

**Cascadia RVW General Meeting
February 6, 2010**

Board Members Present: President: Mary Schoenfeldt, President-elect: Cheryl Edman, Registrar: Elaine Ploegstra, Treasurer: Nancy Gerou, Secretary: Patricia Lebbert
Activities Coordinator: Christine Taylor, Past President-Board Advisor: Marne Parry

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Schoenfeldt at 10:06 a.m. at Dale Turner YMCA in Shoreline, WA.

Introduction of attending members and guests: National RVW Guest: Meg Branzale, coordinator of the 2010 RVW Convention in Mesa, Az.
Cascadia Members present: Karlene Field, Barbara Hatred, Diane Milnor, Joan Tucker and Lana Weed, and Jill Pace

President's Welcome: Mary opened the meeting reconfirming her commitment to doing the best she can this year for Cascadia, despite unforeseen issues related to disaster relief that competed for her time over the past few months. She thanked the board and members for their support. Cheryl complimented Mary on the selection of new rally sites included in the schedule for this year. She also said that she will help and will be available should Mary be unable to attend a rally.

Minutes: The October 24th General Meeting minutes were read by the secretary and amended to read: Our financial contribution helped with the *First Time Attendees* instead of *Newcomers* at a National Convention Luncheon. The minutes were accepted as amended.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy submitted a copy of the RVing Women Chapter Yearly Financial Statement for the record. Her monthly report as of January 31, 2010: Cascadia's bank balance was \$5,658.79.

Registrar Report: March is not opened yet, but will be very soon.

Event Chair Report: Christine has the Event Captains lined up for the March Rally: Marcie, Leanne, Sherri, Suzanne and Jan.

Christine said that often event captains are couples, but she encourages solos to co-captain, or to join a couple to captain an event. She has sign-up sheets which will be at the rallies, and people can sign up on line for Captains, Divas and Hi There Gals. Mary suggested and Christine agreed to send a follow up thank you to a volunteer who signs up, this would include the check list for the job, ideas of how to find out the activities in the area, an info sheet that would also include the interest list from Cascadia members, and suggestions about an educational element to the weekend. There are members who can contribute to the educational element. Karlene is a resource and can bring people in free to give talks. Christine said she would encourage Event Captains to include an educational component to their activities.

New Business:

2010 Schedule and details: Discussion about what info is still missing. Diane referred to the Matrix she is building for the webpage and pointed out that she does not have all the info for all the events. A discussion ensued about how best to complete the information. The group decision was to get the March event open quickly and have Elaine contact the parks and fill in the information for the rest of the events as soon as possible. There was also a group discussion about best way to approach the matrix for the web registration. The board agreed that everything we can think of that could be asked by a park should be put on the master list. This allows for the registrar to adapt regardless of each park's requirements.

Event Fees: There was a discussion about the need for the \$50.00 events budget being raised to \$100.00, to accurately reflect the general amount used for events. Marne said that it is OK to ask for a fee for some activities. Christine will figure out a way to define when it would be appropriate to ask for a fee. Christine said that she will expect a budget from the event captains and a request for more funds should the costs go over the budgeted amount.

Cheryl presented a motion to allocate \$100.00 per event, and if more is needed, planners would have to submit a budget for approval by the board for any additional costs. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

National Convention: Cheryl initiated a discussion which covered these points:

1. Cheryl: Rather than continuing to donate \$1000 which creates an expectation that we continue to donate this amount, we could back off a bit and donate toward part of a banquet rather than the whole thing. The board will decide how much we earmark for this.
2. Diane: Is National setting an expectation *to all* the clubs to make an effort to fundraise by letting them know that there is a need?
3. Jill: A carry-over idea from the October board meeting, what about the question of providing a tangible object that would advertise our club? Cheryl: If we want to be identified there, we specify what item we will advertise on and give away.
4. Pat: We should be clear at the next auction about how Cascadia intends to use the auction money. Make it clear if there is an amount earmarked for National Convention.
5. There was a lively discussion pro and con about the importance of the convention and does it need to take place every year. **Pros:** Camaraderie, support for the National workers, a chance for the elderly among us to meet old friends, (since they don't travel as much anymore) and the opportunity to meet as a big group with information that smaller chapters do not have access to. **Cons:** Since the life of RVW is at the chapter level, National should look at spending a portion of the time they spend on planning the convention to help chapters and provide more active support and assistance. **An every-other-year suggestion** was made. Response: Location of the conventions, if held every other year, would mean that many would not be able to travel that far, and the time between conventions would be too long.

Summary: We have agreed that we will make a contribution to the convention, but we are not sure what it will be exactly. We will continue to explore our options.

Tasks and Goals for 2010:

1. Decide what to do about "no shows".
2. Include more educational pieces at rally events.
3. Report on the Auction and educate Cascadia members about what the auction is for. (3a.) Have a general membership discussion on auction goals for payout. (3b.) Nancy will report at next meeting how the auction money was spent and project what it might go to next year.
4. Go back to a welcome packet.
5. Assign someone to a "first timer" at an event. Make it part of the "Hi There Gals" function.
6. Thank you to Joan and Lana for setting up the Cascadia Blog. They will explain at the next meeting.
7. Start and end a meeting on time.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Lebbert

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