

MASAR Monthly Meeting Minutes

November 6, 1994. Location: Gray, ME

November meeting of MASAR opened at 13:01 with John McDonough presiding. The following officers, team representatives, and individual members were present.

Steve Hudson - MDI	Randy Armour - LINCOLN
Jennifer Applegate - MESARD	Tom McLaughlin - SDNE
Peggy McLaughlin - SDNE	Dave Martin - DIRIGO
Al Martin - DIRIGO	John McDonough - WILDERNESS
Carter Smith - WARDEN SERVICE	Don Littlefield - CAP
Nan Lux - individual	

Symposium Cancellation - Cancelled primarily for lack of committment to attend. Loss of investment of \$895.00 hoping to improve to \$495.00. At future time discuss how to distribute loss among the membership of MASAR. Concern about Symposium for 1995 lead to the discussion of reasons for lack of commitment to the 1994 Symposium. Possible reasons include: not having schedule of classes with dates and times, financial hardship, cost of instructors, training vs instruction concept, time committment of 2 or 3 days, and host team being overwhelmed with total responsibility of symposium. To get a feeling from the membership a questionnaire was suggested.

Questionnaire - Will be developed and sent out to the membership to collect data to help decide direction of a Symposium for 1995. Do we want to continue having a symposium or change to day workshops? If day workshops would be more desirable, what would be the subject matter? Motion by Steve Hudson that Dave Martin, Education Director, to develop and mail questionnaire, seconded and passed unanimously. Results of the questionnaire are to be discussed at the January meeting. Randy Armour will provide the mailing labels and include request for immediate response by membership to the questionnaire on the notice for the December MASAR meeting. Team Representatives are to ask their teams for a list of workshop topics for future consideration. Workshop topics will be discussed at the December meeting.

Carter Smith announced his retirement from Maine Warden Service - John McDonough presented Carter with a token of appreciation from MASAR for his efforts in advancing the use of volunteer search and rescue resources. Carter expressed his hope for an executive board to be put in place by the warden service to oversee SAR functions, and thinks that the future looks good for volunteers. Carter still plans to stay involved in search and rescue in his civilian capacity.

Elections - Annual elections were held for all positions with the following results.

President: John McDonough (unopposed)
Vice President: Al Martin (unopposed)
Secretary: Keith Heavrin* Tom McLaughlin
Treasurer: Peggy McLaughlin (unopposed)
Training Director: Dave Martin (unopposed)
Representative at Large: Randy Armour (unopposed)
Representative at Large: Steve Hudson (unopposed)

*Note; Keith was not present but had expressed interest in the position. Tom McLaughlin was also nominated for the position and prior to the voting, stated that he would accept if Keith declines.

A motion was made by John McDonough to cast one ballot for all nominations except Secretary, seconded and passed unanimously. Individual vote for Keith Heavrin as Secretary was unanimous. Dave motioned if Keith declines his nomination/election that Tom McLaughlin will take the position of secretary, was seconded and passed unanimously without discussion.

Searches - Bath [walk away from nursing home]
Chamberlin [42 yr. old male, hunter with muscular disorder]
Readfield/Mt. Vernon [13 yr. old boy]
Merril Strip/Coburn Gore [father and son hunters]

John McDonough expressed concerns involving the call out process and the OD [officer of the day] understanding his/her responsibility. There are some incorrect telephone numbers and communication problems. Motion was made by Al Martin to have OD workshop before the December meeting was seconded and passed unanimously. This workshop will include responsibilities of the OD, use of resources, call out process and having trained backups for each OD. Workshop will be held before the December meeting in Bangor from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. All O.D.s and backups must attend. Dave Martin will conduct the training, John will supply Dave with the 1995 OD list. Randy will attach a notice of the workshop to the next meeting announcement.

Dave mentioned the use of mountain bikes for hasty teams. The use of bikes could be very beneficial in appropriate locations. Some experiments with bike teams vs foot searchers need to be conducted.

Pagers - No one paging system has proven to be outstanding in services provided and coverage. Al recommended that each OD team get a pager from Northeast Paging and test it's ability to work under similar conditions where other pagers have failed.

John McDonough accepted about 20 used low band vhf mobile radios from CMP [Central Maine Power Company] for MASAR. Further discussion will be needed to determine the best use of this donation.

Steve Hudson, Standards Committee, along with Jerry Sukeforth of Sukee Kennels, conducted a successful test of Jennifer Applegate of MESARD, and her dog Ali to test the new standards for dog teams in MASAR. This was a test of an experienced team. A test of a novice team is pending. There was some concern about the evaluation form categories.

Nan Lux, SDNE, volunteered her time to serve on canine standards evaluation teams.

ID cards- They are finished and are being distributed.

Search Light was delivered and is now in working order.

Tom McLaughlin mentioned that to date, the By-Laws committee has still not been called to order. John will call Rick Farris chairman of committee.

Next Meeting will be December 4, 1994, in Bangor. Agenda will include:

- Secretary Committee Notes
- By-Laws Committee Progress
- Discussion of Workshops Topics

Meeting adjourned at 4:00PM.
Peggy McLaughlin acting secretary