

CT Region NSP Leadership & Advisors Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday January 31, 2023
Zoom conference 2000-2105

Patrol Directors: Ron Fenner (Southington); Eric Schmidt (Pahquioque); Randy McKee (Lakeridge);

Assistant Patrol Directors/NSP Reps: Walt Behuniak (Southington);

CT Region Admin: Skip Mudge (RD); Mark Pahmer (ARD); Sue-Ellen Repeta (Pequot Section Chief, YAP); Tony Philpin (Housatonic Section Chief); Liz Fenner (Treasurer)

Advisors: Peter Bayer (ROA); Berni Fowler (Assistant ROA); Justin Regan (Certified & Sr OET Training Coordinator); Cally Regan (Women's Program); Melinda Mingus (Medical); Kathy Fitzpatrick (Safety Team); Michael Gajdosik (ID); Becky Mudge (Sr Program Coordinator); Larry Hyatt (Sr. OEC Training Coordinator, Administrative Assistant); Bob Cassello (Alumni);

Guests: Ken Joyce;

Absent: Jeff Barter (Ski Sundown); Michael Lapierre (Nutmeg Nordic /MTR); Mike Smarz (Mohawk); Justin Lonergan (Powder Ridge); Tom Kim (Ski Sundown, Snowboard); Kevin Muravnick (Powder Ridge); Jake Worstell (Pahquioque); Rick Knight (Awards); John Segretta (Website/Technology); Paul Katz (Assistant Snowboard); Andrew Flint (Outdoor Risk Management); Gadi Bourla (Telecommunications); Chuck Boyd (Avalanche & Nordic/Backcountry)

FOLLOW-UP TO LAST MEETING

- All National Board of Directors candidates supported by the Eastern Division (ED) were elected. National average of voter participation was 16%; Eastern Division was 23%; CT Region was 16.08% (3rd lowest in division).
- Liz Fenner, CT Region Treasurer, is the newly appointed ED Assistant Treasurer. Dallas Coffman, the ED Treasurer, is extremely busy and needs help.
 - Looking into using online bill pay to reduce/eliminate written checks.
 - RD approval is required, in advance, if spending in excess of approved budget.
 - ED has a sales tax free standing, go through Liz for large expenditures. ED already has arrangements with a number of businesses for the tax-free transactions – currently Amazon, Staples, Office Depot, Office Max, Home Depot and Lowes.

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

- New officers and lead instructors need to take Youth Protection Training.
- Youth Protection Training programs have either a 2- or 3-year cycle (BSA may become an annual certification). If unsure of certification status, check with Skip.

OEC REFRESHER

- About 15 people in the region have not done the hands-on refresher (Mohawk – 4, Nutmeg – 2, Pahquioque – 2, Powder Ridge – 4, Southington – 1, Sundown – 3). These numbers do not include Alumni or candidates. About 14 have yet to do the online portion. Reports will be sent to PDs. The region will support any makeup refreshers by providing an IT. It is suggested that patrols get together and run maybe 2 or 3 joint refreshers where patrollers could attend best site for them.

CHAIN OF COMMAND

- There have been a few situations in which patrollers have circumvented chain of command, resulting in local leadership (in many cases the people who are in a position to fix the problem) is left out of the loop. It adds a huge burden to our limited (and overworked) staff in Lakewood.

STRESS INJURY PERPAREDNESS FOR PATROLLERS

- Stress is part of our job. Melinda and her team have been working on a Stress Injury Preparedness for Patrollers (SIPP) to help educate and prepare all of us for those times. Resources and training programs are in development and will be introduced in the near future. This is a pro-active initiative, in contrast to CISM with is reactive – activated after an incident occurs.
- Some areas, Gunstock, Sunday River, Jay Peak, Okemo, have started or are in process of developing their own programs based upon this work. There are other programs such as Responders Alliance, but some of these programs involve costs. The Division program is no cost to patrols and are flexible depending on needs of the patrol.
- Melinda had a shout out to Kathy Fitzpatrick for creating a new card, EPICK Pass:
 - Eastern Division
 - Patroller Stress Awareness Team
 - Instills
 - Caring and
 - Knowledge

DATES

- All Outstanding Awards are due to Rick Knight by February 15.
- Annual Reports are due to Skip by April 1. Templates can be found on the Region website. The reason for this date is to have them reviewed and posted by the Region Spring meeting on Wednesday April 12.
- A new Section Chief will be elected for the Housatonic Section as Tony is terming out. Nomination form is on the website.
- The Division Spring Officers' Meeting will be May 5 – 7.
- Division scholarships for YAPs are available and applications due February 6. The Division would like to award a scholarship to someone in every Region. A note has been sent to each YAP and the PDs.

PROGRAMS

- Alumni
 - Alumni Day is February 28 at Sundown; suggested \$10 contribution to help cover snacks & meal. Ski Sundown provides lift tickets. Last year Alan Miller, Division Alumni Supervisor, attended the day, and is planning to attend this year as well.
- Medical
 - The Division group is looking closely at effective CPR on the hill. Studies show it is better to get CPR started and an AED on scene as soon as is possible. Considerations of responses may be somewhat different for different locations, such as a small mountain may best be served by having the AED shuttled up by a snowmobile, a larger area might best be served by having the AED at top of the mountain and brought down to the patient. They are also reviewing best practices for patient care while transporting in the toboggan.
- Senior OET
 - Program is up and running, 3 clinics completed, 2 clinics left, next will be at Berkshire East, then Pre-Test at Catamount and final test March 4 also at Catamount. There are 7 candidates active in the program. A “mid-term” survey was sent to all candidates so that adjustments could be made if necessary, during the program instead of waiting to the end.
 - 3 new OET TE candidates, Andrew Flint, John Ozolins and Rob Schumann, are going to the

Patroller School to finish up their certs. If successful, that would bring the Region to 8 TEs.

- OET
 - Due to weather and adjustments to the program documentation, the classroom portion will be conducted via Zoom followed by a couple of in-person, on the hill sessions.
- Certified
 - Justin Regan will be doing his Certified recert during a pre-test. Initially there were potentially 13 new candidates, but when they found out it was a pre-test and not an introduction, only 8 now plan to go.
- Safety Team
 - Pahquioque and Sundown had Safety Days in January. Eric Talbot provided support at the Pahquioque event. They were busy the day of the event, but the event was a success.
 - Next event will be during the Ladies' night at Sundown on March 8. That evening there will be a DJ and also hosting a Tea Cup raffle, for which they are looking for donations. The funds raised from the raffle will be used to pay for the “swag” to be given away during the event. Mountain Hosts are invited in hopes to recruit for the patrol. There also might be a ski-along as part of the recruitment. Will get flyers made up and made available for patrols.
 - Kathy has also written up a proposal and sent a request to the Governor for a Proclamation to honor Women of the CT Region as part of the National Ski Patrol Day on March 8.
- Senior Program
 - Looking to get all the Senior applications in and up to date.
- Senior OEC
 - The clinics have been completed, may do some zoom training if desired by the candidates prior to the Final Evals.
 - Final Evals are scheduled for Sunday February 12 at Southington. There are enough evaluators but need to confirm enough other support (Helpers, Station Managers and Patients/Bystanders). Also expect to use a Beta version for the Evals of National's upgraded OEC Module of the Senior program.
- Woman's Program
 - One event scheduled in region with several available in the Division such as at the Patroller School, check the website for the events.
- ID
 - No changes at this time.

PATROLS

- Lakeridge – they won't be opening this year due to the lack of snow and the loss of power due to the storm that knocked out some trees and took the power out.
- Pahquioque – had a great Safety event; running some youth races.
- Southington – things going well; today had to take a trail out of service so no longer at 100% open, hopefully will be making snow tonight so expect to be back at 100%.

Next meeting Tuesday February 28, reminders will be sent out.

Adjourned 9:05 PM

Respectively submitted,
Larry Hyatt