

Ranger Foundation
Board Meeting Minutes
12/16/20
Video Conference Call

I. Call to Order by President Mike Lynch (Video Conference Call) at 1902 hrs.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Mike Lynch, President; Jeff Ohlfs (1st. Vice. President); Ann Meneguzzi (2nd. Vice President) Miles Standish (Secretary) and Tom Bernardo (Treasurer). All by Zoom except for Ann Meneguzzi who is by telephone.

II. Minutes

Minutes for September 01, 2020

MOTION: Motion by Jeff Ohlfs: To accept the minutes of September 1, 2020 as amended (spelling error)

VOTE: Unanimously passed to carry.

Minutes for special phone meeting on November 5, 2020.

To acknowledge the special Board Meeting approval for funding: Mike Lynch stated: "It looks like there is a unanimous consensus of the Board is to increase the current fire relief grants to up to \$2,000 for those who lost their homes and to allow up to \$1,000 in grants to trail volunteers for losses. "

MOTION: Motion by Mike Lynch to accept the vote on November 5.

VOTE: Vote: 4 aye, 1 abstention.

III Reports

A. Officers

1. President Mike Lynch – No report
2. 1st.Vice-President Jeff Ohlfs – No report
3. 2nd.Vice-President Ann Meneguzzi – No report
4. Treasurer Tom Bernardo – No report
5. Secretary Miles Standish – No report.

B. Active Projects

1. Wildfire and Disaster Relief Update. – Tom Bernardo
Tom reported that the Foundation has received \$55,000 from 115 donors. The Foundation has given out 50 grants of up to \$1,000 with 6 grant applications pending. A special letter was sent out to the 23 people that had lost their homes advising them of the Foundation's increase in grant funding, and there have been 16 responses advising that they wished to participate. Of the 16 responses that stated they wished to participate in the increased grant program, 10 of the 16 have received an increase in their individual grants and 6 are pending. By the end of the year we will be up to 56 grants.

Several people have written letters thanking the Foundation for all the help that was provided.

Tom added that the best part of the Foundation grants was that the money was delivered from 24 to 48 hours after the application was submitted and many of the other funding sources are still not yet received. We helped all kinds of people: rangers, maintenance, interpreters, volunteers, trail crew, park aids and maintenance aids.

Mike reported that there were a number of donations from other than the park family. A private family trust in the Bay Area donated \$10,000 and the California State Parks Foundation donated \$5,000. Most park family donations were \$1,000 with one person donating \$2,500.

Tom continued his fiscal report by noting that there are six grants pending and a little under \$16,000 in the fund. If all that is dispersed the Foundation will have about \$10,000 remaining. CSPRA committed \$5,000, but only \$1,000 was needed. The 2018 Wildfire fund had still \$7,600 left in it and that helped fund the disaster relief for 2020 fires.

2. Line of Duty Death Grants – Jeff Ohlfs
Tom reported because we haven't heard from the ranger in Brazil instead of 9 line of duty death grants, we have only paid out 8. Tom also reported that the Foundation has only paid out 5 COVID death grants differing from the 8 reported earlier. So, for a total of 13 grants for both COVID and line of duty deaths.
3. Baker to Vegas Run – Tom Bernardo
\$7,057 in the fund. That will be held over until the next race (2021).
4. Tom reported that because of COVID, the money that the Foundation held for CSPRA to assist the BVST 43/44 class was not all used and the remainder (\$795.73) was donated to the Foundation.
5. Pink Patch program with State Parks – Mike Lynch
Accounting not finished – hopefully by January 1, 2021. This is a non-cost service except the Foundation will take on the cost of transfer fees (like Pay Pal)
6. World Ranger Day 2021 – Lynch, Ohlfs & Meneguzzi
Mike expressed the opinion that because of the COVID pandemic that there probably won't be a large-scale celebration like we were hoping to do in 2020 in San Diego and invite Mexican rangers to participate. He further suggested that the San Diego celebration should be put off until 2022. Without any objection the consensus was that only something small should be planned for 2021.
7. World Ranger Congress (2022) (Azores Islands) Jeff Ohlfs & Mike Lynch
Mike reported that he thought that had been postponed until 2023.

IV Unfinished/Old Business

- a. Website for Ranger Foundation – Tom Bernardo
www.ranger.foundation
Jeff Price set up the website and it is operational. He charged the Ranger Foundation \$100/month to set it up and will continue as the Webmaster at \$50/month. Mike had several comments about how the site was set up – particularly the background pictures and the order of subject areas -- and he stated he would get with Jeff to see if some things could be improved.
- b. Development of Standing Rules – Mike Lynch
No development.

V New Business

- a. Venezuela Financial Request – Jeff Ohlfs/Mike Lynch
Wualmort Moreno (Venezuela park ranger) has made three financial requests:
 1. \$440 for 108 cloth face masks
 2. \$1,540 for 110 80L backpack bags
 3. \$500 to fund a Christmas dinner for 110 rangers.Total: \$2,480

Mike wrote back and stated that the request did not fit with the Foundation's current policy for grants at this time and that he make his request to the Thin Green Line Foundation (supports ranger equipment). There was considerable discussion.

MOTION: To send \$1,540 to the Venezuelan rangers for backpacks and that the Foundation absorb any administrative costs.

VOTE: Unanimously passed to carry.

- b. Establishment of Equipment Fund

Miles brought up the idea that the Foundation should have a standing fund for equipment requests like the one just approved for the Venezuelan rangers.

MOTION: To establish a standing fund to equip rangers of Latin America with standards to be developed – Miles Standish

VOTE: Unanimously passed to carry.

Discussion on possible standards for the fund included the fact that we need to create a budget for each fiscal year. Associated with developing a budget is how the Foundation would raise funds to fund the budget. How much should the Foundation put into the equipment fund?

MOTION: To establish the Equipment Fund with \$5,000. – Miles Standish

VOTE: Unanimously passed to carry.

- c. Election of Officers and Board Members

A general discussion was initiated on whether or not the Ranger Foundation should change its By-Laws as to the composition of the Board. Miles volunteered to draft a revision to the By-Laws to reflect the direction on how the Board viewed how it should be composed.

VI Announcements

None

VII Future Meetings

January 21, 2021 – 7 p.m. – Election of Officers

VII Adjournment: 2034 hrs.