

Vertical Section Executive Committee Meeting (Draft)

July 29th, 2018

Capitol High School, Helena, Montana

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chairman Terry Mitchell. VSEC Members present were Chairman Terry Mitchell, Vice Chairman Bill Boehle, Secretary-Treasurer Ray Sira, Member-at-Large Mike Rusin and Member at Large Gary Napper. Also present was Webmaster-Rebelay Workshop Coordinator Gary Bush. The Chairman announced that he held proxies for absent members Tim White and Bill Cuddington so the quorum of 5 has been met. Vertical Workshop Coordinator Kurt Waldron was absent without furnishing a proxy, and the position of Education Coordinator is currently vacant.
2. **Reports**
 - A. **Chairman** – Terry Mitchell announced that he will be stepping down from the VSEC at the end of the business meeting on August 2nd 2018. Memorial bricks for Dick Mitchell and Bob Thrun still need to be purchased. A letter from the VS nominating Mike Rusin as an NSS Fellow also still needs to be done. Jane Mitchell will be helping out the climbing contest registration table. She also asks that Terry keep this meeting short.
 - B. **Secretary Treasurer** – Ray Sira distributed minutes from the 2017 Convention meetings as well as the Treasurers report and membership report. The Secretary's report for last year's VSEC meeting was approved by unanimous consent. Errors were found in the Treasurer's reports for the last 2 years. Those have been corrected and the new reports have been posted to the VS Yahoo group page.
 - C. **Symbolic Items** – Bill Boehle submitted a report of income and expenses for the past year. Bill is looking for someone to take over Symbolic Items position. Other options discussed were selling through an online vender or one of the vendors that come to convention. Ray Sira printed some VS logo temporary tattoos to be given away at the climbing contest.
 - D. **Awards** – Ken Alwin was not present. He reported to Terry that there have not been any recommendations for awards.
 - E. **Webmaster** – Gary Bush reported no changes to the website. He asked Ray to send him a new membership list. The NSS may discontinue web hosting for Grottos and Sections in the future. Gary will keep us informed if this happens.
 - F. **Editor** – Tim White submitted a letter resigning as editor of the Nylon Highways. He also volunteered to rewrite the SRT beginners training manual.
 - G. **Climbing Contest** – Bill Cuddington is unable to attend the convention this year but has arranged for the contest ropes to be delivered. Terry will be the site manager for the contest and workshop. The gear trailer is on site at the fairgrounds. The fairgrounds will supply a lift and operator for setup. The JSS will be using our ropes on Tuesday and Bonny Armstrong will be using the ropes Thursday afternoon for a workshop on Small Party Assisted Rescue. The climbing ropes will be taken down and cut after the contest ends on Tuesday. On Rope 1 will let us

borrow their rope cutter. Bill Boehle and Mike Rusin will take care of the contest prizes. Bill has some left over from last year. Ray has a printer available and will be printing the certificates. The first place certificates will have a color VS logo. In the future we may print all of the certificates in color. A sign will be put up at registration stating that you must be in attendance at the awards ceremony to receive any prizes. Certificates and prizes not picked up at the awards ceremony will be forfeited and prizes will be awarded at the committee's discretion.

H. **Rebelay Workshop** – Gary has liability waivers. He may need 2 steel carabiners for the support ropes. The scaffolding will be delivered to the fairgrounds Monday morning. John Woods will not be attending the convention this year.

I. **Vertical Techniques Workshop** – Kurt Waldron will not be attending the convention this year. Terry will be the acting workshop coordinator. Only 9 people have signed up so far. We may only rig 1 rope for some stations. We are still looking for instructors to help.

3. **Old Business**

A. Ray will print a list of contest winners to be displayed at registration.

B. The space for the convention chairperson's signature will be removed from the contest certificates.

C. Bill is looking into an easier way to transport and display the contest records such as a paper poster.

D. Ray has purchased new totes for the VS gear.

E. The Vertical Workshop name will be changed to "Introduction to Vertical Techniques" starting at the 2019 convention.

F. Ken Laidlaw had volunteered to make some new 3 knot climbing systems for the workshop but we have not had any report from Ken.

G. Terry recommends having a brief VSEC debriefing after the climbing contest awards ceremony like we did last year.

4. **New Business**

A. Ray has volunteered to keep the equipment trailer for the next 2 years.

B. Terry has sent the 2019 convention the requirements for the 2019 convention.

C. No electronic business took place during the past year.

5. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM.