

National Skeet Shooting Association
Executive Committee Meeting
10 October, 2007
National Shooting Complex, San Antonio, Texas

ROLL CALL: President Louise Terry called the meeting to order at 8:40AM. Present: VP Bill Batty, Sec/Treas Jim Gast, Executive Director Don Snyder, NSSA Director Carl Hensch, Finance Director Steve Scales, Past Pres. Al Magyar, NSCA Exec Council members Martin Jones and Jay Delphey, Zone 1 Bob DeFrancesco, Zone 3 John Haugh, Zone 4 Bill Murrell Jr, Zone 5 John Tans, Zone 6 Wayne Black, Zone 7 Bill Wright, Zone 8 John Bratty, Absent: Zone 2 Warren Ruello, Zone 9 CAPT Don Root.

Motion by Bob DeFrancesco, 2nd by John Tans to accept minutes of EC Teleconference meetings held 18 July, 14 August and 11 Sept. 2007. Unanimously approved.

BUDGET:

Steve Scales presented the operating budget for the 2008 year in detail, with special attention to property tax increases to \$187K and a corresponding increase in operating expenses which will be partially offset by increases in dues, etc. resulting in a projected surplus for the year of approx. \$100K.

Major challenges for staff and EC in 2008 will be careful attention to non-event overtime and capital expense. Don Snyder and Steve Scales reported progress in raising contributed funds for acquisition of PAT Traps which will help with labor costs during the major trap events. (Don noted that the donations are restricted to use of the traps at the NSC in Texas. If the location of the NSC were to be in another state in the future, those traps would have to be returned to the donors.). Steve and Louise explained the payroll budget allowance for staff is discretionary with responsibility to Don Snyder and the 3% increase would be apportioned as to merit, with the EC considering Don's salary at the winter meeting.

Steve pointed out that both legal fees (due to articles of incorporation and bylaws changes) and telephone expense (due to teleconference calls) had been above the budgeted figures for 2007 year, and that these fees had been adjusted for the 2008 year. Flexibility for changes to line items will necessarily have to be maintained during the year as unanticipated expenses will always arise.

John Haugh asked about budgeting for environmental assessment/remediation expense. Steve replied that these issues would need to be addressed and could be drawn from our low-risk land investment fund on an emergency basis. This fund balance now is over \$500K and has been reserved for payment in the future of liability for land already acquired. After discussion, all agreed that amounts earned over the 6.1% necessary to service the loan requirement would be reserved at the end of each fiscal year, to be earmarked for land-related issues.

John Tans pointed out that although the budget figures overall seemed very reasonable, the operating margins are very tight compared to the overall expense and income projections.

Motion by John Tans, 2nd by Bill Wright to accept the 2008 budget as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Louise Terry mentioned that the 2007 year end figures against the '07 budget will be reviewed at the Winter 2008 EC meeting.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT:

John Tans reported a reasonable fee increase from our auditing firm on the preparation of the Form 990 for 2008. Committee recommended that a different partner from the same firm (Padgett-Strateman) handle our audit next year, with full agreement from the audit firm. Santos Praga will be the partner involved with next year's audit. Committee also asked for increased attention to our IT Dept. by our auditing firm next year with experienced personnel from Padgett-Strateman.

John Tans asked for approval of a conflict of interest form to be filed by all directors, officers, and EC members. Information will be filed and reviewed by auditors only, and duly noted within the 990 submission.

Motion by John Tans, 2nd by Wayne Black that we accept the conflict of interest form as presented and that the current officers and EC complete the form at this time. Directors to be elected in 2008 will be asked to complete the form at the time of election and this form will be used as an ongoing part of all future NSSA elections. Motion passed by unanimous consent.

DISCIPLINARY ISSUE:

Carl Hensch presented written documentation of an issue concerning a NSSA registered shooter from Pennsylvania, regarding his refusal to place the required release trigger marker on his shotgun during the past shooting year, in clear violation of explicit safety rules, and his subsequent verbal abuse of shoot officials and referees. Carl reported he had sent a letter of written complaint dated 14 September to this shooter, requesting a response within 10 days. Letter was sent certified mail, return receipt requested, and no response has been received to date though letter *was* received by this shooter. After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion by Bob DeFrancesco and 2nd by Wayne Back: “Robert V. Arnold’s well-documented actions of the past year indicate a dangerous disregard for the safety rules of the NSSA, and evidence abuse of referees, volunteers and elected officials of our organization. Effective immediately, he is therefore suspended from all NSSA privileges through the 2008 shooting year. He may apply for reinstatement for the 2009 year, in writing to the NSSA Skeet Director. Mr. Arnold’s written request for reinstatement must include an intention to comply with all NSSA rules and an apology to those involved who received his verbal abuse.” Such request, if received, will be reviewed by the Executive Committee for a decision. Motion was passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bob DeFrancesco presented an outline of a promotional program suggested by Stuart Fairbanks concerning the Toni Rogers Spring Extravaganza at the NSC: a number of A-D shooters would be invited to shoot on squads with top shooters. Mr. Fairbanks has collected vendor donations to pay for shells, is in the process of obtaining agreement from a number of top shooters, and is asking that NSSA participate by donating targets and entry fees. Don estimates that the cost of supporting 3 members from each zone (first time to NSC, A-E class shooters, 24 month or newer members) would be about \$5,000. All present were in favor of proceeding with this project, under the direction of Carl Hensch in coordination with Stuart Fairbanks. NSSA participation would be limited to 3 participants from each zone.

A motion to accept the above program for inclusion in the March 2008 Toni Rogers shoot program was made by Bob DeFrancesco and seconded by Bill Batty. All voted in favor.

A motion for adjournment was made by Al Magyar, 2nd by Bill Wright, passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 10:30AM

Submitted by Jim Gast, Secretary/Treasurer