

Portal Rescue Inc., Board Meeting: Minutes, September 15, 2010

1.0 Call to Order (Bill Wilbur)

President Bill Wilbur called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. All board members except Cheri Greenwade attended. No local citizens were present.

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

After two minor changes in the agenda, the motion to accept was unanimous (Dinah so moved, Rick seconded).

3.0 Acceptance/Correction of Minutes for July 21 meeting

After three minor changes, the minutes were approved as revised (David moved, Jackie seconded, vote unanimous).

4.0 Reports

4.1. President (Bill Wilbur)

The reminder to the community about notification prior to burning brush is working. Bill checks messages at the business office each day and forwards notifications to David.

Brush 6 will be available for foam training.

Sheila Clark has accepted our invitation to clean the classroom.

Gossip is still circulating regarding our "lack of participation" in the Horseshoe Fire. Our tender and personnel brought in \$14,291. Firefighters who attended that month's meeting were trained and drilled by the incident's structure protection specialist on how we would participate in structure protection. The incident management teams were pleased with our consistent involvement. If the public wants facts they are free to contact the Fire Chief.

Thanks go out to Buddy Hiatt, who helped Bill inspect the roof of the classroom and ambulance bay. A ring-tailed cat was residing over the classroom ceiling, probably gaining access to the roof through the drain spout. Water was backing up due to the ringtail 'nest'. A roofing company in Tucson suggests that drain pipes should end 3-4 feet high on building sides. Another leak was due to deteriorating rubber seals at screw points. Buddy and Bill will insert new and more substantial screws with caulk.

4.2 Treasurer (Rick Beno)

Rick reviewed income and expenses. There have been few changes in our finances.

Annual donations have almost stopped. By this time last year, they were at \$16,000, but we now have just \$10,200. Last year's donations were inflated by contributions from the State Line Samaritans and the Jan Gee and Devorie Griffiths memorial funds. Subtracting those contributions, we would now be about even with last year. The thermometer showing donations during our upcoming drive will start at zero, not at the level of donations already received, and we need to do well. With the exception of funds generated by the new phone book, no other income has come in from fundraising events because the Pie Festival was not held this year. Rent income (from Dr. John's Clinic and the Gallery) is slightly higher than last year. Income has yet to arrive from our participation in the Horseshoe Fire. We have done pretty well with interest income.

We have had about \$650 in fund-raising expenses. EMS and Fire dues were paid to the Cochise County Fire Association. Outlays have exceeded expenses for the year by about \$4,600, but fire income will more than compensate when it arrives.

Since our first CDs will come due at different times, we are now in position to make some of our investments longer term.

4.3 EMS Chief (Jackie Lewis)

We had one call this month, for a lift assist.

All EMTs attended the meeting on August 21. Hands-on practice allowed for a photo session, and one image was used for the brochure.

TMC cancelled the Continuing Education session_scheduled for 9/21/10.

The next EMT meeting will be at 9:00 am on 8/18/10.

Two HeartStart defibrillators will be replaced by Cardiac Science by February due to possible failure to shock.

4.4 Fire Chief (David Newton)

There were no operations this month.

We have requested permission to add narrow band widths to our FCC license and are awaiting a reply. \$2,900 has been requested for reimbursement from a grant. Anyone who wishes to receive pay for participation in fighting the Horseshoe Fire can request early reimbursement from Portal Rescue. Other departments have not been paid for HS fire either.

5.0 Old Business

5.1 Health clinic (Bill Wilbur and Kris Stone)

There is not much update on the clinic. We still need to have a written lease agreement, and to send our insurer a contract stating that the Cochise County Hospital's equipment is insured through the Hospital's own policy. These documents are not yet available, and the Hospital has been waiting for 'our lawyers' to draft it. We have no lawyers, and if the hospital wants the clinic, they must make it happen. They should also take note of the fact that, after the first of the year, Rodeo may set up an Hidalgo County clinic at the Community Center. Bill will communicate these things directly to Francis. In order to get things started, Mary Willy kindly permitted Francis to do coumadin injections to be done at her home.

5.2 Use of facilities by Flip Elliott and his crew (Dinah Davidson)

Dinah relayed a community member's questioning of our decision not to permit the prison crew to use bathroom facilities adjacent to the classroom. The Board is open to receiving another request, though any future request should come with advance notice (not 12-hr notice) and with written details such as the ratio of officers to crew members. Community members are reminded that they should attend Board meetings if issues of concern to them are to be discussed. Their attendance is particularly welcome if they have information the Board needs to use in weighing its actions.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Portal Rescue website (David Newton)

David led board members through some badly needed updates of information in the "About Us" section of the website. We need to have this in shape before the donation drive.

6.2 Policy manual (Jackie Lewis)

The Board started this exercise in 2008, but then dropped it. Jackie urged that we get back to this, including pulling policies out of past minutes, so we know dates of policy-related actions and decisions. Bill will search for any copy he might have of what we have done to date, and Dinah will look for what she had written on the secretarial and RCO responsibilities. David Johnson will review minutes that he took during his tenure as Secretary. Dinah will also post to the website all the past minutes for which she has electronic copies.

7.0 Addenda

7.1 Brochure

Kerri's contribution to the brochure needs an acknowledgement for a tax deduction and will be entered by our Treasurer as both a donation and an expense.

7.2 Chief's luncheon

The Chiefs' luncheon will be hosted here again on November 17. Chris Wilbur would appreciate any and all help with its preparation.

8.0 For the Good of the Order

8.1 FireWise (David Johnson)

David hosted a table with FireWise brochures at the recent Heritage Days conference, but few people stopped to fill out a form and request an inspection. The same materials will be available at

Oktoberfest, and anyone can pick up the information and try to meet FireWise criteria even if not part of the area plan.

8.2 Brochures (Jackie)

Brochures will be placed around the community after our initial donation drive letter with a brochure has time to arrive by mail.

8.3 Phone book (Susanne)

We are waiting for Kerri to request us to pull it off her website. 400 copies will be printed and sell for \$10 each – considerably less than the value of the coupons they contain. Books will be available at Oktoberfest.

9.0 Adjournment

Dinah moved to adjourn the meeting, and Susanne seconded the motion. Bill Wilbur adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm.