

Minutes of WSGA Board Meeting

21 September 2016

FenchurchE called WSGA's 20 July 2016 Business Meeting order at 6:36pm.

Board Members in attendance: Avroair (Mark Clemens), BroncosFan4Life (Chandra Day), FenchurchE (Fen Eatough), GeekandGopher (Ray/Brenda Harrison), Martin5 (Jerry Martin), Mr. Gadget #2 (Gene Reed), SirKarp (Rob Norenberg)

Also in Attendance: Mc3cats (Chris Brue), NepoKama (Mitch Eatough), Winos_Seattle (Antoine Pin), jtcoffee

Proxies: Mr. Gadget #2 for gcgeekygal

FenchurchE welcomed the board members, appointees and visitors in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Minutes from 20 July 2016 were approved unanimously

Comments: None

Financial Report

Report by BroncoseFan4Life

July 1, 2016 Starting balance: \$16,526.54

Income:

- Memberships: \$276.00
- Coin Sales: \$195.00
- Campout: \$10.00
- APE Pre-sales: \$3,295.00
- Refunded PayPal fees: \$0.39

• (Total: \$3,776.39)

Expenses:

- PayPal fees: \$132.57
- USPS: \$5.05
- Payment to Groundspeak: \$37.50
- Campout Geocoin payment: \$796.98
- Refunded Canadian surcharge fees: \$10.50

August 1, 2016 Starting balance: \$18,205.32

Income:

- Memberships: \$13.00
- Coin Sales: \$665.00
- Campout: \$213.00
- APE: \$2,687.82
- Misc sales: \$11.00
- (Total: \$3,589.82)

Expenses:

- PayPal Fees: \$197.21
- Campout: \$331.94
- Chapter allocation: \$1,500.00
- APE Event: \$7,906.52
- Total (\$9,935.67)

August 30, 2016 ending balance: \$11,859.47 (\$6,345.85 loss)

Comments: None

Membership Report

Report by Avroair

533 members, 27 new since last meeting.

Comments: Avroair asked for anyone who had signed up new members at an event to be sure to mail them in and also to remind new members to sign into the website.

Ape Mega-Event

Report by AndrewRJ

Our 7th-annual Going APE mega-event on Aug. 20 was a fantastic successful, with an estimated 600 attendees from around the globe.* I am pleased to report that we have maintained MEGA status for next year. The event ran smoothly, without any major issues – despite another group holding an event nearby.

Event expenses were lower than last year and swag costs were down. Final numbers will be added by Mitch to the tracking spreadsheet in Dropbox. For the past six years, the APE event has been our largest income generator (thanks largely to coins and shirts), another compelling reason to continue hosting this popular event.

My assistant directors, hippychick1620, and ourur crew chiefs (Lizzy, Psycokiwi, Peach&Pete, FenchurchE, Frisky Biscuits, Mc3Cats, Rambudo) did amazing jobs planning and running their areas of the event (Parking, Welcome, Swag Presales, Swag Sales, Refreshments, Tunnel Monitors, Lab Caches).

And, of course, none of this would have happened without our amazing volunteers - cachers worked before, during, and after the event to make sure everything went smoothly. As in past years, every volunteer received a free event T-shirt (volunteer white vs. attendee black), and 20 of them who went above-and-beyond are also be receiving special volunteer versions of this year's Ape coin (crew chiefs, those who worked all day, etc.).

*Attendance comparison: 2015 – 3,000; 2014 – 1,500; 2013 - 1,350; 2012 - 1,100; 2011 - 720; 2010 - 550. (Per Groundspeak convention, attendance estimates are x2 the Attended logs, rounded.)

Comments: The Ape Tag hunt appeared to be a success, bringing in cachers from around the state who otherwise would not have attended.

Park Liaison

Report by Peach&Pete

Park Liaison issues seem to be very low-key or have not been conveyed to me. No new appointments for any Park Liaison, or any issues in any areas that I am aware of.

As stated above, I have not been contacted by any Park Liaisons with any issues in their areas so it appears to me that we have no concerns at this time. Please let me know if you hear of

any problems with any of the Parks as it relates to WSGA and geocaching, or if you have ideas for the Parks Liaison area of WSGA.

Comments:

None

Merchandise Report

Report by NepoKama

I'd like to discuss moving to a more modern webstore for item sales. Our current webstore on the WSGA site is old, not easy to update, and does not have a lot of features that would make managing item sales much easier (inventory management, shipping cost calculators, etc.). Due to the limitations of the site we're using now we also have a fairly clunky interface for users making purchases.

I've been investigating options and would like to recommend we create a store for the WSGA at <https://freewebstore.com/>. This site would allow us to have up to 20 base products for sale at a time at no cost using the free account (no monthly or annual fees and no fees for sales – their profit model is to make their users successful enough that they sign up for a paid account to be able to sell more items). It integrates into PayPal so we would continue to be paid as we are now. Each of the 20 active items can have options applied to it – for example, WSGA T-Shirt is one item regardless of how many sizes we offer (option indicate the available sizes). Each base item can have up to three options, so we could do a shirt that included options for the buyer to select of size, color, and style (e.g. Men's T or Women's fitted T) as a single item against the total 20 allowed. Each option value can have an optional price add for it – we could add an extra charge for the larger shirts that would be applied automatically when the sizes were selected. Another example – our APE preorder bag from this year would have been one item with two options – Shirt size and Basic/Premium. The site also has lots of features we don't have now like inventory controls (set the available inventory and the site manages ensuring we don't oversell items).

Moving to a modern web store built on a proven platform like this will give us a better interface for both our customers and sales manager without having to build the functionality on our own, meaning we can spend more time caching and less time managing sales.

Comments: Avroair motioned to approve pursuing the design a new webstore on a new site and platform. Motion passed unanimously.

Membership Renewals

Discussion was opened on the possibility of raising Membership dues in order to better cover costs and whether we should change memberships to a revolving year rather than a calendar year. It was also proposed that we search for software to help manage memberships in the future. Further discussion was moved to the forums in order to come up with possible proposals to be presented at the November meeting.

Avroair asked for ideas for the yearly Member gift, with further discussion moving to the forums.

Chapter Reports

South Central Chapter Report by Ham_sters

Upcoming Area Events

9/18/16

CITO on Swegle

GC6RBWP

Get that souvenir!!

9/23/16

WSGA South Central is putting on a geocaching teaching event at Sacajawea Park the weekend of Sept 23rd. There will be about 20 – 40 kids every hour coming through the park and we'll be showing them how Lewis and Clark used to navigate and how to use more modern technology with GPSs. We're also planning our annual Fall Fling.

Cache-Cadia Chapter Report by Mr. Gadget #2

Activities since our last meeting.:

WSGA 2016 summer Camp Out We got there early Friday afternoon and assisted Kristine with meeting arrivals. Kristine had to leave that evening and Mrs. Gadget #2 and I took over the welcome booth for the remainder of the weekend. It was a low turnout this year due to so many other activities that were preplanned. A good time was had by all who attended. Lots of sitting around and visiting.

7-29-16 there was Geocaching 101 event. GC6MGD0 hosted by Winos Seattle.

The Cascade Farmlands tour had its kick off event GC6H714 in Wenatchee on 7-30-16. It was well attended by both geocachers and a lot of non geocachers.

Kudos to Go-pher-it as he did it again. He hosted an event At the Summit Breakfast Gathering GC6NEYZ 8-20-16, and has one coming up this weekend 9-24-16 Changing of the Guard meet and Greet GC6R54J. This will be his 15 event he has held in our chapter boundaries this year.

On October 1st, 2016 Team Pazooter's will be hosting their ninth annual event in Waterville.

Waterville: To Wheat To Eat IX, GC6P3CN

48 North Chapter Report by misdirection

We had a great CITO and potluck on the 17th. Destroyed a lot of beach forts and removed a bunch of ivy. The potluck afterwards was well attended.

Planning for Christmas now.

Southwest Chapter Report by Geek&Gopher

New Business:

- Some way to keep in contact with all of our Chapter Members. We don't have email or phone numbers for all of them and apparently neither does the database??? We talked to several members at the Cache-Dash-Splash Event that were thinking about not renewing because they didn't know what was going on in the Chapter. They were not being contacted about things happening in the Chapter. Not all of our members have a Facebook Page so they don't see all the announcements and information we post on our page.

WSGA Member suggestions:

- None at this time

Past Chapter Events

7/31/16 – Centralia WA

GC6MHVK Poker Run & BBQ

Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter

Schaeffer County Park

12 noon to 3 PM 7/31/16 – Centralia, WA

24 logged attended including family members

Upcoming Chapter Events

9/24/16 – Vancouver, WA

GC6QTZ6 Introduction to Geocaching

An event cache by mtribe and Verano (SW Chapter Members)

2PM – 4PM

Three Creeks Library Meeting Room

800 NE Tenney Rd

Vancouver, WA

October - Clark County, WA

Meet-N-Greet with Night Cache

Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter

Location: TBD

Date & Time: TBD

11/5/16 – Vancouver, WA

GC6T9FG GIFF Film Screening 2016 – All Access Pass

Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter

WSU Extension Office

1919 NE 78th St

Vancouver, WA

1PM - 3PM|

December – Longview, WA

Holiday Party

Hosted by Bearsandme & WSGA SW Chapter

Location: TBD

Date & Time: TBD

Vancouver Coin Challenge TBD 2017

Sponsored by the Vancouver Chamber of Commerce

Hosted by WSGA SW Chapter

Upcoming Area Events

9/24/16 – Yakima, WA

Yakima Cache Machine Dinner III (GC6Q1H8)

Travisl

10/15/16 – Auburn, WA

Auburn Geocaching Adventure (GCQZEA)

Peach&Pete & Auburn Parks

Puget Sound Chapter Report by SirKarp

Events Held:

September 16th, GC6R482 Rootbeer Float event. We held this at Wilmot Gateway park in Woodinville. We had good turn out on nice sunny afternoon. There were a number of new or newer cachers that attended the event so it was good to get to meet them, answer questions about caching and tell them about WSGA. Thanks to Jim of Terrible T's we had an impromptu lesson on Whereigo caches for those that were interested in finding the one there in the park.

Upcoming Events:

GC6PEVQ the third annual Halloween nightmare event is set for Saturday 10-22-16, we'll be at the Vasa Hall in Preston again this year. The theme this year will be Carn-evil. We'll be placing 13 new caches in the area for attendees to find with the reward being a path tag designed by Bronco's Fan 4 Life, who is also spearheading the 13 caches project. We've already got a few helpers and always looking for more!

Though there isn't a GC # yet, the 2016 Holiday party is set for Saturday January 21st. It'll be held at the Maple Valley Community Club as it worked out really well for us last year and this year they have been kind enough to extended our rental hours this and give us the hall rental on Saturday for the same rate as last year.

Though truly not a geocaching event, each year on Halloween we park the Hearse in front of the Duvall visitor center during the towns trick or treat event. We hand out candy let folks look around the hearse, and of course hand out WSGA branded geocaching pamphlets.

Meeting was adjourned by Avroair at 8:20 pm.