

**Carrabassett Valley Outdoor Association**  
Minutes of Annual Meeting on March 18, 2018  
Sugarloaf Inn

Present: Joe Loughran, Cindy Foster, Bonnie Farrar, Jim Heichel, Mary Berger, Al Sleight, Rick Young, Steve Smith, and 34 members.

The meeting was called to order by President Joe Loughran at 12:45 pm.

President's report: Joe talked about the strengths of CVOA, and the trend towards fewer activities and events, with social events being more popular than outdoor activities. This is not necessarily a bad thing, but is it the direction CVOA wants to take.

Secretary's Report:

- Our membership holds strong, remaining similar to 2017:
  - 480 memberships representing 900 people, of which 415 were range members.
  - Fees – we took in \$14,000, which breaks down to:
    - CVOA individual and Family memberships - \$6,000
    - Range dues at \$20 per range member - \$8,000
- Our monthly newsletter continues to be popular, with 60% readership; contributions of articles such as member news, items of interest, and community events are welcome. And of course photos.

Treasurer's Report: acting treasurer Cindy Foster reported:

- Gail Miller gave it her all as our treasurer for the past three years, even paying invoices and making QuickBook entries until just weeks before she passed away in December. She also oversaw the creation of a Finance Committee, which will guide CVOA and our treasurer on financial matters, growth, visions and policies as we grow. Gail helped developed our Charitable Contributions policy, which guides our donations to local organizations that support our mission.
- In 2017, we made charitable contributions to:
  - Adaptive Outdoor Education Center, \$500 for snowshoes
  - Franklin Search and Rescue, \$500 for training
  - The town of CV to stock the Outdoor Center trout pond, \$300 which is matched by the town
- Gail left our treasury in excellent order. As the only other signatory on our checking account at Skowhegan Savings Bank, Cindy has been paying bills and making deposits. (We have added our vice president Bonnie as a second signatory.)
- Elise Gebhardt is stepping into this position; she has significant accounting experience as she works with her husband Jay running their electrical business. Please welcome Elise to the Board when we vote in our slate of officers.

Ski Trip update, Cindy Foster:

- We had three ski trips this year, all successful: Cindy's trip to Copper Mountain with 42 people, Joe Loughran's trip to Banff/Lake Louise with 44 people, and Pete Weston's short trip to Quebec City with 18 people
- Our smaller trips have been popular, and unless someone chooses to lead a trip of 75 people, that won't happen again. We will set minimum trip sizes based on our contracts with Great Events and Escapes, and the maximum will be up to the trip leaders, probably 30 to 40.
- For 2019, we have taken a different approach than in the past. Rather than offering three trips, voting, and finding a trip leader, we are looking for trip leaders, and taking into consideration where they want

to go. We are open to any proposals a prospective trip leader wants to make – talk to me soon if you are interested in leading a trip.

- Our post-ski-trip dessert party will be held on Friday evening, April 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Adaptive Outdoor Education Center.

#### Election of Officers:

The nominating committee recommended the following slate:

- For president, Joe Loughran
- Vice President, Bonnie Farrar
- Treasurer, Elise Gebhardt
- Secretary, Cindy Foster
- Three year Director terms, ending 2021:
  - Jim Heichel
  - Jeannette Parker
  - vacant

A motion was made to accept the above slate. The motion was seconded. There were no other nominations from the floor. A motion was made that nominations cease, and the motion was seconded. The slate of officers and board members was unanimously approved by the members present.

#### Volunteer Recognition: by Joe Loughran:

- Trip leaders for events in the past year were recognized.
- Peter Weston, Harvey Packard and Neal Trask for their significant contributions to the construction of the Five Stand facility at the Range. A plaque honoring them will be placed in the building.

Other Business – there was none, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.

There were 7 door prizes donated by Joe, and the names of seven winners were drawn.

The meeting was followed by a fascinating program by guest speaker Laurie Apgar Chandler, author of “Upwards, The Story of the First Woman to Solo Thru-Paddle the Northern Forest Canoe Trail”

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy Foster, Secretary