

MAINE ASSOCIATION FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE (MASAR)
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 4, 2004
DISTRICT WARDENS HEADQUARTERS
SIDNEY, MAINE

Called to Order: Pres., Jennifer Fisk, 13:02 hours.

Introduction of those present. Visitor: Julie Hwang from the SALT Institute who is doing a research paper on Maine Search and Rescue.

Secretary's Report: Minor addition to February 8th Minutes - Recent Searches (Burlington, ME search): "... 's K9" to read: "Victim was located by Warden Wayde Carter's K9 ..." Steve Hudson - Motion to accept / unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance: \$3106.57. Note: \$35.00 check to be deposited. Steve Hudson - Motion to accept / unanimous.

Recent Searches: 1) Mentally challenged child missing - resolved quickly as child was only a few yards away. 2) End of Feb. search for 3 skiers who went from NH into Maine going to Carter Dome and ending up at Wild River Drainage. The strongest skier came out; the other two were located the next day. Gilead Fire Dept. again asking for payment from the skiers. 3) Bar Harbor search - Steve Hudson reported that the Park Service started their search on Sat. for missing despondent/suicidal man whose vehicle had been found at the Park. MDI / MESARD were called in to work on Sun. morning, with ground teams arriving later in the a.m. After a good briefing, approx. 8 MDI and 8 MESARD teams were fielded. A helicopter from the Drug Task Force (affiliated with the 112th), soon located the deceased subject on Great Hill, a short distance from his vehicle. It was a well organized search. The delayed request for ground searcher arrival brought about a discussion from Susanne Kynast on why this was done. Steve Hudson explained that he felt a delayed callout made sense as there were sufficient searchers available to handle the initial search work. 4) Lost child in Litchfield - found upon arrival.

Committees:

Standards: Steve had nothing to report at this time.

Education: Brad sent the results of the survey (re: Fall MASAR Training) but was unable to attend today's meeting. He needs to be present to discuss the results.

Old Business:

Basic SAR Skill Course Development: Al Martin. Not present - Postponed until the next meeting.

Member Training Documentation: Mike Sawyer. Nothing at this time to report.

Liability Insurance: Dave Martin. Not present - Postponed until next meeting.

Criteria for Bringing Trainees to Searches: Mike Sawyer. Nothing at this time to report.

Definition of Terms to Workers Compensation: Steve Hudson. Nothing at this time to report.

Training Time Needs in Workers Compensation Context: Brad Rounds and Al Martin. Both not present - Postponed until the next meeting.

Workers Compensation: Mike Sawyer. The Colonel has been very busy so they haven't been able to do anything on this.

Spring Training Day: Mike Sawyer. Bring all of your own A.V. equipment (VCR, TV, etc.) He will check on the A.V. resources at Unity and get back to those who plan on using them. Discussion on where the facility is located - this will be added to the itinerary. Mike then went over the day's agenda. He is requesting \$200.00 funding from MASAR.

Old Business Cont.:

Mike reported that MEMA will be doing I.D.'s for the four teams that sent in their information and are certified. MEMA may make a second (different) I.D. for those not covered by Workers Comp. Mike will be going by Steve Hudson's list of certified individuals and dog teams.

Mike also informed us regarding the Unity Foundation. John Sullivan, who works for this Center, suggested that we should explore having the Unity Foundation help with the costs of our training. Check their website regarding grants, etc. <http://www.unityfdn.org>

North Star Hosting Fall Weekend: Mike Sawyer. Discussion from survey about when / where weekend will be - location is: Washburn (Presque Isle area), at the church camp - Camp Nomacca which is on the west side of the Aroostook River. Dates: Sept. 18-19. We have access to use the dining halls, cabins, etc. Late Fri. the BASAR track will begin. Weekend will conclude by 1:00 p.m. on Sun. Randy sent info. that he is getting BASAR instructors and will send further info. re: meals. Individuals / groups can use the cabins. North Star will mail announcements in July, with responses due back in August. There will be a 3 - mile compass / orienteering course; night navigation course using map / compass and no GPS; and on Sat. a large mock search with MESARD dogs used extensively. What other types of training do we want? Michele Fleury suggested having multiple victims to encompass the use of more searchers - utilize ground searchers / dogs / emergency care of victim(s) (carrying out), etc.

Susanne Kynast announced the need to have volunteers at the canoe races on April 10 (race in Bangor [contact Al / Dave Martin]); April 17 (Kenduskeag [contact Al / Dave Martin]); April 25 (Machias [contact Susanne Kynast]).

New Business:

Request for MASAR to Contribute \$200.00 for Spring Training: Steve Hudson - Motion to accept / unanimous. Julie will bring a MASAR check on the day of training.

New Callout Criteria - Pat Dorian informed MASAR that it will become more critical in the future due to changing times because of a work schedule change of warden's in Southern Maine and overtime issues for wardens. This will mean more callouts statewide.

Mike Sawyer announced that helicopters are being pulled out of the Brunswick Naval Base. A Coast Guard helicopter may be brought in to that location as a replacement. The MASAR funded lights which was bought for the Brunswick helicopter will be detached and transferred to another helicopter before it is removed.

Tracy Williams and Lisa Michaud (North Star) arrived late, but added more info. about the Fall MASAR Training: For a description of the land at Camp Nomacca, look at: www.campdepot.com The location of the camp is approx. 2.5 - 3 hours from Bangor. Other items on the agenda are: wilderness first aid; low angle area (in gravel pit); and water work. Greg Sanborn suggested a skills competition, lasting about 15 minutes with people participating in pairs. Steve Hudson suggested having someone speak about new radios and the changes that are taking place (digital, etc.) Cost for the weekend will be \$35.00. If there are any more ideas / thoughts, please contact Tracy at: tracyrikkasam@yahoo.com (personal) or nssar16@hotmail.com (team).

Meeting Adjourned: 14:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Julie R. Jones, Secretary - Pro Tem.

Those in attendance: Jennifer Fisk (MESARD); Steve Hudson (MDISAR); Julie Jones (MESARD); Robert Bohlmann (YCERRT); Mike Sawyer (IF&W); Patrick Dorian (MWS); Gregg Sanborn (MWS); John Blagdon (MWS); Paul Magoon (MESARD); Michele Fleury (MESARD); Robert Baribeau (Mahoosuc); Susanne Kynast (Sunrise); Nancy Weeks (MMESAR); Colleen Hoyt (MMESAR); Lisa Michaud (NS-SAR); Tracy Williams (NS-SAR).