

Eastern Pennsylvania Region Stated Meeting Minutes April 22, 2018



I. Section Chiefs and Region Staff Meetings from 8:31 AM to 9:33 AM

II. Call to Order

Sharon Friedel, Region Director, called the regular meeting of the National Ski Patrol Eastern Pennsylvania Region to order at 9:46 AM on April 22, 2018 at Blue Mountain Ski Area. Thank you to Blue Mountain for hosting this meeting.

III. Moment of Silence

There was a moment of silence to remember all patrollers and family members who are no longer with us.

John Andrews - Roundtop
Mark Ecker - Camelback
George Hannon - Roundtop
Lauren Hartman - Alumni
George Helwig
Paul Horvath - Big Boulder
Chuck Lippincott - Big Boulder/Camelback
Joe Sullivan - Jack Frost
Chuck Uliana - Camelback

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Bob Bernatos and seconded by Bobby Morgan to approve the Minutes of the November 12, 2017 meeting; motion approved.

V. Introductions

Jim Widenor - New Patrol Director Montage
Ryan Malloy - New Region Delegate-at-Large

VI. Section Chief Reports

A. Northern - Bobby Morgan

- Applauded the plea to region patrollers to vote for the NSP Board, which worked
- Montage has a new Patrol Director; hosted Senior S&T; Chicks on Sticks was cancelled due to weather; general manager from several years ago is re-hired; installed LED lighting on the mountain; putting a hotel on the mountain; will be hosting annual golf tournament

- Elk had a successful OEC hybrid class; 6 candidates; 1 transfer; patrollers working on Senior and Certified; 2 patrollers received 50-year certificates; Bob Bluff elected to NSP Hall of Fame
- Mast Hope assistant PD retired after 31 years; closed on March 26, 2018; upgraded tubing; moved magic carpet; closer relationship with management; concerned about OEC refresher registration process
- Hideout closed on February 23rd; ice skating rink right at the bottom of the mountain
- Upper Delaware Nordic had a great year— opened before Christmas

B. Pocono - Tony Alber

- Jack Frost has 5 new patrollers; had success with OEC online program; started a program called Taste of Senior; 6 patrollers took the ID class; tickets are comped for military personnel
- Big Boulder closed last week; talking about having a May Day; each year the entire patrol does one OEC module
- Ranchlands had a short season and 2 new transfers
- Shawnee was open 116 days; OEC course with 9 new candidates and are looking in to the OEC online; it was discussed to register candidates with the NSP after July so dues cover the rest of the year plus the following year; concerns about not being able to make changes on the roster
- Camelback has 12 new candidates; have Open House and Recruiting program; the Recruiting Day is in December and accepted applicants are enrolled in the S&T program first; employer contributions--how does the individual patrol get the money when it goes directly to the NSP?; held SOEC clinic; possibly hosting patroller school next year

C. Southwest - Robert Wohlschlegel

- Roundtop doing OEC hybrid program for 2nd year; discussed amongst themselves the Outstanding Patroller selection; YAP program at Roundtop has 5 candidates; discussed pros and cons of YAP program and how to emphasize the pros; getting more challenging dealing with corporate resort management -- need to address good relationship building communication between PDs and resort management; standardizing policies at all three resorts

D. Central - Steven Lorish for Inese Jardine

- Blue Mountain had 16 new candidates; longer season than normal; several new TEs; one new Senior

- Bear Creek had 16 new patrollers; long season; hosted successful EMR to EMT bridge course
- Spring Mountain hosted SEMM and ID course

VII. National Updates/Board Information - Bob Scarlett

Bob had been the Eastern Division PA legal advisor and then worked at the National level; has seen two Board lawsuits; current Board is a smart group; Bob announced that he would like to run for the NSP Board and discussed his resumé. Bob also discussed his concerns about: NSP's relevance to the ski industry; developing relationships directly with ski resorts; difficulties between NSP Divisions; protecting the OEC Sixth Edition; importance of members and benefits; Workers Compensation. Bob is asking for support in his pursuit for a National Board seat. Bob Bernatos thanked Bob Scarlett for his important work with the NSP and thanked him for his numerous years of service. Bob Bernatos stressed the importance of patrollers' voting.

VIII. Program Updates:

Treasurer/Finances - Jack Bogdon

Jack reminded everyone to get their 990s to him by the end of April; please use Excel and not submit a .pdf. He thanked the patrols who have already submitted. During the transfer of records from MaryEllen to Jack, the electronic records were lost. Jack is re-building those records and payments had been delayed. All bills are currently paid. Jack mentioned that the EPA computer can not print documents at his home because he can't connect to his Wi-Fi. Jack discussed the current finances which are very similar to this time last year with the exception of the investments due to the fluctuation of the market.

Secretary - Nancy Mayberry

Nothing to report

Avalanche & MTR- Rich Hartman

MTR will be back at Blue Mountain next year; PDs please urge patrollers to sign up.

Certified - Sharon Friedel for Brant Maley

Certified program at Killington; well attended; no new additions this year

Instructor Development - Brent Watts

Class had 19 people on March 31st -- largest class in a few years; please urge patrollers to become instructors; can start mentoring an individual prior to their taking the ID course; Brent asked people to consider volunteering with the ID program

MIST - Wolfgang Boernert

EMS renewals have changed -- EMR/EMT certifications will not automatically renew; you must manually renew online; new NSP-EPA website; advisors should add their content; contact Wolfgang for help

OEC - Dennis Zercher

Two refresher dates have not yet been scheduled; OEC refresher registration includes 3 separate registrations; Wolfgang's EventBrite registration/information has been an important backup tool for our Region; the Region must know how many patrollers are attending each refresher; the NSP has no plans to make their website more user friendly. Dennis will continue to be the IOR for all the Region's refreshers. Bob Bernatos discussed the three-fold process to register for an OEC refresher: EventBrite, NSP, and Hybrid and the difficulty to get all three registrations through one web location. Bob also discussed some of the shortcomings of the NSP website.

PA License Plate Program - Sharon Friedel for Howard Rosenthal

Information is on the website. Tony Alber said that Eastern Division Director John Kane liked the license plate program and would like to promote it in the Division.

Patroller School - Sharon Friedel for Matt Nebzydoski

Matt did a great job at Elk and another patroller school may be added at Camelback.

SOEC - Mark Leukus

Total candidates 26; 15 candidates took the test compared to 34 who tested last year. 67% pass rate this year. Tried a new testing program using one candidate and a team of TEs as the helpers; the negative discussed was that each candidate is only doing 3 scenarios v. 9 scenarios--less stressful for a candidate but are they getting a full test? Please promote the program at your mountains; has not scheduled dates yet for next season.

SOET - Ron Helm

A successful test at Montage; 28 candidates (2 from WAPP) with a 75% success rate; adding more TEs in the Shawnee/Camelback area; very talented instructors in the program.

Telecommunications - Greg Mohr

Radios may have to change to full digital radios which will make them more expensive. If anyone has issues with their radios, please contact Greg.

YAP - Megan Eckhart

Please let Megan know if your area has YAPs. Two YAPs from our Region attended the Holiday Valley YAP event. Give Megan's information to any

potential YAP who might be looking for a patrol. If you have questions about running a YAP program, please contact Megan.

Women's Program - Sharon Friedel for Inese Jardine

Women's Program at Montage was cancelled this year due to weather. Always encouraging women to become instructors and to get involved with Women's program.

Open Positions - Sharon Friedel

Alumni

Nordic

If you know of anyone who might want to fill a position, please contact Sharon.

Elections - Bob Bernatos

Inese Jardine and Tony Alber were re-elected as Section Chiefs. Ryan Molloy was Elected as Region Delegate-at-Large.

Meeting Break from 11:11 AM to 11:22 AM.

IX. Awards - Steve Buzzard and Bob Bernatos

Steve Buzzard has asked awards nominations to be sent to him in any word-type format (not .pdf). Bob Bernatos, as Outgoing Region Director, asked to present the Certificates of Appreciation to all who have supported him during his terms.

EPA Certificate of Appreciation:

Tony Alber

Lou Marchi

Greg Mohr

Pat Cusick

Matt DiLoreto

Sharon Friedel

Rich Hartman

Dave Hayes

Mark Leukus

Brant Maley

Maryellen Martin

Meritorious Service Awards:

Dick Bensel

Brent Watts

Howard Rosenthal

Ron Helm

Inese Jardine

Megan Eckhart

Tim Kelly

Andy Miller

Paul Spear

Leadership Commendation Appointment:

Brent Watts

Purple Merit Star:

Howard Rosenthal

Kevin Mansfield

E DIV Patriot Star:

Brian Bet

Brandon Ghidiu

E DIV 50 Year Pin:

Bob Bluff

Bill Giovanoni

Outstanding Large Patrol – Jack Frost

Outstanding Instructor – Matt Nebzydoski, Elk

Outstanding OEC Instructor – Jay Thompson, Whitetail

Outstanding Patrol Representative – Dina Manoway, Camelback

Outstanding Alpine Patroller – Rick Meacher, Liberty

Outstanding Patroller – John Senick, Roundtop

Outstanding Paid Patroller – Dennis Zercher, Roundtop

Outstanding Alumni Patroller – George Hannon, Roundtop

EPA Partner in Industry Award – The UPS Store, Hackettstown, NJ

EPA Annual Service Award – Jim Policelli, Camelback

EPA RD Appreciation Award – Lonny Witcomb, Liberty

X. National, Division and Region News

Paid Staff vs. 1099 - Tim Kelly

Eagle Rock management wanted to re-classify the paid staff employees as individual contractors. Tim explained the definitions/differences of contractor v. employee. Tim also explained how each are classified by the state of PA. A problem occurs if you get misclassified so it's important to maintain the correct classification. Go to the DOL if your employer is trying to change your classification to something that is incorrect. Please contact Tim with any questions.

Delinquent Roster - Bob Bernatos

Bob is working on the 188 names on the delinquent roster. National office claims they have been deleted by the IOR. NSP is refusing to manually update the records. Bob will meet with Meegan Moszynski next week at the Division meeting in Albany. Bob reassured everyone that it will be resolved.

Miscellaneous

Sharon talked about registering for NIMS courses and how to get the certification on your National records.

Sharon advised that National is accepting registrations for bike patrols as new area of membership.

XI. Open Discussion

Bob Bernatos discussed the mid-winter meeting at Holiday Valley. A contract for the OEC 6th Edition has been signed and the goal is to have it in print in two years; NSP is considering an OEC hybrid course directly related to the 6th Edition; they discussed the National IT system at the meeting which continues to be a problem; NSP working on agreement with the International Mountain Bike Association that could add 20,000 bike patrol members to the current NSP database, which could cause additional problems. Bob Scarlett commented that NSP would like to become a year-round operations and would like bike patrollers; Bob stated that we are a ski patrol and the focus seems to be moving away from the ski patrolling members.

Bob Bernatos thanked everyone for their support over the years. Bob also talked about the important influence of the 1,300 members from this Region. Sharon said that she has big shoes to fill and thanked Bob. Bob was given a standing ovation of appreciation. Sharon stated that if you have any questions or concerns to please call or email her.

XII. Adjournment

The NSP-EPA Fall Meeting will be held on November 11, 2018; location to be announced. Thanks to Blue Mountain for hosting today's meeting. Thank you to everyone for attending. Motion made by Tony Alber and seconded by Rick Shandler to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 PM. Motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by Nancy Mayberry