

Maine Association for Search And Rescue

Monthly Meeting Minutes

5 / 7 / 95

Meeting is called to order by John McDonough at 1320 hrs.

Present -

John McDonough, Al Martin, Steve Hudson, Randy Armour, Keith Heavrin

A short discussion is held as to how many members present constitutes a quorum for the purpose of voting and conducting business. It is determined that there are presently 7 votes in MASAR and that 5 of those votes are present at this meeting. There is presently no mention of a number of, or percentage of, votes that would constitute a quorum written into the bylaws. John suggests that we clearly have a majority present and therefore, enough to conduct business.

Secretary's Report-

January minutes are read and a motion is made by Steve to accept them as written. Al 2nds the motion and the vote is unanimous to accept the January minutes as written.

February meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather and was not rescheduled.

March Meeting minutes were read and it is pointed out that the end of the minutes lists Gray as the location of the May monthly meeting which should read Sidney. The minutes are changed to reflect correction of this error and Steve moves we accept the March minutes as corrected. Al 2nds the motion and the vote is unanimous to accept.

April Monthly meeting Minutes are read and corrected to reflect that Dave Martin should be added to the list of Members present. Al then moves to accept the April Meeting minutes as corrected. It is seconded by Steve and the vote is unanimous to accept.

Treasurer's Report-

Steve has received a copy of the treasurer's report from Peggy McLaughlin and passes out copies to all present. The report is looked at by the members present then Steve makes a motion to accept the report as written. The motion is seconded by Al and the vote is unanimous to accept.

Committee Reports-

Field Exercise Committee-

Al reports that the plan for the exercise remains the same and attempts to get a count of how many people might be attending the exercise. John reports that Sunrise SAR has expressed interest in the exercise. Keith relates that there were two members of Sunrise at the last MESARD Monthly Training Session in Jonesboro. A short discussion of who would be a reliable contact person for Sunrise SAR and it is related that the Primary contact person they gave MASAR is Rick Scribner 255-8580. They also gave Chris Sprague H-255-3311 and Steve Pineo W 255-8387 H 434-2722.

It is brought to the attention of the members present that Sue Webb has issued a general invitation to the Mass. Sar Community to attend the training Exercise and concern is expressed that our state wide training exercise could get buried by large numbers of people attending from out of state. Al agrees to call her and sort out the concerns.

The question arises as to whether or not the Warden Service will be represented at the training weekend. Al relates that he thinks the new overhead team will possibly be there and that they will act as observers to shadow the MASAR people at the CP.

A short discussion of possible class topics that might be presented on Sunday morning at the field exercise takes place.

There has been no word from Gary Anderson on Workingmans Compensation and if it is going to be available to SAR volunteers.

Standards Committee-

Copies of the latest revisions for the new MASAR Ground Searcher Standards and related documents are passed out to each of the members present and a section by section review ensues with votes on each section taken which results in the official adoption of the documents by MASAR as the accepted MASAR Ground Searcher Standards. Each part is considered as follows :

Basic Ground Search Standard - It is amended that Section III, A, Part 1., Item c. shall appear repeated as written as an addition to Section III, B, Part 1. It shall there be designated as item d. Keith moves that the Basic Ground Search Standard be accepted as amended. Al Seconds the motion and after brief discussion the vote is unanimous to accept.

Aerobic Fitness Evaluation - A brief discussion ensues about possible liability to MASAR concerning injuries as a result of these tests being administered. Al moves that we accept the Aerobic Fitness Evaluation as written. Randy seconds the motion and the vote is unanimous to accept.

Appendix B - Keith asks about the application of this section to MESARD in light of the documentation already in the hands of the Standards Committee resulting from the consideration of the Standards Committee given to MESARD's application for Grandfathering to the Dog Training Standards and the resulting acceptance. Steve states that MESARD will need to make application to be accepted to the Ground Search Standards and that the application will be reviewed by the Standards Committee. Al moves to accept appendix B as written. It is seconded by Randy and the vote is unanimous to accept.

The Aerobic Fitness Evaluation test will be administered by each unit to all its members. Al moves that we accept the Aerobic Fitness Evaluation as written. Motion is seconded by Randy and the vote is unanimous to accept.

Basic Ground Searcher Testing Objectives

Recommended Minimum Personal Equipment List - It is agreed to change the word "requires" to "recommends" in the first sentence. It is also agreed to include Orange Vest under Equipment - Personal on page two which will reflect the coming requirement Warden Service will be making of all personnel in the field on searches. Keith moves that the Equipment list be accepted with the two changes agreed to. Al seconds the motion and the vote is unanimous to accept.

Unit Certification Standard- It is agreed to change Section III, Part F to read "Records of responses to recent searches, if any". Randy moves to accept the Unit Certification Standards as amended. Al seconds the motion and the vote is unanimous to accept.

Testing Objectives - Al moves that the Testing Objectives section be accepted as written. Randy seconds the motion and the vote is unanimous to accept.

New Business-

Discussion ensues about possible candidates for the Tim Burt award. There is one candidate that qualifies at this point. Keith suggests that MASAR might well consider creating some other awards for service and dedication that could act as a vehicle to reward and recognize volunteers working in Search and Rescue. It is forwarded MASAR should establish a member appreciation certificate of some sort. It is also suggested that some sort of pin recognizing years of service could be created. The object of these type of recognitions is to act as one more, even if small, encouragement to volunteer SAR personnel.

Summer meeting hours will be instituted starting at the next MASAR meeting which will be held at Warden Service Headquarters in Bangor on June 4th at 1600 hrs.

June 4th MASAR Meeting Agenda

- 1. Announcements**
- 2. Secretary's Report**
- 3. Treasurer's Report**
- 4. Committee Reports**
- 5. Correspondence**
- 6. Old Business**
- 7. New Business**
- 8. Set next meeting agenda**

The May 7th MASAR monthly meeting is adjourned at 1531 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith R. Heavrin Jr. Secretary