INVA Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Cheryl Elser on Saturday, August 11, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. in the Nature Center at Patoka Lake State Recreation Center.

Twelve (12) people were in attendance: President Cheryl Elser (Three Rivers Strollers), Vice President Cliff Terry (Indy G Walkers, Bloomington Flying Fish), Treasurer Bob Buzolich (Hoosier Hikers), Susan Budd (Three Rivers Strollers), Linda and Stan Neu (River City Ramblers), Nicki and Tom Martin (Goodtime Trailblazers), Larry Schwindt (Indy G Walkers, Three Rivers Strollers), Teena Ligman (Bedford Hiking Club), Alison Piper (Bedford Hiking Club) and our Regional Director (RD) Andy Bacon.

A card was passed around to be signed in honor of the 40th anniversary of the Ohio Wander Freunde as an AVA club.

The minutes of the April meeting were moved and seconded for approval.

Bob Buzolich passed out the financial reports including the Annual Financial Report. They were moved and seconded for approval, subject to audit.

AVA NEWS
The Big Give collected $74,936.
New Special Programs for 2019
   Carousals Across America
   Little Free Libraries
Instructions were passed out regarding the new event stamps.
   The Default name on the stamp will be the town/city of the event.
   Instructions show how to request a different name on the stamp.
National AVA Convention is June 9 to 16, 2019. Hotel reservations are now open.

MID–AMERICA NEWS
New Regional Director (RD) and a Deputy Regional Director (DRD) are needed.
   Duties include 2 national meetings per year and monthly online meetings.
   Visiting ALL areas of our region and conveying our concerns to the national level.
   Term is 2 years, maximum 4 years.
   See Cliff Terry if interested.

Mid-America Conference will be held October 26 – 28, 2018 in Dundee MI.
   Brochures available via email – Craig Gauger at gcgauger@hotmail.com
Indiana’s Raffle Basket will have a coffee break theme.
   Cheryl Elser will buy and assemble.
   It is suggested that clubs each donate around $10 to cover the items.
   Send the money to Bob Buzolich.

Special Recognition awards that would be presented at the conference were discussed.
   Deadline for submission September 1.
   Suggestions welcome.
   The form is on AVA website under AVA Club Forms.
INVA NEWS
Report of the Clifty Falls and the Ouabache walk are part of the financial reports.
   Nominations will be held at the spring meeting.
   Voting at the Summer meeting.
The proposed sites for 2019 DNR walks are:
   April 6 Brown County State Park
   June 1 Tippecanoe River State Park,
   Aug 10 Versailles State Park,
   Sept 28, Shakamak State Park.
NOW is the time to send in 2019 events with dates.
It was suggested to have a BIKE event with any state park event if a good trail is available.
   This might be a good place to use the Per Participant Format.
   This charges $2.25 for each participant instead of a sanction fee.

OLD BUSINESS
The idea for a glass tumbler as a DNR award has been tabled.
   We will continue with bars and headers for now.
   A patch was discussed but designs will have to be submitted for consideration.
It has been suggested that we find ways to help the DNR areas we are using.
   Perhaps a Friends group.
   Or volunteering for a work day.
   Cheryl will contact Fort Harrison and Pokagon to see how we can help.

NEW BUSINESS
AVA is proposing an increase in walk fees.
   RD Andy Bacon said it is leaning toward a cost of $4, split evenly between local and national.
   The vote will take place August 21.
How to conduct local meetings was discussed.
   This should be in the by-laws of the club.
   Nikki Martin offered to compose some guidelines to be distributed to the clubs.
There are 2 more DNR walks this year.
   August 18, Turkey Run.
   September 29, Fort Harrison
Other Walks coming up
   August 25, Pendleton Falls
   September 1 ACD Festival, Auburn
   September 15, Metamora and New Harmony (2 different walks)
   September 22, Irvington Library, Indianapolis
   October 6, Donner Park, Columbus
   October 20, National Lakeshore Walk in Chesterton, - PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY
      Money is not allowed to be collected on site so anyone wanting to walk must pre-
      register. It was discussed to check about collecting money on public locations. Some
      libraries also have this policy.

There is a meetup change. The southern meetup is now headed by Bloomington.
Clubs are to send in a count of their bars and headers to Cliff Terry by the end of September.
Ohio has asked to hold a walk in Richmond. Guidelines state they need the state’s or the RD’s permission to hold a walk in a state not their own. We will try to have the walk ourselves but will work with the Ohio club to make it a convenient date. Cliff is to look into this.

RD Andy Bacon told us about a yearly calendar the national organization wants to put together. Indiana will sponsor March which means the picture will be ours. Each region is to submit to the RD up to 36 events.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:15.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Budd
Three Rivers Strollers
8/20/18