

VSEC Meeting Minutes

April 13th, 2022

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 PM by Chairman Gene Harrison. VSEC Members present were Chairman Gene Harrison, Vice Chairman John Bowling, Secretary-Treasurer Ray Sira, Member at Large Rachel Saker, Member at Large Mike Rusin, Website Coordinator Gary Bush, Vertical Workshop Coordinator Kurt Waldron, Education Coordinator Hazel Barton and By-Laws Committee Chairman Bill Boehle. Absent was Contest Coordinator Bill Cuddington.
 - A. **Chairman** – Gene Harrison: Gene announced that Smokey Caldwell of PMI had recently passed away.
 - B. **Vice Chairman** – John Bowling: No report.
 - C. **Secretary Treasurer** – Ray Sira: Ray presented the minutes from the February 9th VSEC meeting. Gary Bush made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Mike Rusin seconded the motion and all approved.
 - D. **Member At Large Reports**
 1. Rachel Saker - No report but will be at the convention this year.
 2. Mike Rusin –No report.
2. **Committee Reports**
 - A. **Education** – Hazel Barton: VTC is continuing to get organized.
 - B. **Vertical Contest** – Ray Sira: We had a meeting with some of the convention staff where they showed us some photos and diagrams of the area we will be using for the contest and workshop. We will need some extra long rigging straps. Ray will check on getting some from On Rope One. We have a lot of pads in our supplies.
 - C. **Vertical Workshop** – Kurt Waldron: Needs to work on the instructors guides.
 - D. **Rebelay Workshop** – Gary Bush: Good to go.
 - E. **Website Coordinator** – Gary Bush: Going through meeting minutes from old Nylon Highways to put on a separate page.
 - F. **By-Laws** – Bill Boehle: Looking into Code of Conduct and what NSS has and how we can incorporate it into our by-laws.
 - G. **Equipment** – Ray Sira: Will talk to On Rope One about getting rigging straps made and a few other things that are needed. Gene sent a request to PMI for a rope donation On Rope One has agreed to pick up the rope and deliver it to the convention.
 - H. **Awards** – Position is not currently filled. Gary mentioned that he has heard from one of our members that they are not happy we have not filled this position.
 - I. **Outreach** – Position is not currently filled. No report.
 - J. **Symbolic Items** – The VSEC has agreed to let Bill Boehle work out an arrangement for On Rope One to take over selling the symbolic items and will work with Christa Hay with the transfer of what we have in stock.
 - K. **EC Candidates Committee** – John Bowling & Mike Rusin: Nothing to report yet. We hope to have something ready by the next meeting on May 25th.
 - L. **2022 Convention** – Gene Harrison: Gene is coordinating with convention staff. Hazel Barton is organizing the Vertical Session and already has some presentations lined up. Kurt has agreed to work with the JSS. The schedule will be pretty much the same as previous years. The only liability release we have now is the helmet waiver. The convention will have everyone sign a waiver as they register. The Vendors will be setting up in the same building as the contest. Hopefully this will get more people to stop by.
3. **Old Business**
 - A. **Jesús Pérez Fernández “History of the Climbing Contest” book** – Ray Sira will send a request to the VS Google Group looking for photos and stories that can be sent to Jesús for his book.

B. Code of Conduct – Bill has found the NSS code of conduct information on the NSS website. They encourage internal organizations to adopt their policy. Bill will draft a proposal for changing our by-laws and send it to Gene for distribution. A meeting was later scheduled for April 27th to review the proposed changes.

4. New Business

A. Gary Bush made a **motion**: “The Vertical Section Executive Committee votes No Confidence in the performance of his duties by Chairman Gene Harrison and respectfully requests that he immediately resign his position as Section Chair. Gene will continue to serve the remainder of his term as an At-Large-Member of the VSEC.” After a lengthy discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Gene has not resigned his position at this time.

B. Next Meeting – The next meeting will be May 25th.

5. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 pm.