

NHRPA Executive Board Meeting
March 14, 2024, via Zoom at 10:00 am
Meeting Minutes

Executive Board Members Present: Matt Casparius, President, Tara Tower, Secretary.

At Large Members Present: Eric Feldbaum, Laura Bryant, John Kohlmorgen.

Members Present via Teams:

Members present at Cannon Mtn.: James Golisano, Janet Horvath, Jesse Moore, Rene Boudreau, Heidi Taracena, Zach Cherry, Wendy Werner, Jayson Seaman, Janel Lawton, and Brian Wilson.

Staff Present: Kerry Horne, Executive Director.

- 1) **Meeting called to order:** Matt called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.
- 2) **Secretary's report:** *John motioned to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2024, meeting as written. Eric seconded. They were unanimously approved.*
- 3) **Executive Director's Report:**
 - a. **Update on program registration -** Kerry reported that there are currently 39 registered for the March 28th leadership summit with Ian Hill. She added that she would be there for registration and that Primex would provide coffee, morning snacks, and lunch. Kerry said that 65 registered for the summer camp summit and awards on April 11th at HealthTrust, which is the max, so this program is now full. She mentioned that she will not be able to attend this program as she is traveling for HealthTrust, but that she will prepare registration and name tags and place the order for lunch. She needs someone to take care of registration, someone to collect the invoice from the caterer when lunch is delivered, and people to wipe down tables at the end of the training.
 - b. **MicroTeams update—**Kerry reported that four of the executive board members now have Teams accounts, and she is in the process of uploading NHRPA documents to Teams and adding the remaining executive board members.
 - c. **NHRPA Election—**Kerry reported that the ballots will be emailed on April 1st, and the election will be open until April 30th.
 - d. **Newsletter deadline—**Kerry mentioned that the deadline for the spring newsletter is April 5, 2024. This will take us through the fall, and she asked that everyone send information for all spring and summer programs.
 - e. **Committee Budgets due-** April 12, 2024.
 - f. **Membership update –**
 - i. Kerry reported that we have two new VIP commercial members, Durgin & Crowell and US Playground Surfacing, moving us up to six or seven VIPs. Eric asked if the new playground surfacing company would be willing to provide a training on the new federal guidelines. Kerry will check on this. She added that we have added one agency membership from this time last year; we have three fewer associate members, five fewer commercial members, four more professional members, and one fewer student member. All other membership categories are the same as last year.
- 4) **Treasurer's Report:**
 - a. **Financial Report –** Arene could not be here for the meeting but sent the treasurer's report and P&L ahead of time. Matt reviewed that our net assets are at \$30,937.68, with a net income of \$4,094.24 at this point in the budget cycle. Kerry added that we are ahead of where we were last year at this time and mentioned that we are in a better place than VT at this point, as they are discussing having their executive director's hours go from full-time to part-time, due to funding concerns. *Eric motioned to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Laura seconded. Unanimously approved.*
 - b. **Reminder that budget forms are due April 12, 2024.**

5) **President's Report:**

- a. **Youth Camp Legislation update** – Matt reported that because his camp is licensed, he has received the draft rules from DHHS for summer camps that would take effect in the summer of 2025. He is concerned that they want to eliminate the childcare licensing exemption for municipal parks and recreation. He has reached out to DHHS for confirmation and more information on this. Kerry reported that she met with Stephen Buckley at NHMA, and he isn't concerned but will look into it further and get back to us. Kerry said that she feels good that NHMA is on our side on this issue. Eric said there would be a second public comment session on this proposed rule change and recommended that NHRPA submit our feelings as an association on this proposal.
- b. **Summer camp summit**—Matt reported that the April 11th training is now full, at 65 people. He discussed the day's timeline and the Department of Labor will present after the awards luncheon.

6) **Committee updates or reports:**

- a. **Awards Update** – Matt reported that the awards deadline has been extended due to limited submissions.
- b. **Wink Tapply:** Kerry said that Krystal has stepped up to run this for 2024 and that they are working on a keynote.
- c. **Program Committee**—Updates previously in this meeting. Kerry will contact US Playground Surfacing to discuss a possible training on playground surfacing.
- d. **GSTF:** June 15th will be the regional meeting date. They have several new sponsorships this year, and they are working on liability insurance and volunteers for the day. They have approached the Lions Club about being a premier sponsor.
- e. **NNERPC:** Tara reported that there will be a save-the-date flyer in the newsletter, but the big news is that 2025 is the 75th year, and the conference will be going back to Attitash. The group sales director and the head chef from the Red Jacket are both now at Attitash. She added that the conference dates are January 13th—16th, 2025.
- f. **State Conference:** Janet has stepped up to be the chair of this committee this year, and she reported that the state conference date will be October 17th at Concord Parks & Rec., and that they are still looking for speakers.
- g. **Regional Committee Updates** -
 - i. **North Central:** Wendy said they are meeting in Moultonborough next Tuesday at 10:30 am.
- h. **Other Committee Updates:** None reported.

7) **Old Business:**

8) **New Business:**

- a. **Welcome Jayson Seaman, Chair and Associate Professor UNH RMP.** Jayson reported that their program's student enrollment is up, and RMP has inherited some new programs, as well as the Browne Center for team building. He mentioned that they have updated their mission and vision statements and that they have interns available for "hire." Jayson added that Matt Frye has taken over the municipal planning process part of their department. They have a conference coming up in April, and they recently helped update the SCORP. He added that North East Passage is thriving and has more participants than ever before, and that NNE Intergeneration Career Counseling is something that Cindy will be working on due to receiving a grant for this program.
- b. **Janel Lawton, Director of the NH BEA (Business and Economic Affairs) Outdoor Recreation Industry Development Office.** Janel updated us that this office aims to help develop partnerships with the outdoor recreation industry. In 2022, the OR Office was responsible for a \$3.2 billion dollar boost to the economy due to the employment and offerings in the state of NH. The BEA's

resources include programs that stimulate economic growth and fund outdoor recreation projects. She added that they have many partnerships, including Leave No Trace and a Hot Spot program, North Forest Center, and that they are hosting an outdoor recreation symposium in May.

- c. ***Eric reported that the updated SCORP*** was just released, and he wants to ensure that everyone uses and shares the date within this document. It is available on their website.
- d. ***Brian Wilson*** introduced himself, gave his history, and thanked everyone who was at Cannon for coming to the only state-owned ski area.

9) ***Adjournment: John motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 am. Eric seconded. All approved.***

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Tower