

**TVA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
OFFICIAL SIGN IN ROSTER
2 March 2019**

| | CLUB | PRESIDENT | SIGNATURE | |
|----|---|----------------------|-------------------|----|
| 1 | Colorado River Walkers (AVA-77/TEX-24) | Carol Obianwu | Carol Obianwu | 1 |
| 2 | Dallas Trekkers (AVA-34/TEX-11) | Deborah Carter | Deborah Carter | 2 |
| 3 | East Texas Trekkers (AVA-863/TEX-99) | Helen Hull | Helen Hull | 3 |
| 4 | Hill Country Volkssportverein (AVA-23/TEX-9) | John Bohnert | John Bohnert | 4 |
| 5 | Hood County Hummers (AVA-718/TEX-83) | Irene Smith | | |
| 6 | Houston Happy Hikers (AVA-15/TEX-6) | Catherine Kellner | Catherine Kellner | 5 |
| 7 | Kerrville Trailblazers (AVA-106/TEX-29) | Jim McMahon | Donnie King | 6 |
| 8 | LoneStar Walkers (AVA-944) | Heinz Johnson | | |
| 9 | McAllen Parks/Recreation Department (AVA-350/TEX-56) | Kori Waters | | |
| 10 | Midland Walkabout (AVA-897/TEX-103) | Diana Smart | Sammy Hunnicutt | 7 |
| 11 | NB Marsch-und Wandergruppe AVA-36/TEX-12) | Jan Engel | Jan Engel | 8 |
| 12 | Plano Walking Club (AVA-124/TEX-32) | Maggie Cole | Gary Silkworth | 9 |
| 13 | Randolph Roadrunners (AVA-44/TEX-14) | Ellen Ott | Ellen Ott | 10 |
| 14 | Rockport City Trailways (AVA-966) | Brittany Elkins | | |
| 15 | San Angelo Volkswalkers (AVA-933) | Charles Winkelspecht | | |
| 16 | San Marcos River Walkers (AVA-411/TEX- 58) | Barbara Piersol | | |
| 17 | Selma Pathfinders (AVA-88/TEX-26) | Mike Schwencke | Mike Schwencke | 11 |
| 18 | Star Trekkers of Irving (AVA-681/TEX-82) | Gary Silkworth | Gary Silkworth | 12 |

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|----|--|----------------|----------------|----|
| 19 | Tarrant County Walkers (AVA-19/TEX-8) | Brooke Hudson | Brooke Hudson | 13 |
| 20 | Texas County Walkers (AVA-955) | David Sheppard | David Sheppard | 14 |
| 21 | Texas Trail Roundup (AVA-979) | John Ives | John Ives | 15 |
| 22 | Texas Wanderers (AVA-6/TEX-3) | Gerald Kamicka | Gerald Kamicka | 16 |
| 23 | Volkssportverein Friedrichsburg (AVA-1/TEX-1) | David Roberts | Pat Roberts | 17 |
| 24 | West Texas Trail Walkers (AVA-60/TX-19) | Susan Noonan | Dianne Duke | 18 |
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**TEXAS VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
AAA-TX
TVA General Membership Meeting Minutes
2 March 2019**

**Waco McLennan County Library
1717 Austin Ave.
Waco, TX 76701**

1. Call to order: TVA President, Susan Medlin

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by President Susan Medlin.

2. Determination of quorum present: TVA Secretary, Andy Thomas

Eighteen of 24 clubs were represented. The requirement for a quorum was met.

3. Introduction/Opening Comments: TVA President, Susan Medlin

President Susan Medlin welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced all TVA Officers and all credentialed club presidents and club representatives.

4. Approval of TVA General Membership Meeting Minutes

The general membership minutes of 4 August 2018 were emailed to each president and therefore not read during the meeting. There were no corrections. A motion was made by Ellen Ott to approve the minutes. Sammy Hunnicutt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Officers' reports

- a. First Vice President, Brian Fisher: Brian said that his second term ends with the August meeting. He also said the TVA New Year's Eve Memorial walk had 55 walkers and the New Year's Day walk had 41 walkers. With the change of location from Fredericksburg, the numbers were not as good as hoped, but the time of year always has a risk of cold weather.
- b. Second Vice President, Helen Hull: Helen thanked those that participated in the morning walk.
- c. Treasurer, Kathy Schwencke: For the six months ended 31 December 2018:
 1. Total revenue was \$507.70
 2. Total expenses were \$545.27
 3. Net revenue was \$-37.57
 4. Total in checking account was \$2,287.59.
 5. Total in Money Market fund was \$7,108.81
 6. Total in savings account was \$5.00
 7. Total funds as of 31 December 2018 was \$9,401.40.
 8. Notes: Memorial (55 participants) and New Year's Day (41 participants) walks netted \$106.25. Susan Medlin donated the printing of the Texas Coastal Cities & Rio Grande Valley Special Program books in the amount of \$170.70. An invoice for the patches was never received. In her oral report at the meeting, Kathy said there were no expenses for the Memorial and New Year's Day walks as the venues were free of charge and refreshments were donated.
 9. The TVA bank was changed to Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union after a vote by email of the board. This was because Security Service Federal Credit Union started charging a \$2 fee for every transaction more than 10 transaction in a month, which affected checks written for \$3 walk fees.

10. Kathy suggested adding the President, Susan Medlin, as a second person authorized to sign checks, in addition to Treasurer, Kathy Schwencke. After discussion, the matter was temporarily tabled to allow time to look in the bylaws to see if they address this matter. It was determined later in the meeting that the bylaws do not mention it, but it must be clear in the minutes. A motion was made by Gerald Kamicka to authorize the president to be a signatory, although it won't be a required function. John Ives seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
11. The budget for fiscal year ending 30 June 2020 includes estimated revenues based on a total of 500 walkers for the entire year. It will have a Founder's Day walk as there is no AVA convention in 2020. It includes inventory purchases for starting up new clubs and a donation to the AVA in the Big Give. Budget is balanced with total revenues = expenses = \$1,900.00. A motion was made by Gerald Kamicka to approve the budget. John Ives seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Webmaster's Report: David Sheppard, TVA Webmaster

Activities of the webmaster included:

- a. Website header: Added logo for San Marcos River Walkers and Texas Trail Roundup
- b. Clubs page:
 - New links to both each club's website as well as each club's event listing on AVA site.
 - Considering whether to add links to club's social media sites such as Facebook and Meetup.
- c. AVA Incentive Awards:
 - Improved spacing and made pictures larger
 - Replaced three of the pictures with patch designs for Girl Scout Walk Together, Little Libraries, and Appalachian Trail
 - Walk Together and Centurion Challenge pictures now link to program details on AVA website.
 - Links now provided to IVV Book Guide that explains achievement books, New Walker Packet order form, and the AVA Current Special Programs page.
- d. TVA Awards: Drafted page for TVA Special Programs: Texas Hill Country Challenge, El Camino Real, Texas Landmarks, Walk Texas, and Texas Coastal Cities. Need to confirm some details before publishing.
- e. Still under development:
 - Links to AVA Convention, TVA Founders Day, Memorial/New Year's and multi-day Texas events such as Texas Trail Roundup (suggested by Ellen Ott)
 - Add History of Volkssporting in the U.S.A. 1976-1989, by Charlene Agne-Traub, Ph. D, CHES, AVA Historian (©1991 American Volkssport Association)
 - FAQ—rewrite and add Frequently Asked Questions page
 - Update current prices for Petals and Patches and links to inventory and order form.

As David finished, Carol Obianwu opened a discussion about GroupWorks. David said it has some potential for non-club members to find out about walks if clubs announce them or post videos or pictures about them on GroupWorks. Also, some club representatives said education of club members is needed so they don't reject or ignore the invitation to join GroupWorks. Susan Medlin recommended for clubs to try posting some events on the site and see if it brings in any new members, and we can discuss it further at the August meeting.

7. Special Program Reports

a. Historical Markers, Ellen Ott, Chair

As of 2 March 2019:

Books sold: 83. Books completed: 43

b. Walk Texas, Ellen Ott, Chair

As of 2 March 2019:

Books sold: 50. Books completed 17

Please contact Ellen if you have completed your book for either program and not yet turned it in.

c. El Camino Real de los Tejas, Susan Medlin, Chair: Seven clubs have one or more YRE's in the program, not including the 5 Wild Card events. As of 26 February 2019: 43 books have been sold with 14 completed. The project cost \$276.63. Current sales are \$430.00, for a profit of \$159.97. Special thanks to Brian Fisher, of Guadalupe Signs, who designed the beautiful patch for both this and the Texas Hill Country Challenge Program.

d. Texas Hill Country Challenge, Susan Medlin, Chair: This program is sponsored by the Randolph Roadrunners. Eleven clubs in Texas have one or more YREs in the program. As of 26 February 2019, 53 books have been sold with 17 completed. The project cost \$214.64. The current sales are \$530.00, for a profit of \$315.37. Thank you for your support of these programs. Please contact Susan Medlin if you have completed your book for either program and not yet turned it in.

e. Texas Coastal Cities and Rio Grande Valley, Kathy Schwencke, Chair: New program started in January, with no costs. Patch was designed by Susan Ives. Eight books sold with sales of \$80.00 and profit of \$80.00. No books completed yet. Susan Medlin said program was delayed by Hurricane Harvey but is intended for Winter Texans in the RV Parks to get them hooked on volksmarching and then they will do more walks when they go back north. Joanne Forinash mentioned Port Aransas has done an amazing, fast recovery from Harvey and the two YREs there are open.

f. Texas Incentive Awards Program, Joanne Forinash, Chair: Joanne said she still has \$900 worth of inventory on hand. Program has finished but Joanne is urging anyone to buy the petals and patches to use for anything they can think of. Patches are now 50 cents and petals are 25 cents. TVA pins are now \$1.00. We have about 100 left. Joanne will take orders by email, order form on TVA website. Joanne also has items at every walk she attends.

8. SWRD Nominating Committee Report, Catherine Kellner, member

Catherine spoke in place of committee chair Susan Fine, who was not present. One person, Sammy Hunnicutt, from Midland Walkabout, has volunteered to be nominated as AVA Southwest Regional Director.

9. Vote for the 2019 Incoming Southwest Regional Director

Susan Medlin began to call for a vote, but Gerald Kamicka made a point of order that the SWRD needs to be elected in a regional meeting, by email, phone calls, or postal mail. Having the TVA do it is on a state level and disenfranchises New Mexico clubs. After discussion, Susan Medlin said she would ask Susan Fine to send emails to all club presidents in the region asking them to vote by email.

10. Special Recognition and Awards, Susan Medlin, TVA President

Susan presented 40 Year Club awards to the following club presidents:

Deborah Carter, Dallas Trekkers, Inc.
John Bohnert, Hill Country Volkssportverein
Brooke Hudson, Tarrant County Walkers
Catherine Kellner, Houston Happy Hikers

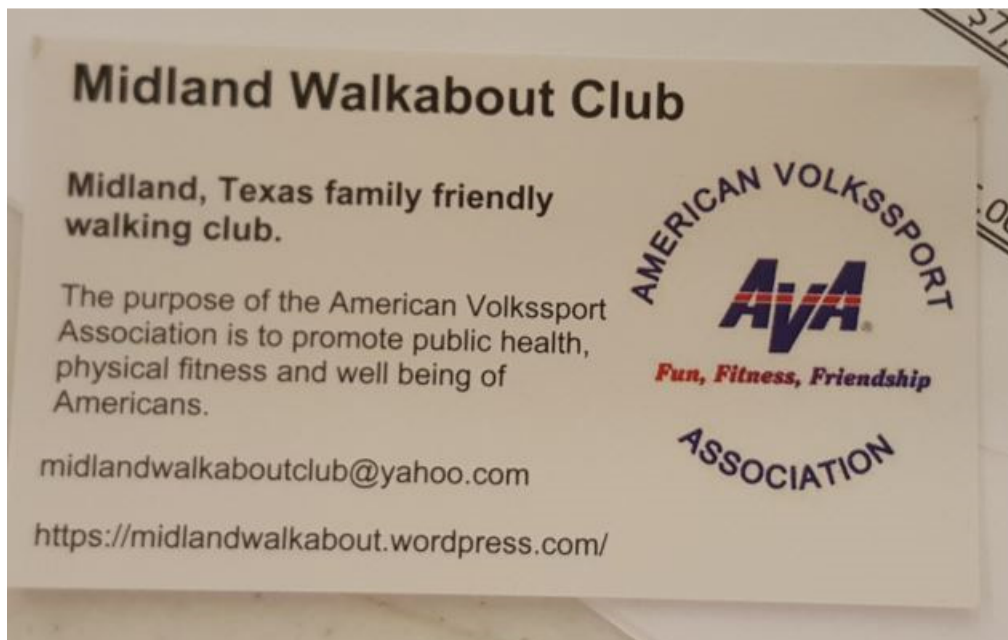
Susan also presented Trailmaster certificates to the following individuals who took the Trailmaster workshop earlier in the day:

Doug Eide
Sammy Hunnicutt
Donnie King

Another workshop participant was not present at the meeting and will be given the certificate at a later date: Teresa Sullivan

11. National Update/President's Time, Susan Medlin, SWRD/TVA President

- a. Texas Trail Roundup: IML judges were impressed although some changes are needed. Susan is cautiously optimistic that the IML association will certify the TTR as an IML event at its meeting in May. Ellen Ott said the total number of registered walkers during the 3 days was 581, compared with 399 in 2017 and 400 in 2018.
- b. Starting new Texas clubs: Susan made efforts to launch new clubs in Temple, Waco, and Killeen/Fort Hood, including holding an informational meeting in January. Only a few people attended, and no one wanted the responsibilities with running a club. She and Sammy will look at it again and are asking for any ideas. Sammy Hunnicutt showed an example of a business card he had made. He can give them to people he meets on walks who asks what is going on, and also available at a shoe store, and it gives information about the club and contact information.



- c. AVA Convention awards: Cutoff for award submissions was 1 March. Before 7 March, clubs were asked to send Susan nominations for meritorious service and below. Higher awards have already been submitted.
- d. AVA Convention: AVA wants to have lifetime/associate members identify their "primary" club to help them keep better track of numbers for purposes of applying for grants. They are

proposing to have clubs with more members have more votes at conventions. There was much discussion about this. Susan asked presidents/representatives to think about this and ask their membership to consider it and send ideas back to her.

12. Old Business

- a. Gerald Kamicka: A proposed change to the bylaws will eliminate the second vice president and consolidate functions. A copy was not provided 30 days or more prior to this meeting so a vote could not occur; however, the copy was included with the packet and will be attached to the minutes so the vote can take place at the August meeting.
- b. Helen Hull, 2nd Vice President: The 2018-2019 New Year's weekend walks brought 55 walkers to the Memorial walk in Grapevine and 41 to the New Year's Day walk in Dallas. In previous years when the walks were held in Fredericksburg, numbers were as follows:

2014-2015: Memorial walk, 89, midnight walk 33
2015-2016: Memorial walk 147, midnight walk 92
2016-2017: Memorial walk 126, midnight walk 83
2017-2018, Memorial walk 70, midnight walk 36

Does it help attendance to move it around or are we bound by tradition to have it in Fredericksburg? Bylaws do not mention a location but do have a midnight New Year's Day walk. After discussion, consensus was to continue the test, without changing the bylaws yet, and continue having the event in different locations, but no decision was made on a location for the 2019/2020 event. Club representatives were asked to consider and discuss it again to decide at the August meeting.

13. Selection of 2-4 August 2019 meeting site

There was no bid received to host the next TVA weekend on 2-4 August 2019. Susan Medlin recommended Abilene, which has two or three former YREs and walks in town from several years ago. There are two county walks, Sweetwater and Stamford, that are 40 miles away, and several other YREs and county walks that are between 55 and 150 miles away. A motion was made by Ellen Ott to hold the next TVA meeting in Abilene. Sammy Hunnicutt seconded the motion. The TVA will host it. The motion carried unanimously. Saturday night dinner suggested at the Perini Ranch in Buffalo Gap, needs to be reserved by RSVP, no later than 3 weeks before. There was possibly a walk a long time ago at the Perini Ranch. There was also a suggestion of a walk at Abilene State Park.

14. 2019 Audit Committee Formation

Deborah Carter, Ellen Ott, and Tina Bohnert volunteered to serve on the audit committee.

15. TVA Officers Nominating Committee

Treasurer and First Vice President are up for election in August. Brian Fisher and Kathy Schwencke are both reaching the end of their second terms so cannot be re-elected. No one volunteered and Susan Medlin said she will ask people individually to serve on the committee.

16. Miscellaneous business:

- a. Deborah Carter suggested a bylaws change to move the March TVA meeting a week or two later because it is difficult for people like her who are still working to help out or attend the Texas Trail Roundup and then come to the TVA weekend the next week.
- b. Helen Hull mentioned the East Texas Trekkers the next weekend at either Mrs. Lee's Garden or the town of Gladewater, depending on weather. She also said she is personally matching donations to the American Volkssport Association in the San Antonio Big Give from clubs or individuals in North Texas, up to \$500.

- c. Carol Obianwu talked about the walking-related documentary “The World Before Your Feet” and said it is now available on iTunes, DirecTV, and Google Play.

17. Final announcements

The Waco historic YRE is “on your own” on Sunday, but Susan Medlin suggested doing it after the meeting due to the weather.

18. Collection of Voting Plates and Table Tents

All voting plates were collected and returned to Andy Thomas. All table tents were collected and returned to Susan Medlin.

19. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Thomas

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

Corrected copy distributed with minutes of the 2 March 2019 TVA General Meeting in Waco, Texas

Originally distributed on 2 March 2019 at the TVA General Meeting

The following proposed amendments to the Texas Volkssport Association's bylaws provide for the elimination of the Second Vice President's position and consolidating the associated duties. As corrected by the Secretary, in paragraph 4.5.2, "The First Vice President shall:" was changed to read "The Vice President shall:"

Article IV

4.1 DESIGNATED OFFICERS: The Officers of the TVA shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each Officer shall hold office for a term of two years, or until a successor shall be elected or appointed. Officers can be re-elected: provided that no Officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office without one full term between such Officer's re-election. The terms of office shall be such that the President and Secretary are elected in even-numbered years, and the Vice President and Treasurer are elected in odd-numbered years, Elections shall be held at the annual election meeting. Newly elected officers shall assume their duties immediately following the meeting at which they are elected.

4.5.2 Vice President. The Vice President shall:

- A. Assume the duties of the President in the President's absence.
- B. Act as chair of the TVA Event Committee.
- C. Serve as Publicity and Public Relations Representative
- D. Act as Coordinator of the Texas Awards Program
- E. Perform such other duties as the President may direct

4.5.3 (Deleted entirely)

5.3.3 TVA Event Committee. The TVA Event Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President and shall select the site of the TVA events and accomplish all planning for coordination of the operation of these events. These events will include those enumerated in paragraph 6.1.1.8.