

2019 FFLA Western Conference

Board Meeting

October 11, 2019

The Board Meeting was held Friday Evening at the Woman's Club in Escondido, California.

The meeting was called to order at 1920

Present: Chair Keith Argow, Western Deputy Chair Samsara Duffey, Treasurer/N ID -MT Gary Weber, S CA Scott McClintock, CA Sierra-NV Bill Luedeke, E WA Dwight Combs, Secretary/NJ-co Ray Grimes, San Diego-Riverside Chair Shane Harris.

Keith thanked the Southern California chapter and Sand Diego-Riverside local chapter for the wonderful conference in Escondido.

Financial

Gary Weber gave an update on the financial status; we are looking good we have around \$52000 in the bank, including chapter accounts.

Keith asked about comp issues of LOOKOUT NETWORK and who pays for them. Gary advised that the chapters pay for the comp issues that they provide; cost of the last issue was \$2.21 per copy.

Accepted as presented

Membership

Gary advised that we are around 1300 paid members.

Membership report was accepted as presented.

There was discussion among the directors about paying on-line. Gary advised that we use PayPal for online membership, but we do not have anything set up for doing on-line sales for merchandise or donations; this has been an on-going need.

Magazine

Gary advised that he is still working on getting up to date on the issues and that until he does, the issues may not have a date or season on them. There was discussion about maybe just going digital over a hard copy, but Gary advised that some members are not connected to the internet and can only get hard copies to read; he noted that members have the option of only getting a digital copy.

Keith asked Gary about material for the magazine; Gary advised that he has plenty of material to use.

Facebook

Sam advised that the National facebook page has 3800 people following the page. Shane noted that the San Diego-Riverside facebook page has around 1700 followers; a lot of people follow their facebook page for first reports, fire danger, and fire WX. There was a question if people who use the local facebook page make contacts with SD-R and get involved as volunteers at any of the fire lookouts.

Sam advised that while she is staffing her lookout and has very limited cell service and internet that Kyle Stetler handles the facebook page and answers any questions that come up. Sam advised that Kyle also has set up YouTube and Twitter accounts for the FFLA

Web page

Keith asked about people working with Bill Cobb on the FFLA web page; there is still an ongoing need.

Old Business

None

New Business

Shane Harris brought up a proposal to change the names of the organizational levels, local chapters would just be chapters, the current chapters would be regions or divisions; instead of San Diego-Riverside Local Chapter; it would be San Diego-Riverside Chapter of the Southern California Region (or Division). It was noted that the term "region" is already in use, so "division" would be a better title for the current chapter organizational level. The proposal would also require a change to the FFLA bylaws. It was just a discussion among the directors present at the meeting for right now, but will get further discussion.

Keith asked to appoint Brad Eells as the National Research Coordinator for the FFLA; Bill Luedeke made the motion, seconded by Gary and approved by the directors present.

Scott McClintock proposed having a challenge coin for the FFLA and would get photos and wording out to the directors on what would be on each side of the coin.

Sam spoke about making a 2020 calendar with 12 fire lookout photos from the facebook page photo contest held last fall. The calendars would be done by Zazzle and would be printed on demand.

Bill Luedeke spoke about the Eldorado NF and an employee of the Forest that is involved with the local historical society in Placerville and would like to see if the FFLA could help by partnering with its 501(c)3 non-profit status. Sam advised that she would reach out to this individual and get clarification of what she is looking for from the FFLA or what the FFLA involvement would be.

Sam moved to adjourn the meeting at 2032; the motion carried.