

Board Meeting – July 20, 2014
At Boyne Mountain, Michigan

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman of the Board, Dennis Farnum at 8:05 am Eastern Standard time. A prayer was given by Kathy Vaughn. The Chairman of the Board led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman of the Board took roll call. Region A – vacant, Region B – Chuck Horner was absent, Region C – Bill Seith, Region D – Jim Quinn, Region E – Larry Oswald, Region F – vacant, Region H – Darlene Farnum, Region J – Garrie Wayne attended by Skype, Life Member- Eugene Jones, and Legal Representation – Mike Johnston absent. Chairman of the Board welcomed everyone to Gold Rush XXVII.

The minutes of the last Board Meeting were read. A motion was made by Garrie Wayne – Region J to accept the minutes of last Board Meeting and it was seconded by Bill Seith – Region C.

The floor was given to Bruce Keenon – Executive Director to present the “State of GWTA” to the Board and GWTA members. “Where are we today?” We are exactly where we were last year at this time. The membership of GWTA is declining every month. The organization needs to come up with new ideas and execute them. We need to get the younger generation involved into GWTA. If we, as members, don’t participate in GWTA events, it affects the passion and attitude of GWTA members. When membership is down it affects everything.

Region J is doing well. But all Regions are down in members/memberships.

Bruce reminded the Board and members of GWTA that the organization has a program in place that a member of GWTA has the ability to transfer their membership if they are no longer able to be a member of the organization for whatever reason. This program has been in effect forever. It only makes sense if people are not able to continue with GWTA to give their membership to someone else.

A motion was made by Eugene Jones – Life Member and seconded by Jim Quinn – Region D that we take a short break and go into closed Executive session. It was passed.

A motion was made by Jim Quinn – Region D and seconded by Larry Oswald – Region E to go back into general session. It was passed.

We are now back into general session. A motion was made by Larry Oswald – Region E and seconded by Eugene Jones to retain Bruce Keenon as Executive Director for another year. It was passed.

Open Session to the audience – “What can we do to help GWTA get back into the right direction?” There was discussion from various people in the audience and from the Board. The general consensus is to get new members. Get the enthusiasm back into members and get new people into our organization. Maybe we need to start using the new technology – smart phones, texting, and Facebook to get the word out there. We have got to have the passion to get the membership. Need to educate and get people involved. This starts in your Chapter and it is called membership.

One member suggested that we need to pass on our knowledge and wisdom to the younger generation. Pass on the confidence. Show them how to run a Chapter and other events or activities so that they aren't afraid to try something new and aren't afraid of failing.

Region C – Bill Seith: Had nothing new. Just reiterated that we need to grow and adopt new technology. Reach out to members with new technology. Maybe improve delivery process.

Region D – Jim Quinn: Had nothing

Region E – Larry Oswald: Had nothing

Region H – Darlene Farnum: Had nothing

Region J – Garrie Wayne: Suggested that maybe we go back to hotel/camping rallies

Life Member – Eugene Jones: Had nothing

There are a few Board positions that are up at the end of the year. Regions B, D, H and Life positions are up at end of the year.

Region B – Chuck Horner is not eligible for another term. Chuck has agreed to stay on by a month to month basis until a Region B Board Director has been selected if necessary.

Region D, H and Life - The existing Region Board Directors that are still interested in their positions will submit their resume into COB by September 1, 2014 so that the members of that Region and Life members can vote on who they wish to have on the Board.

A motion was made by Jim Quinn – Region D and seconded by Larry Oswald – Region E to adjourn the meeting. It was passed. Meeting was adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Sylvia Jones
Secretary