

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AHS

May 12, 1981

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Pritchard at 3:16 p.m.

Present were: Directors Stephen Doyle, Mike McReynolds, James Kern, Glenn Seaborg, Louise Marshall, and Paul Pritchard; Advisors Robert Proudman, Robert Karotko, and Barbara Haas; Executive Director Craig Evans; and Guests Robert Ramsey of National Association Services, Monty Montgomery, Lynn Kern, and Nancy Miller of Hika-Nation, Alfreda Winnings of AHS Washington group, and Susan Evans of the AHS office.

The meeting was declared to be an Executive Committee meeting with other Board members present and voting.

The agenda were modified slightly and accepted. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

Reports were next on the schedule.

The Executive Committee had nothing to report.

The Treasurer's report as prepared by Alfreda Winnings and presented by Mike McReynolds was accepted. It was moved that Pritchard and Doyle nominate a CPA firm for approval by the treasurer and by a mail vote of the Board, which CPA is to have our financial records up-to-date by the next Board meeting. (MSP).

The membership report showed that AHS has 2408 members currently, including 12 life members. Increased publicity and promotion have resulted in an increased rate of new memberships in recent weeks. It was moved that a goal be set, of acquiring 10 new life members by October 13, 1981. (MSP).

A report on promotions was next. Kern suggested that the Florida Trail Association appeal letter be considered a prototype for our appeals. He also suggested that clubs should be encouraged to make their financial support a yearly obligation, rather than one-time. He also suggested that clubs be encouraged to join the local groups. Doyle stated that securing the help of retail suppliers in distributing AHS flyers was a better way to publicize AHS than the usual direct mail appeal.

The Executive Director's report was next. Evans presented five written reports, which were accepted. He then announced his intention to resign, effective July 1. He cited the long hours

required of himself and the office assistant (approximately 60 a week, each) as among his reasons for leaving. He also stated his belief that the AHS is overly-committed and involved in too many projects for the size of its staff and small volunteer network. He said AHS needs a full time fund-raiser, but that raising money is neither his strong point, nor one he can give full-time attention to without letting other duties slip. A motion to accept Evans' resignation, with regrets, was passed.

A report on HikaNation was next. Kern said that HikaNation was on schedule, that it was a remarkably great accomplishment for AHS, and that the hikers themselves were a very unusual group. Montgomery said that he intends to write an operational manual embodying what he has learned so that someone else could carry on in his position as HikaNation Field Coordinator. He proposed that AHS initiate Summer Commemorative Hikes in 1981 and 1982, to consist of 60 persons maximum, with three trail leaders, and no juveniles. It was moved to close the HikaNation 1981 account, effective at the end of May 13, 1981. (MSP). It was moved that Kern be authorized to create a HikaNation Quarterly publication to keep the HikaNation idea alive and that any remaining HikaNation funds be transferred to it. (MSP).

A resolution was passed expressing sincere appreciation to Postum Instant Grain Beverage and to the Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation for their substantive support for HikaNation, which was critical to its success, and that a letter be written to each informing them of the resolution.

A report on the Volunteer Vacation directory was next. Marshall stated her concern that AHS could not spare the resources to support the project and did not demonstrate interest in the project. She suggested that AHS might wish to abandon the project, but called attention to the agreement with Bill Ruskin which could complicate its being continued by the Mueller Fund. Kern said the Board should submit their ideas on how to improve the directory. Pritchard inquired how much money it would take to do it right. A memo to the Board concerning these matters is to be prepared by Marshall, after consultation with Kern and Proudman. No other action was taken.

Chairman Pritchard declared a break at 5:09; he reconvened the meeting at 5:20.

A report on local chapter development followed. Doyle described local chapters as consisting of individual members, each of whom receives a newsletter. Such chapters are vital to the support of our organization, he said. He requested continuing encouragement for local chapter development through notices in the newsletter and referrals to him for further

information. Seaborg reported on the development of local affiliates, which are clubs receiving one newsletter and encouraging their members to join AHS as individuals. It was agreed that the Board supports this effort.

A report on the Volunteer Conservation Corps followed. It was moved that the name of this project be changed to AHS Volunteers, if Kay Beebe approves. (MSP)

Bob Karotko announced that the National Trails Symposium is to be held in June, 1981, in Davis, California, and that some AHS members would be attending as individuals. AHS is not a member.

A request for start-up funds for School of Survival, Wilderness Bookstore, and the 1981 Hike-In was presented. It was moved that the money requested be supplied from cash flow. (MSP with Pritchard and McReynolds opposed.) It moved that before any money was expended for any of these projects a written statement shall be on file from the project head as to plans and need for the money, and such plans shall be approved by the treasurer. (MSP)

A discussion of the future of AHS took place next. Doyle explained multi-management organizations and suggested that one option for AHS was contracting with such a service. A letter from Director Gudy Gaskill was read in which she urged retaining the present executive director until after current promotions such as the membership contest could be assessed. It was moved that Pritchard and Doyle and a third person selected by them should constitute a committee to nominate a candidate for executive director, in the \$17,000 to \$20,000 range, as soon as possible, with Pritchard to chair. (MSP)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24.

Respectfully submitted

Louise Marshall
Louise B. Marshall, Secretary