

Maine Association For Search And Rescue

Monthly Meeting Minutes

12/3/95

Meeting is called to order at 1310 hours by John McDonough.

Present-

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

Announcements- none

Secretary's Report -

Minutes from the previous monthly meeting, held 11/5/95 were read and accepted by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report-

John presents a copy of the treasurer's report and reads it. MASAR currently has \$4543.00 in checking, of which most is designated to the night sun maintenance, and \$1194.17 in the savings account. Keith moves that the report be accepted as read, seconded by Steve. Vote is unanimous to accept.

Membership dues are currently due and it is requested that each unit review their records to see if they are paid up. Team membership is \$35, and individual membership is \$10.

Committee Reports-

Standard Committee-

Steve asks if the BASAR curriculum was completed by Dave Martin. Al phoned him to find he had it done but hadn't been able to mail it out. Steve says he won't be able to meet on the 9th to work on the testing criterion as planned. After some discussion it is agreed that the Standards committee will meet at 0930 hours on Jan 7th just before the regularly scheduled monthly MASAR meeting for the purpose of working on the BASAR test questions.

John presents a list of dates that Sue Webb has given him that are the days that she is available for being tested to the new MASAR Dog Standard. After some discussion the 16th of Jan is chosen for the testing. Keith agrees to call Sue and to set up a location for the tests. It is suggested that a place in Southern Maine be looked at. Keith offers that Harmony might be a good place and he will contact Sue to set it up. The Standards Committee will provide a MASAR member for the testing for that day.

Communications Committee-

All says he has all the paperwork for radio license applications ready to mail out and will be sending them right away.

Randy and Andy Fish have been compiling a list of radio frequencies that will be useful to SAR volunteers.

ASTM -

Steve says he has called the committee Chair person in charge of the new standards writing project and asked to be included in the discussion on standards writing. He would like to be part of the sub-committee meetings or the task group but, so far, Steve hasn't heard back from anyone.

By-Laws Committee -

The following changes to the By Laws are agreed upon by discussion and consensus: A vote will be taken on these changes at the Jan 7th meeting in Sidney.

Present reading under Article IV Membership, the portion reading Organizational Member - Any volunteer organization or association involved directly in search and rescue or survival activities in the state of Maine, AND under article IV Membership, the portion reading Individual Membership - Any person involved in search, rescue or survival activities and affiliated with a recognized SAR organization in the state of Maine.

Proposed change to Article IV Membership, the portion reading Organizational member is - Any volunteer organization or association involved directly in search and rescue or survival activities in the state of Maine which meets the current MASAR unit certification standard and two thirds of whose membership is comprised of Maine residents.

Proposed change to Article IV Membership, the portion Reading Individual member is - to strike the word "recognized" from the present reading so that it reads Any person involved in search, rescue or survival activities and affiliated with a SAR organization in the state of Maine.

Old Business-

It is agreed that Keith will call Peter Kliem to ask him to send the box of MASAR secretarial records he has been keeping to us.

Al passes out examples of map photo copying he has been researching. The quality of the copies is remarkably good and a discussion ensues as to how best to use this resource.

A further discussion of the hunter strike force idea, that Deb Palman presented, at the last meeting ensues with John expressing reservations about volunteers using guns at search scenes. Some alternatives for producing loud sounds for location purposes are presented. It is commented that the hunter strike force is a good way to assist Wardens at one of their busiest times of the year and we shouldn't work at being available for this and try to change the "guns for signaling purposes" later if there is a viable alternative. Al is looking at blank pistols and a couple other ways to make loud noise.

Pete Laveway is still working on getting the new DeLorme mapping CD ROM disk for use by the Warden Service.

Randy announces that 1-800-680-4748 is the number to call to get signed up onto the new bulletin board service that is available to volunteer SAR personnel in Maine through The Human Services Dept. You will have to call then fill out an application form that appears on screen. In a day or two your application will be cleared and you will have access to the services offered by the board. (ie unlimited time and access to the board for free for SAR personnel)

The idea that Pete forwarded about a MASAR news letter at the last meeting is briefly discussed again. There seems to be some interest but a lot of problems so no-one is pursuing it.

New Business-

Steve forwards that a recent National Fire Protection Association, Rescue Magazine article has a notice that they intend to write a new set of SAR training standards to include all areas of searching. Steve says that ASTM has responded angrily and sent a terse letter to NFPA. Some discussion follows concerning opinions of the suitability of each group to write standards that can be summarized with the general feeling that it would be best if ASTM were left to do all the wilderness SAR standards. John asks if it might be constructive to send a letter to the appropriate people to encourage them to work together rather than get more adversarial. Steve will call Mike McDonald to see if he can get some better information then report back to us in Jan.

The next monthly MASAR Meeting will be held in Sidney at 1300 hours on the 7th of January. The meeting will be preceded by a Standards Committee meeting at 0930 hours at which BASAR course test questions will be worked on.

AGENDA

1. Announcements
2. Secretary's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Committee reports
5. Old Business
6. New Business - " Fund Raising Issues "
7. Correspondence
8. Set Next Meeting Agenda

Meeting is adjourned at 1541 hours.

Please make copies of the following form for each of the members of your group
All units and individuals are encouraged to support your Association.

Maine Association For Search And Rescue

1996 Annual Dues

Unit Name _____

OR

Individual Name _____

Curent dues for 1996 are \$35 for a unit and \$10 for an individual membership.
Please show your support for MASAR by joining today .

Mail to ; Peggy Mclaughlin
MASAR Treasurer
85 Allison St.
Newton, Mass. 02158

Amount enclosed \$ _____