

**February 7, 2015 Minutes
TVA Membership Meeting**

I. Call to order-TVA President

- The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm by President Heinz Johnson
- Introductions of the TVA Board
- Introduction of Carlen Forinash as Parliamentarian
- Special guests: SWRD Joanne Forinash and AVA Executive Director Henry Rosales
- Thanks were made to Myra Verneuil, Sparkling City Strollers, for co-hosting the meeting and walk with the TVA
- Heinz thanked Tina Bohnert and Gary Spears for their excellent PowerPoint presentation on volkssporters who passed away in 2014.

II. Determination of quorum present-Secretary Susan Fine

- 19 clubs out of 27 clubs were represented. A quorum was met.
- Minutes of August 2014 General Membership Meeting – approved

III. Reports

A. 1st Vice President-Helen Hull

- The weather was better than forecasted for the Midnight Walk, but the possibility of bad weather kept people away.
- Reunion Walks will be March 7: in Brady in the morning and San Saba in the afternoon
The Best Western in Brady is giving the TVA walkers a 15% discount Friday night.
A volunteer sheet was passed out to help with the walk.

B. 2nd Vice President John Bohnert

- Thanked Tina Bohnert and Gary Spears for their work on the memorial PowerPoint
- It was 28 degrees for the Memorial walk, of which there were 89 walkers (76 credit, 13 non-credit).
It was 33 degrees for the Midnight walk, but the forecast kept people away. There were 33 walkers (28 credit, 5 non-credit).
- 2015 Petals are available.

C. Treasurer-Pat Gunter

- Total income for 2014 - \$1,725
- Total Expenses for 2014 - \$1,790
- Total Assets for 2014 - \$8,438.15
- Income and expenses for Memorial and Midnight walks – net income of \$36.50.
- End of year budget showed a net loss of \$52.37.
- Proposed budget for 2015-2016 shows a net loss of \$1,010 [the income for annual dues was changed at the meeting to \$270 instead of \$300, due to a loss of clubs]. Budget to be voted at end of meeting.

D. Webmaster-Gary Whitford

- Asked all clubs to look at walktexas.org, to make suggestions and/or changes.

IV. Special Reports

A. Bylaws Revision Committee – Bill Hamilton, Chairperson

- Bill Hamilton thanked Carlen Forinash for his ideas and leadership, and Bill Wigton and other members for their help and input.
- The Bylaws committee moved to accept the changes. Discussion ensued, itemizing the changes (see Addendum A. Additional changes from discussion are marked in red.)
- Regarding meeting dates and TVA sponsorship of IVV sanctioned events:
Heinz Johnson gave a report on attendance over the past 9 years for New Year’s Eve:

Memorial Walks:

2005	252
2006	230
2007	188
2008	169
2009	202
2010	201
2011	168
2012	60
2013	117
2014	80

Midnight Walk

2005	196
2006	138
2007	176
2008	112
2009	174
2010	107
2011	121
2012	112
2013	88
2014	33

- Bill Hamilton noted that the new Bylaws do not state locations of walks. TVA can rotate locations for New Year’s Eve.
- Regarding ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS, a motion was made by Gerald Kamika that TVA continue to sponsor individual IVV sanctioned events. Phyllis Eagan seconded. Motion passed, 17 YES – 2 NO.
- Regarding ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS: a motion was made by John Bohnert that semi-annual meetings be held the first Saturday in March and the first Saturday in August. Phyllis Egan seconded, adding to the motion that TVA walks will be held second Saturday in June and New Year’s Eve/New Year’s Day. Motion carried: 17 YES, 1 NO.
- The motion to accept the Bylaws with noted changes was approved: 19 YES, 0 NO.

B. Historical Markers – Ellen Ott, Chairperson

- 71 books are sold, 26 complete
- A book was given to AVA ED Henry Rosales

C. Walk Texas, Ellen Ott, Chairperson

- 25 books are sold, 2 completed
- Ellen displayed a Walk Texas poster with the regions marked
- Ellen would like TVA to consider sponsoring a Camino Real through Texas in the future
- Joanne Forinash noted that the TVA motion to help struggling clubs and pay their fees has helped three clubs. The profits from the special events programs have surpassed the expenses of the TVA’s struggling clubs.
- Joanne stated that those doing the Old Spanish Trail special program can count any walk in New Mexico, or a past walk in Las Cruces, since Las Cruces has discontinued their walk. Just write in the book.

V. National Reports

A. Henry Rosales, AVA Executive Director

- He worked in non-profit for 15 years.
- He plans to be transparent with Regional Directors and membership
- The role of the national headquarters will be better defined.
- The AVA will support clubs as much as possible
- Planning is crucial and they will have a shared vision with members and clubs.

B. Joanne Forinash, Director of Southwest Region

- The NEC had an 8-hour brainstorming session with 14 members present.
- TAW – a 2 year test will be done with the newspaper distributed electronically in PDF format. Printed version will be given to Associate members free. The motion to reduce the number of issues from 6 to 4 was voted down.
- Traveling IVV stamps for bikes will be revised.
- 13 new special programs were approved. For 2016, there will be 28 special programs.
- Joanne gave three club members their Trailmaster Certifications, since they were not able to make the August 2014 meeting.
- Clubs were reminded to read and abide by event rules
- Joanne will not seek reelection as RD. A search committee has been established with Suzanne Markgraf as chair, Bill Hamilton and Deborah Carter. The new session starts July 1.

VI. President's Time

- There are currently 27 clubs in Texas. Since 2009, 14 clubs have been inactivated.
- When asked how many clubs present have email membership lists, 14 out of 19 acknowledged email lists.
- Chartered volkssport clubs are permitted to use the AVA copier to print club materials. Contact Candace Purcell at AVA to make arrangements and schedule a time. Paper must be furnished by the club, and print run is limited to 100 copies.
- TVA will consider printing one brochure when there are two events over one weekend/2 days, instead of printing 2 separate brochures.
- Heinz asked members if they know why state numbering in Texas was stopped. No one knew. AVA does not know either.
- Heinz reminded clubs that when a walk is electronically sanctioned, the date and location cannot be changed. Only the RD can change that. If an approved event must be cancelled, he suggested that the **Electronic Sanctioning Request** (ESR) be changed by first opening the **Club ESR Status Listing** page and then **Editing** the applicable event. The **Event Type** field Drop Down menu SHOULD NOT be used because if the word **CANCELLED** is highlighted, the **Event Type** field then will be changed to **CANCELLED**. Once the **Submit** button is clicked (at bottom of page) the event then is eliminated from the national listing of events and there is no information shown about the status of the event. The suggested action is: delete all of the information in the **Extended Description** field and add some new data to show that the event is cancelled and the reason for the cancellation. This then keeps the event on the national listing and lets walkers know that it has been cancelled and the reason why it was cancelled.
- IVV Americas was discussed, as to how TVA should vote. Each club in good standing will be asked to vote electronically to eliminate voting by proxy at the convention. This assures that every club gets to vote as it intended. Gerald Kamika made a motion that TVA vote NO to joining IVV Americas. Ellen Ott second. After discussion, Gerald and Ellen withdrew their motion. Helen Hull made a motion that the TVA decide how to vote its single TVA organization vote once a ballot and the pros and cons of joining

IVV Americas have been sent to each club. Heinz will send a ballot to the President of each club to find out how he will cast the TVA vote for IVV Americas (majority of responses will rule). This has NO bearing on each club's individual vote but ONLY the TVA organization vote. Bill Hamilton second. Motion carried: 15 YES, 0 NO.

VII. Executive Session

4:45pm - The board went into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Executive session ended 5:15pm.

VIII. Old Business

- Update on August meeting: to be held in Central Dallas/Fort Worth area. Star Trekkers of Irving will host the meeting. Walks are tentatively scheduled for Friday at 6pm in Fort Worth, Saturday morning in Irving, Saturday evening in Plano or Carrollton, and Sunday in Dallas.

IX. New Business

- A. Budget for 2015: Ellen Ott motioned to approve, Gerald Kamika second. Motion carried.
- B. Audit Committee will be Gary Silkworth, Clay Baulch and Tina Boehnert.
- C. Nominating Committee will be Clay Baulch (as Chair), Phyllis Egan and Decorah Carter to nominate a treasurer and first vice-president, to be voted on in August.
- D. Host club for February 2016: Joanne will ask San Angelo.

X. Announcements

- Ellen Ott is on the national nominating committee to nominate an AVA Treasurer and Secretary. Any recommendations are needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Susan Fine
Secretary
Texas Volkssport Association