Board of Directors Meeting

February 12, 2024

Present:

Ruth D’Alessandro, President

Larry Langer, Vice President

Carole Howe Secretary

Bev Ashcraft

Sylvia Harris

BJ Barger

Carol Thomas

Cheryl Wiseman

Rita Togni

Carol Thomas

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Ruth D’Alessandro, President, at 7:21pm.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda made by Larry, seconded by Bev, passed unanimously.

**November Minutes:** Motion to approve January, 2024 BOD meeting minutes was made by Larry, seconded by Sylvia, passed unanimously.

**President’s Comments:** Our current membership is slightly up at 1171, with 3 new members in the last 7 days, and 14 new members in the last 30 days. We currently have 22 overdue renewals. Ski trip registrations have almost ended, as there are only 3 openings left for this winter’s trips. However, we do have the Valle Nevado ski trip to Chile coming up in August 2024. As of yesterday, 12 participants have signed up for the Chile ski trip.

During the past 2 weeks, Gary has included exercises to get into shape for ski trips in the weekly “Ski and Sports Gram” newsletter. He is still looking for assistance with articles and pictures for the “Ski and Sports Gram” newsletter. Ruth did not have a chance to discuss the “Chat Box” with Gary on the Windstar Cruise.

The Windstar Cruise was a great success. We had to change course during the Cruise as there was rain throughout the Caribbean. We were able to avoid the rain for most of the cruise. It only rained one day. The food was excellent and the excursions and shopping were good. It was special to have blue skies, clear blue water and temperatures in the 80’s during the height of our winter in the Washington DC area.

Ruth has scheduled a date for our Annual Election meeting at Auld Shebeen in Fairfax City for April 18, 2024; 7-10 pm. This meeting will be a short meeting; last year Ruth was able to keep the meeting to 30 minutes with time for BoD candidates and herself to make short speeches, hear the election results and present awards.

We will have heavy appetizers and members will be able to relax and talk with each other before and after the meeting. If you are in town, please plan to attend this meeting. The meeting will be free to all members and includes free non-alcoholic beverages as well as appetizers.

**Budget and Finance:** According to Bev, our ski trips which began on January 13, 2024 with the trip to Whitefish, Montana and Park City and Snowbird trips were all completed successfully last month. As mentioned in previous agendas, we will lose approximately $8500 on the Aspen trip if none signs up for the condo. It has been a relatively successful year for our ski trips although we had to cancel 4 trips; Jackson Hole, Mt. Bachelor, Aspen and Sunday River. The first Canaan Valley ski trip in January had 63 participants, the most participants we have ever had on a Canaan Valley trip. The second Canaan Valley trip this weekend had a total of 57 participants. Again, kudos to Charlie Lorenzetti and Make Cavallero for their efforts to keep the Ski Enhancement and Insructional program going. Obviously, our members perceive this as a valuable program and several new trip leaders have been trained through the Eastern ski trip programs.

Indoor Volleyball continues on Monday nights in DC with a second session scheduled from November 20 – March 11, SCWDC’s travel and sports events continue doing very well in FY 24 with an increased variety of choices

We continue to host 2 tennis parties each month from November – March, however we will not have any tennis parties in February due to scheduling conflicts. Our Saturday night parties have been well attended, provide an additional social outlet, and are a good source of potential SCWDC members. As spring approaches, Bev reports our Sports and Recreation Chair is planning another weekend biking outing and the Horseback Riding event which was rained out last fall will be rescheduled.

**Travel Report:** In other travel news, the VBT Vermont Biking Tours, boat and bike trip to the Netherlands scheduled for April 2024 is full. The Viking River Cruise scheduled for October now has two openings. Ying is also working on some OAT (Overseas Adventure Travel) trips and another possible Viking Cruise for 2025.

**Old Business:** As mentioned last month, Ruth are considering giving Volunteer Awards to several members. these awards will be voted on by the BoD next month.

Please contact your Program Chairs and ask for names of volunteers to consider for awards. If a member is nominated for an award, the program chair or whomever is nominating someone should provide a written statement as to the reason for the award. The BoD will have to vote on these Awards at the March 2024 BoD meeting.

Does anyone else have any nominations for awards to be presented at our Annual Meeting?

**New Business**: Ruth will be talking with the Flights Committee about scheduling our annual picnic in June 2024. She is thinking we will be able to give a preview of our 2025 ski trips as well as possible OAT trips and Sports and Recreation tips. Ruth believes expanding the picnic to include more events may increase our attendance. Also, it would be great if we could have some vendors from OAT, and VBT (Vermont Biking Tours) etc. attend our picnic and discuss events are considering for 2025.

Discussion concerning the date of the Volunteer Party. Late October or early November. Ruth will talk to Gary about using the Fairlington Community for our party.

**Liaisons:**

Do the BOD liaisons have any new information/concerns to report from their Committee Chairs?

This is a reminder if you have to miss a board meeting you can contact Ruth or any other board member to find out what we discussed. You should not miss more than 3 BoD meetings in a year. Many of our BoD meetings will be via Zoom but we will have a few in person BoD meetings at the SCWDC office.

Ruth has listed the dates for our BOD meeting from January through April 2024 that we discussed at our last meeting. Most meetings will begin 7:15 pm.

Thanks Ruth

Meetings till the end of the year

March 4, 2024

March 25, 2024

April 15, 2024

**Motion to Adjourn:** With no further business to discuss a motion to Adjourn was made at 8:20pm, by Larry seconded by Rita: passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Howe, Secretary