (Approximately 30 people)

Upcoming Chapter Events:

01/20/2017

The American President (Movie at the Cave)

Cache Advance, Spokane Valley

GC6Y7ZN

02/24/2017

Leap Year (Movie at the Cave)

Cache Advance, Spokane Valley

GC6YR4R

02/??/2017 (date still pending)

11th Annual WSGA Winter Party

Valley Assembly, Spokane Valley

GC6X12K

Upcoming Area Events:

01/14/2017

Winter Playland Meet and Greet

49° North Ski Resort, Chewelah

GC6XGD3 by the tc life

01/15/2017

Sledding at Valley Mission Park

Mission Park, Spokane Valley

GC6YGY3 by GeoCrackers

01/21/2017

If the shoe fits, wear it. Snow shoe shoeing!

Missile Site Park, Deer Park

GC6YKVD by scareway

02/03/2017

GSAK Basics 101

Cache Advance, Spokane Valley

GC6Z1D2 by Lookout Lisa

02/10/2017

GSAK Intermediate 201
Cache Advance, Spokane Valley
GC6Z1DB by Lookout Lisa

I updated our Facebook pages this past month. We originally had two pages in use: "Inland Empire Geocaching" which is an individual page and "IE Chapter WSGA" which is an organization page. The individual page name was changed to "Jay Cacher" and all friends were removed. It is now solely for use as an admin page to post on our organization page. The organization page name was updated to better match the other chapters and to make us easier to find during a search by replacing IE with Inland Empire. It is now "WSGA Inland Empire Chapter." A big part of this update was due to the existence of a local group page named "Inland Empire Geocachers" which is owned by AntiqueMan. Many cachers mistakenly thought the group page was the official page of the Inland Empire Chapter.

I also started a new series of monthly events last month. The series is "Movie at the Cave." It is a meet and greet at Cache Advance, followed by the showing of a family friendly movie. We have a January and February events scheduled. Based on feedback, I will probably try to keep the series going.

Our Winter Party will be sometime towards the end of February. As this is our largest event as to attendance (80+) we are still waiting to hear back from our usual venue as to availability of the room.

We've had a lot of interest in new cachers joining the WSGA and current members renewing. Unfortunately, the PayPal site being down is causing us some issues as some are insisting on paying that way, vs. paying by check. Times are changing. I'm also now having members contact me asking why they paid their dues several weeks ago; however, the website still shows them as expired. Unfortunately, I'm able to reassure them that I am in the same situation and it's not just them. I paid my dues via PayPal before the New Year and am still showing as expired. Hopefully this can be corrected soon.

I also wanted to point out that there are now three categories for associate members being used on the website. The old category of Associate Member is still being used and the two new categories of Individual Associate Member and Family Associate Member. It would be helpful if the plain Associate Member would be discontinued and the members in that category be moved to whichever of the new categories they fit in.

Southwest Chapter Report by Geek&Gopher

New Business:

Ray is working on the Website Committee, building a brand-new modern website for the WSGA.

Past Chapter Events

12/3/16 – Vancouver, WA
Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Christmas is coming! (GC6VFAP)
Hosted by Bearsandme & WSGA SW Chapter
Round Table Pizza
5016 NE Thurston Way
Vancouver, WA
12PM - 2PM
38 logged attended including family members

Upcoming Chapter Events

2/18/17 – Longview, WA
2017 Academy Awards Meet & Greet (GC6ZB6D)
Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter
Sizzler
936 Ocean Beach Hwy
Longview, WA
11:00AM - 12:00PM

4/15/17 – Vancouver, WA
2017 Lake Vancouver CITO (GC6ZB76)
Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter
Vancouver Lake Regional Park
6801 NW Lower River Rd
Vancouver, WA 98660
10AM – 12PM

5/6/17 – Vancouver, WA
Maintenance Madness 2017 – Kickoff Event
Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter & GEOregon
Ft. Vancouver Visitors Center
1501 E Evergreen Blvd
Vancouver, WA
9:00AM – 10:30AM

Puget Sound Chapter Report by SirKarp

Events Held:

On December 4th we held the second annual Krampus event GC6W3AB at Izzy's Pizza in Lacy. We overflowed the banquet room with 44 logged attends! Last year we had 23 logged

attends so that's an increase of 21 we nearly doubled. We held a general raffle which included some WSGA swag, some cache containers we put together and number of coins and other items donated by attendees. We also held a WSGA members drawing where we gave away an ammo box loaded with goodies to a WSGA member. We had a number of club sign ups and renewals at the event. Finally we ate a bunch of really good food.

Upcoming Events:

The 2016 Holiday party is next Saturday January 21st it's GC6QC0T. It'll be held at the Maple Valley Community Club, as it worked out really well for us last year. After proving ourselves last year to be very good renters this year they have been kind enough to extend our rental hours PLUS allow us to rent the hall on a Saturday for their Sunday rate. As is tradition we will be eating a potluck dinner, holding a WSGA members drawing and an early bird drawing and the annual gift exchange. We have also managed to put together 50 small lunch boxes, each with a flashlight, tweezers, log book, pen and small DNA tube with log. These will be raffled off to WSGA members as a thank you for supporting the club and coming out to chapter events. The theme for this year will be a winter's Game Night, since this is the 10th annual Puget Sound holiday party we will have a fun geocaching / WSGA related trivia game to play with prizes for the winning team.

February 12th 2017 we will be Vampire Valentines day event. It'll be an afternoon tea, at Cold Creek Park in Cottage Lake from 1PM – 3PM. We'll bring the tea, hot water and cookies, and if necessary the patio heater. We are asking attendees to bring something that goes along to share. We'll have a raffle and a WSGA members drawing as well.

The 2017 It's almost Summer Picnic will be held on Saturday June 3rd 2017, at Point Defiance Park in Tacoma, at the Fort Nisqually Picnic shelter. It's still to soon to publish the event on Geocaching.com but it all set a secured. We just need to pick a theme!

Meeting was adjourned by Princess Trouble at 8:09 pm.