



May 2019 Monthly Minutes

North Star Shooting Sports Club Board of Directors Meeting May 22, 2019

Present: Brian Griffith, Chairperson, Mark Bovee, Pat Idstrom, Ed Harapat, Carl Berg, Nik Opsal, Bill O'Neill

Club Manager: Richard Boston

Members present: Alan Colliander, Rita Bovee, recording secretary

The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:37 pm.

Secretary's Report:

The secretary's report is on the website. It was discussed that the draft report needs to go to each board member prior to the publication on the website. This will be the policy going forward. It was also discussed that Rita should be added to the email list for club communications.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report included the following: Overall banquet income is \$18,738.29, Page one of that report showed the net proceeds, page two showed the expenses, page three showed that income per game. This was very similar to the 2018 banquet. Costs associated with the banquet included \$2,000.00 rental for the Moondance facility, and \$300.00 for use of the Lazy Moon kitchen facility, \$200.00 for linens and \$195.45 for Cisco. According to the ticket stubs there were 145 adults and 18 youth that purchased tickets this year. The 10 trap team youth that worked did not buy a ticket but were fed as part of their contribution to the event.

DeGrote Construction was paid \$7,500.00 for their work on the rifle and pistol range. Carl Berg has not been repaid \$3,000.00 for the advance last fall.

There was discussion about the costs of advertising for this event. The Chamber of Commerce electronic board wasn't felt to be very successful. Discussion about looking into ads on the Lucky Moose LED board (at \$5.00 per week?), and the LED board at Charlie's.

Motion to accept the treasurer's report made by Pat, seconded by Nic. Motion passed.

Range Report:

1. After discussion about the need, Alan agreed to recreate the scoring forms used for trap, skeet, sporting clays, and the silent auction to make them correct for our current logo, and to have them transferred onto the club computer.

2. Staffing needs are at a critical level. Want ad on the web to be modified by Alan. Wednesday and Thursday the hours will be 12:00 to 8:00 pm, otherwise all the other open days the range will close at 4:00 pm. The current employees are not willing to work past 4:00 consistently on the other days.

3. Discussion about the decision to charge \$100.00 for non-club business use as was decided at the February meeting but the minutes did not reflect that decision. This needs to be revisited and defined in detail.

4. Lifetime members – Richard does not have any additional lifetime keys.

5. Discussion about the cost of the club hats. There are less than 20 of the "old" hats that sell for \$10.00. The new hats sell for \$20.00.



6. The 3D archery range remains an issue. There is currently no one interested in managing that particular venue. There is very little money made on it, and currently there is very little interest. Suggestions included that it doesn't need to be as extensive as it currently is, could be made simpler. Also suggested that a request be put on the website that we are looking for a volunteer to take over the management. Alan also suggested that we could look at paper targets that are inexpensive versus the very expensive current 3D targets. Carl made the motion to stop supporting the maintenance of the 3D archery range until we have a volunteer who is willing to manage it. Pat seconded. Motion passed.

7. This spring has been terrible with the weather, resulting in lots of water in the trap houses, and the plastic wads creating dams preventing drainage. The wads need to be cleaned up. Further discussion included that the drainage ditch go further north.

8. Scheduled events: May 13 law enforcement was here – it went very late; May 4 was the youth safety day with about 48 participants. The \$100 that was donated to Bonnie Conrad for the expenses for the day might not have covered all of the expenses; the DNR provided the 22 shells for this event, they used more 20 ga than 12 ga this year. May 29 is scheduled for a “fun day” for the WHAN trap team. 8. Richard is learning the credit card system – so far seems to be going well.

9. Richard provided a printed list of work projects in no particular order. The list includes 99 items that need attention. He requested that the board review the list, prioritize it, and begin to work on them.

10. The help wanted ad needs to be looked at to make sure it says what we need it to say. We need to update the pictures on Facebook – Ed indicated he would take care of that.

11. There is an issue with birds building nests out on sporting clays resulting in fuses being shorted out. Motion made by Mark to accept the range report, seconded by Bill. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Discussion about hiring new employees and placing an ad in the paper. Nic made a motion that Brian will place an ad for hiring part time employees; Richard has the discretion for the hiring of part time employees. Pat seconded. Motion passed.

Status of the rifle/pistol range construction and the DNR grant and signage. The bills that have been received have been paid (DeGrote and Zubke – not the lumber yard). Carl requested any outstanding bills must be in immediately so that the canceled checks can be received in the short time window we have left. All work must be completed, documented and canceled checks received for the submission of the grant information by June 30. Discussion about shooting cribs: - add verticals on the side of the berm? Use existing plate rack? - fix the existing one – get a new one – or both. Pat will follow up.

Rifle range is done – consider a diversion ditch to aid in drainage. Check with Shingobee township to see if they could grade to make a swale to aid in drainage.

Discussion about who is getting the steel for deflection plates - not targets. Nic and Brian will meet next week (5/29-5/30).

Discussion about the signage needed. Need to have two signs done by Lynn Mineer, done and paid for by end of May. Mark will take care of getting the signs done.

Employee Raises: after discussion, Carl moved to raise the employee wage \$1.00 per hour, Pat seconded it. After more discussion, Bill amended that motion to raise the wages by \$2.00 per hour, Mark seconded it. Motion passed. Wage increase will be affective at the next pay period. Mark made the motion to start new employees at a lower wage, \$12 per hour to begin with, and after 30 days the manager at his discretion can raise the wage to the existing wage. Ed seconded



the motion. Motion passed. There was a brief discussion about increasing the managers' wage, but no action taken.

Outhouses: Beltrami Electric's Operation Round-Up Grants are available for some of these expenses. We currently have a bid from Chad Freeman for the excavation and the slab, but not the actual outhouse. We have a verbal bid from Corey Honer. Brian will submit them but he needs both bids in writing. We also need bids for the upper structure.

Other discussion about sources of funding includes the Legion, as well as the Garfield Ice Racers, who both sell pull tabs. They might be willing to contribute to the outhouses, or donate to the scholarship fund. Another group to approach could be the MN Deer Hunters Association. Richard asked about the proposed moving of the "brown building" to the rifle range. When and where should it be placed? And also where will the outhouse be placed there if one is to be at the club house area?

New Business:

Overview of the 2019 banquet: The silent auction – was too dark in one corner. Need better lighting, and more variety of items that could be of interest to women. The hat auction – took way too long. We need a better auctioneer for this event. The evening went too long! Needed more heat in the building. Pat suggested higher quality prizes but a smaller number of them, or with a fixed number of tickets to be sold per board. Local restaurants need to be contacted for donations, and prizes added to the boards and silent auction that would appeal to women and non-hunters. **(Should be reviewed for 2020 banquet)**

Advertising: Alan brought up the Bemidji Pioneer Press advertising. They have 49 thousand papers per week going to the area communities, and it costs \$130 per month to have a 2" by 2" ad in it. He will update the ad to the current name, include rifle, pistol, and shotgun, update the phone number and delete the 3D archery. Pat made the motion to run this ad for the summer months, Mark seconded. Motion passed.

No trespassing signs need to be placed on the NW and NE corners. Pat and Mark will install the signs and posts this year.

Other:

Mark will pull for the Freemans to shoot trap on 5/23 at 5:30 pm, but does not want to set a precedent for this to happen every week. Thus, we need to look at the operating hours immediately after opening in the future. We need to expand / change the hours of operation a couple of days a week prior to the trap league starting. Discussion included trying the voice activated trap machine again.

3 cases of clays were lost to the flooding this spring. In the future we should not load the trap houses with clays for the winter.

Consider using a back pack blower to move the wads out of the drainage area; consider using a lawnmower with a vacuum system/ leaf bags.

Carl made the motion to adjourn, Bill seconded. Adjourned at 9:04 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Bovee, recording secretary