

NWTFC Executive Board

Email Meeting – January 14, 2014

The first email executive board meeting was held January 14, 2014 and subsequent days. This methodology was employed because executive board members are scattered and the need to improve communication and make decisions.

The process employed: 1) president will give notice of the meeting and agenda, 2) agenda and supporting materials will be emailed to all executive board members plus committee chairs, 3) emails will be exchanged among all members for comment, 4) summary and action items will be circulated by president for vote, 5) report will be prepared for next executive meeting to be held at a rally where action items will be ratified, 6) president will prepare a summary report (minutes) for secretary to record.

Executive board members participating: Al Zimmerman (president), Helen Anderson (vice president), Colleen Wright (treasurer), David Pierce (secretary), Steve Webber-Plank (FMCA national director), and Peggy Beers (FMCA director alternate).

1. Chapter E-mail Newsletter

In order to promote more communication among club members and build interest in NWTFC an e-mail newsletter is to be published 4-6 times per year. The newsletter and content is also to be placed on the NWTFC website. Newsletter content and format will be established by the editor. A newsletter editor will be sought from the membership and the editor will be appointed by president.

6 votes in favor, 0 opposed

Zimmerman volunteered to be the editor of the first newsletter. Once prepared it would be sent to the secretary for distribution to the membership and then provided to the webmaster for placement on the website.

Next task will be the selection of a newsletter editor. The newsletter editor will be a committee chair appointed by the president. Executive board members encouraged to help recruit an editor.

2. Membership for former members who no longer own a motorhome

Inquiries had been received from some former NWTFC members who no longer own a Trek or a motorhome. They expressed a desire to stay in touch with NWTFC and perhaps attend a rally. They asked about a special membership category or ability to stay on the mailing list. They were willing to pay some amount of dues to stay in touch.

To be a member of NWTFC, one must be a member of FMCA. To be a member of FMCA, one must own a motorhome. To be a NWTFC member, one must own or have owned a Trek and continue to own a motor home.

FMCA bylaws allow a local chapter to appoint Honorary Members at the chapter level. NWTFC bylaws reference life members and honorary members. The bylaws don't define these categories.

Proposal was to define and add a member category of Honorary Member to the bylaws. Honorary members would be long-time members who seek to continue to maintain a relationship with NWTFC and its members, though they no longer own a Trek or other motorhome. Honorary members would not be considered regular members and would not have any of the rights of regular members. Honorary members would be approved by the Executive Board. They would pay dues. They would receive communication from NWTFC and retain access to the website. Honorary members are not reported to FMCA, they are noted in chapter records only. They would be welcome to attend rallies.

3 votes in favor, 3 opposed

The matter of honorary members (or some category for former members who no longer own a motorhome) will be dropped unless someone wants to bring it up at another meeting. There is no formal means for such former members to have a relationship with NWTFC. These former members are encouraged to stay in contact through the website. They are welcome to attend rallies as guests.

The confusing language of Article IV. 3. E. needs to be changed to eliminate the reference to membership categories that no longer exist.

3. Volunteers at FMCA Family Reunion (Redmond) August 13-16, 2014

NWTFC has committed to having 14 volunteers to staff the FMCA store - Lee and Judy Keeler have coordinated this effort and the roster has been filled. FMCA is still seeking volunteers. Proposal would be to seek to secure 6-8 additional volunteers in some capacity.

FMCA is seeking additional volunteers to staff the FMCA Family Reunion.

Proposal was to seek to recruit 6-8 additional volunteers for the FMCA Family Reunion. President would communicate to Redmond volunteer coordinator of this intent..

3 votes in favor, 1 opposed

4. Handling member dues during the winter

The membership process involves a prospective member completing a form and sending it by email or postal mail. If the form is sent by snail mail, it goes with a check to the treasurer. The membership process is completed when the money and the application is received. If the form is emailed electronically, I am not sure how the funds are collected to complete the application process.

Apparently, in the past, if the treasurer was not able to receive and process the membership applications, the secretary received and deposited new member dues.

However, this year both the treasurer and the secretary have decided not to suffer through a Northwest rainy season. The question is how to handle and receive membership applications and dues payments during the winter season.

Webmaster (Mary) has indicated that she does not add new members onto the website until dues are received and either the treasurer or secretary indicates dues have been paid.

Paypal was suggested as a way of facilitating payment and would not require funds to be mailed to the treasurer. Though not the best, perhaps a note could be added to the website indicating

that responses to membership applications sent by U.S. mail may be delayed if the treasurer is out of town.

Further discussion on this item has been tabled to the February email meeting when the treasurer can be consulted.

5. Rally survey report

Rodger Wright as Rally Coordinator circulated a survey among NWTFC members. There were 30 responses from 61 members of NWTFC. In summary, the members like getting to know one another, potluck dinners, organized events/tours, Trek workshops/seminars, small towns & local area history, and hiking & biking. Members don't need/want laundry facilities, on-site stores, showers/flush toilets, cable TV, golf nearby, or swimming pools.

Venue responses indicated an openness to several possibilities: boondocking, private campground, USFS campgrounds, state parks, casinos, and county parks. NWTF members are open to lots of possibilities.

Rally cost is a concern, so all wanted to keep costs reasonable.

6. 2014 Rally schedule

There are no rallies posted on the website other than a note about a travel invite by Bob & Peggy Beers. Rally schedule as reported:

August 9-12	NWTFC Pre-Rally	Lee & Judy Keeler
August 13-16	FMCA Family Reunion, Redmond	
August 18-20	NWTFC 10 th Anniversary Rally	Rodger Wright and Ed Block

Suggestions:

- A spring and fall rally would help fill out the calendar.
- Rallies in Washington (eastern, northern, central, coast), Idaho, or BC would help provide some geographic balance.
- Some clubs have a rally calendar with open months in their club newsletter.
- Some indicated that the role of wagon master was "overwhelming" and intimidating.
- It was suggested that perhaps two couples could jointly serve as wagon master for a rally.
- It was suggested that perhaps some experienced wagon masters could serve as mentors for those willing to be a wagon master.
- Creating a "wagon master packet" that would include job description, task/planning guide, timeline, budget sheet, etc. Some of this material is on the website.
- Rally possibilities that need follow-up: Grants Pass (Henderson but needs help), McMinnville area (Anderson with someone), Walla Walla or Yakima (Webber-Plank with help).

Next email executive board meeting will be February 11, 2014.