

**TVA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
OFFICIAL SIGN IN ROSTER
7 March 2020**

	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	Carol Talpey	6
8	LoneStar Walkers (AVA-944)	Heinz Johnson	Heinz Johnson	7
9	McAllen Parks/Recreation Department (AVA-350/TEX-56)	Kori Waters		
10	Midland Walkabout (AVA-897/TEX-103)	Diana Smart	Diana Smart	8
11	NB Marsch-und Wandergruppe AVA-36/TEX-12)	Jan Engel	Jill Troyer	9
12	Plano Walking Club (AVA-124/TEX-32)	Maggie Cole	Gary Silkworth	10
13	Randolph Roadrunners (AVA-44/TEX-14)	Ellen Ott	Ellen Ott	11
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	Barbara Piersol	12
17	Selma Pathfinders (AVA-88/TEX-26)	Mike Schwencke	Mike Schwencke	13
18	Star Trekkers of Irving (AVA-681/TEX-82)	Gary Silkworth	Gary Silkworth	14

19	Tarrant County Walkers (AVA-19/TEX-8)	Brooke Hudson		
20	Texas County Walkers (AVA-955)	David Sheppard	David Sheppard	15
21	Texas Trail Roundup (AVA-979)	Susan Medlin	Susan Medlin	16
22	Texas Wanderers (AVA-6/TEX-3)	Gerald Kamicka	Gerald Kamicka	17
23	Volkssportverein Friedrichsburg (AVA-1/TEX-1)	David Roberts	David Roberts	18
24	West Texas Trail Walkers (AVA-60/TX-19)	Susan Noonan	Dianne Duke	19

**TEXAS VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION
AAA-TX
TVA General Membership Meeting Minutes
7 March 2020**

**Comfort Inn & Suites
35000 I-10
Boerne, TX 78006**

1. Call to order: TVA President, Susan Medlin

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Susan Medlin.

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

Nineteen of 24 clubs were represented. The requirement for a quorum was met. It was initially announced as twenty clubs due to an error but corrected later in the meeting.

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 3 August 2019 were emailed to each president and therefore not read during the meeting. There were no corrections although Ellen Ott had a comment about line 7D, that books for the referenced special program were donated. A motion was made by Ellen Ott to approve the minutes. Helen Hull seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Officers' reports

- a. Vice President, Brian Fisher: Brian was appointed by the board last year to continue serving. He said he wants to have someone else fill the position and described the duties. David Roberts volunteered but said he would be unavailable for a few months. Donnie King then volunteered to take the position. David Roberts deferred to Donnie King and withdrew his name. Susan Medlin held a vote and Donnie King was approved to be the new Vice President through 2022. See section 13 below for additional related actions.
- b. Treasurer, Michael Marke: For the 7 months ending 31 January 2020::
 1. Total revenue was \$574.47 including Money Market interest
 2. Total expenses were \$163.75
 3. Net revenue was \$410.72 including Money Market interest
 4. Total in checking account was \$2,475.38 versus \$2,088.42 on 06/30/2019
 5. Total in Money Market fund was \$7,157.44 versus \$7,133.68 on 6/30/2019
 6. Total funds were \$9,632.82 versus \$9,222.10 on 6/30/19.
 7. Notes:
 - a. Dues of \$240 for the year ended June 30, 2020 were billed to the clubs in July and have been paid.
 - b. Event fees of \$213 for the Abilene walks were paid in August.
 - c. March 7 walk in Boerne had 80 walkers including four workers, with \$240 in fees, \$6 donations, total of \$246 revenue. There will be expenses for the meeting room and sanction fee. Randolph Roadrunners donated

supplies, food and volunteers. (Numbers were incorrectly given at meeting and corrected by email.)

8. TVA budget was presented to members. It includes sending a representative to the AVA convention, but Susan Medlin has indicated she will pay out of pocket so this would save that amount.
9. A motion was made by Gerald Kamicka to approve the budget. Ellen Ott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
10. A motion was made by Gerald Kamicka to approve the treasurer's report. Ellen Ott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

c. TVA Webmaster, David Sheppard: Nothing to report

d. Southwest region webmaster, Donnie King: The site has been redesigned. He asked clubs to give more information about upcoming walks so he can better promote them on the site. Susan Medlin will help with this. Ellen Ott made a suggestion for the TVA to help pay for the site. Susan asked Donnie to provide a budget and she and Sammy Hunnicutt will help. Gerald Kamicka said it may not be proper to help pay for the website because it is regional and has some coverage outside of Texas.

6. Special Guest: Henry Rosales, American Volkssport Association Executive Director

- a. Henry said the AVA is working with local clubs to bid for the IVV Olympiad for San Antonio in 2023 in conjunction with the IML. There are no other bidders currently. The Olympiad is similar to an AVA convention and would bring thousands of walkers. They should award it this May.
- b. Henry's main topic was the Element 3 health referral program. E3 works with health insurance companies and provides incentives for people to get active. E3 selected the AVA as a partner for a walking program and will refer people to local clubs. Clubs that opt in to the referral program need to have a POC for it who will invite the referred people to walks, meetings, or other activities each month. Refer to handout and AVA Checkpoint for details. People being referred will get a different type of new walker packet including walk coupons and all clubs are asked to honor them, even if not opting in to referral program. Clubs do not have to pay a participation fee for them and will get \$1.00 back from AVA.
- c. AVA is also starting to work with Amaba, a volunteer referral company. They will send volunteers to clubs to help with events.

7. Special Program Reports

- a. El Camino Real de los Tejas, Susan Medlin, Chair: 45 books sold, 14 books completed. Profit is \$173.37
- b. Historical Markers, Ellen Ott, Chair: Books sold: 86 and books completed: 44. Program had total expenses of \$275 and total revenue of \$860 for a profit of \$585.
- c. Walk Texas, Ellen Ott, Chair: Books sold: 52 and books completed: 18
- d. Texas Coastal Cities and Rio Grande Valley, Kathy Schwencke, Chair: 10 books sold, no books completed. \$100 total profit.

8. National Update, Sammy Hunnicutt, SWRD

- a. National Walking Week, April 1-7, will be annual starting this year.
- b. Sun Country Sun Striders holding multi-event weekend in Ruidoso, N.M., in June plus seasonal walk at White Sands.
- c. Sammy will meet with Henry about creating videos for Youtube about basic walking/volksmarching topics.

9. AVA Awards Presentation, Sammy Hunnicutt, SWRD

Club Anniversary Awards were presented to:

- a. David Sheppard, President of the Texas County Walkers, for the club's 10th anniversary.
- b. Gary Silkworth, President of the Star Trekkers of Irving, for the club's 30th anniversary.
- c. Jill Troyer, representing the New Braunfels Marsch-und Wandergruppe, for the club's 40th anniversary.
- d. Ellen Ott, longtime president of the Randolph Roadrunners, and founding member Heinz Johnson, for the club's 40th anniversary.

10. Special Reports

- a. World Heritage Festival Update, Mike Schwencke, President, Selma Pathfinders: This year's festival is just starting to be organized. Walk will start an hour earlier this year. Pachanga festival might move to Friday night instead of Saturday daytime.
- b. San Antonio IML Update, Susan Medlin, President, Texas Trail Roundup: The event was successful and had great weather. Susan thanked everyone who helped. There were 637 walkers from 19 countries plus USA, including nearly 300 from outside the USA. There were five tour groups and the walkers did many YREs throughout Texas. There was discussion about whether people's addresses are required on the log sheets, and some clubs did not insist on non-credit walkers paying for YREs. Susan said next year everyone must be united and collect the fee from all walkers. Also, clubs may need to not provide route directions in advance to tour groups since it may allow some walkers to not register and pay.
- c. Louisiana Parish Update, Helen Hull, President, East Texas Trekkers: They have 8 new walks this year in Louisiana, plus another one in Natchez, MS. 17 walkers did them all during the MLK weekend event, with 30 walkers in Natchez, and all YREs have at least 20 for the year. It was suggested that Helen attend meetings for Southeast and South Central regions to promote these YREs.
- d. 2020 Big Give Update, Susan Medlin, Member, AVA Fund Development Committee: In 2019 the AVA raised \$81,665.70. There were 409 individual donors and 109 club donors. The AVA hopes to equal or surpass these numbers in 2020. AVA Vice President Nancy Wittenburg donated \$10,000 for the 3rd year in a row. The TVA will donate \$100 in the 2020 Big Give.
- e. David Sheppard, Texas County Walks Program: He mentioned the new walks this year which are all in the Panhandle. Muleshoe has a sandhill crane sanctuary nearby. Farwell has a border crossing with New Mexico.

11. Old Business

- a. TVA Bylaws Change: Change spring TVA meeting date: Change was proposed by Deborah Carter of the Dallas Trekkers. The current meeting date often falls on the weekend after the Texas Trail Roundup which is difficult for those who travel and are not yet retired, so she proposed moving it to the first Saturday in February. It is also difficult for TVA President Susan Medlin to give attention to the TVA. Discussion focused on the reasons why the meetings were originally moved from February to March, having to do with the TVA Reunion walks, which no longer occur in March, and the change occurred

before the IML started. A motion was made by John Bohnert to approve the amendment. Heinz Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The TVA Bylaws will be updated to reflect this change.

- b. TVA Bylaws Change: Change August meeting date to Veteran's Day weekend in November: Change was proposed by Susan Medlin, TVA president. The current weekend is the first weekend in August, but it is too hot to safely hold walks. September is still too hot, October not much cooler and has West Texas Trail Walkers event and the Arlington IML. Susan checked with clubs for conflicts on Veterans' Day weekend and did not get any response. Heinz Johnson said there may not be enough time between meetings in November and February and suggested having a meeting without walks. There was some opposition because of giving up another prime weekend and possible conflicts. A motion was made by John Bohnert to approve the amendment. Deborah Carter seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 10 to 8 in a hand count. Because of questions about the count and the number of clubs in attendance, a roll call vote was held. The motion carried by 10 ayes to 9 nays. The TVA Bylaws will be updated to reflect this change.
- c. Update on 2019 New Year's Eve walks: The Cross Mountain walk had 57 walkers on December 31 daytime. The Pilgrimage walk had 41 walkers on Dec. 31 evening. The Cemeteries walk had 32 walkers on January 1. This was slightly better turnout than Dallas New Year's Eve in 2018. A show of hands was held on whether to keep the tradition going beyond 2020. The largest number favored it, but a significant number wanted to drop it or did not care either way. There was a suggestion to have the memorial necrology on the Southwest Region (Donnie King's) website with discussion about whether we would need permission from deceased's families. For 2020, no other clubs volunteered to host New Year's Eve again, so Susan Medlin asked if Volkssportverein Freidrichsberg would host it again in Fredericksburg with sharing arrangements with the TVA. David Roberts agreed. A motion was made by Gerald Kamicka to have New Year's Eve walks for 2020 in Fredericksburg. Mike Schwencke seconded the motion. The motion carried nearly unanimously.

12. New Business

- a. Selection of meeting site for the next TVA meeting: The Colorado River Walkers already have Veteran's Day Weekend on the calendar, so Susan Medlin suggested letting them host the meeting in Georgetown or Round Rock. There was no opposition to this, and everyone agreed to this idea.
- b. A one-page flyer has been produced listing all the year-round events in San Antonio. It is a great marketing tool that can be put into businesses and community places and it would be good for the Dallas area clubs to produce a similar flyer.
- c. Nominating committee for president and secretary: It should be easy because the incumbents, Susan Medlin and Andy Thomas, can serve a second term and both are probably willing to do so. Kathy Schwencke will be the chair, and Mike Schwencke and Ellen Ott will be other members.
- d. Audit committee to examine financial statements before or during next TVA meeting: Deborah Carter will be the chair, and Tina Bohnert and Diana Smart will be the other members.

13. Vice President-Clarifying Votes:

Earlier in the meeting, the membership approved Donnie King as Vice President. Because of the rushed nature of that vote, some members questioned if it was a legal vote. A motion was made by Gerald Kamicka to clarify that the vote was a legal vote. The motion was seconded by Jill Troyer. The motion carried nearly unanimously. A little later, someone said

that the board should vote to approve making Donnie vice president. The board held a vote and approved it.

14. Miscellaneous business

Questions were asked about when clubs would receive materials with the new AVA logo. Susan Medlin said she was given hers during the Texas Trail Roundup and would ask Henry Rosales when other clubs would receive their materials.

15. Final announcements

Heinz Johnson said he has made and continues to make the following items for use at walk events. Heinz is offering them to clubs and representatives should meet him at his car after the meeting or contact him later.

- a. Wooden boxes to hold start cards.
- b. Stir sticks for powdered drinks in large jugs at checkpoints.
- c. Extensions for table legs.

16. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Thomas