

2015 Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

Phoenix, Arizona

September 12, 2015

1. Call to Order at 9:00 am (9:02 am)

Directors Present: Chairman Richard Maleady, 1st Vice Chair, Ken Sorenson Treasurer Phil Umphres, Secretary Frank Whiteley, Lane Bush, Art Greenfield, Geoff Weck, Ann Lafford, Jim Garrison, John Lubon, Stephen Northcraft, Steve Leonard, Jay McDaniel, Cindy Brickner, Scott Fletcher, Jason Stevens, Linda Draper-Hivert, and Bernald Smith. Also attending were Rich Carlson, John Godfrey, Denise Layton and Kathey Pope.

Welcome and Opening Remarks

1. Welcome and remarks from SSA Chairman Richard Maleady

Chairman Maleady expressed appreciation for all the support he has received over the 3 years of his term. "It has been a good 3 years."

1.2 Introduction of guests

Pat Costello, Rick Lafford, Mike Moore. Mr. Moore was extremely pleased with the letter SSA sent regarding ANPRM.

1.3 Request for confirmation of accuracy of email addresses and other contact information for the current list of Officers and Directors (as shown on the roster HERE) One address change was noted for Geoff Weck.

2.0 Consent Agenda -- Action Item

[The Consent Agenda is to be considered as a "block" of items submitted to the board for approval or disapproval as a group. A simple majority is required to pass Consent Agenda. Prior to the vote any Director may request that a specific item be removed from the Consent Agenda, in which case that item will be considered separately during the Board meeting. The purpose of the Consent Agenda is to deal with as many non-contentious items as possible in an expeditious manner, thus allowing more time for discussion and decision making on policy issues that require more deliberation.]

2.1 Approval of Past Minutes - (February 28, 2015 Board of Directors' Meeting)

Motion to approve by Phil Umphres. Seconded and approved.

2.2 Approval of 2015 Service Awards (report from Jay McDaniel)

Motion to approve by Jay McDaniel, seconded by Cindy Brickner. Approved.

3.0 Chairman's Report (report from Richard Maleady) No discussion necessary. The report is in the book.

4.0 Chief Operating Officer's Report (report from Denise Layton) The report is in the book, one item needs discussion as follows:

Directors' Terms - Several years ago during the process of reducing the size of the Board, it was decided to change the expiration of some Directors one time, so each year approximately one third of the Board would be up for re-election. It was determined this would help in keeping continuity on the Board. This was to be accomplished by having Region 1 and 3, 2 and 4 and Region 6 serve a two year term which would then put them in alignment with having one third of the Board expiring each year. This has not yet been accomplished and I ask for your approval to get the elections in line so one-third of the Board is up for re-election each year. I propose in 2016, Directors in Regions 1 and 3, 2 and 4 and Region 6 be elected for a two-year term. This would put them up for re-election in 2018. Then they will follow the normal three-year rotation. The terms would then look like this:

2019	2020	2021
7	5	1 and 3
9	8	2 and 4
10	12	6
11		

The Treasurer stated this is not a change to the bylaws, it is only housekeeping of administration.

The Treasurer moved to accept this updated schedule to get back on track. It was seconded and unanimously approved.

5.0 Treasurer's Report (report from Phil Umphres, Rev 1) SSA should finish the year in the black or at least break even using the allotments from the General Endowment and Life Member funds. The administration expenses are well monitored by our COO.

Membership continues to decline at a rate of about 2.5% per year. With total membership at 10,085 as of the end of July, 2015, we will almost certainly drop below 10,000 members before the end of the year. As discussed before, the ongoing decline in membership has important and unpleasant ramifications for the future.

Copies of the 2014 Audit report are available. The report contains nothing that would indicate any issues of concern regarding either the integrity of our financial operations or the accuracy of our financial statements.

There was some discussion about going to an audit review to save money. Possibly would be considered in the future. A full audit relieves any hesitance of current & future donations.

5.1 Action Item: approval of draft budget for 2016 (draft budget, v.3) Note: the budget assumes no changes to sanction fees income or distributions; that issue will be addressed later and the decisions incorporated into a revised budget.

The treasurer moved to approve the Budget Draft 3 as a working draft subject to revision and approval by ExComm by year end of 2015. Seconded by Sorenson. Motion carries.

5.2 Action Item: approve transfer of funds in "SSA Designated Trust Fund" to "General Endowment" (Proposed Motion) (Exhibits 1-9 to proposed motion)

WHEREAS, the SSA Bylaws, Article XI - Trusts, provide for the existence of certain Trust Funds for certain monies given to SSA or set aside by SSA for specific purposes, and

WHEREAS, the SSA Foundation is the entity designated by SSA for holding, managing, investing and safeguarding such funds, ownership of which belongs to the SSA, and

WHEREAS, for some time there has existed within the SSA Foundation a specific fund of monies, currently identified by the SSA and the SSA Foundation as the “SSA Designated Trust Fund,” in an amount of \$11,980.86 as of June 30, 2015, and

WHEREAS, there do not appear to be any donor restrictions or other permanent restrictions on the use of those monies,

NOW, THEREFORE, it is moved that the SSA Board of Directors approve the transfer of the entire sum of the monies held in what is currently called the “SSA Designated Trust Fund” to the SSA General Endowment Fund as an unrestricted addition to the Endowment assets held in the General Endowment fund, and that the Fund commonly known as the SSA Designated Trust Fund be closed and no longer used.

Seconded by Geoff Weck. Motion carries.

6.0 Committee Reports

6.1 Chairman Richard Maleady (SSF, Administration)

6.1.2 SSA Foundation (reports below)

6.1.3 Editorial Advisory Committee (report from Eric Bick) (copy of agenda from last committee meeting)

6.1.4 Naming and Memorials

6.1.5 SSF (report from Rich Carlson) - The Trustees are working to improve the outreach for SSF. A data base is being constructed for incident reporting that will have a search function by area, aircraft and incident. The data needs to be solicited from the membership and needs to be advertised and make it visible on SSA’s website. Input can be made anonymously.

SSF Trustees want to survey the membership for opinions on SSF’s services. Prefer the letter with the survey come from headquarters. SSF will pay SSA for staff time, supplies & postage. SSA Chairman complimented the survey he found on the website.

As of the date of this meeting, 4 gliding fatalities have occurred. This is a downward trend this time of year.

6.1.6 Administrative

6.2 Vice-Chair and Treasurer Phil Umphres (Financial, Awards) - Nothing to add, please see the report.

6.2.1 Budget and Finance Committee (incorporated into 5.0 above)

6.2.2 Nominating Committee (report) - Nominating committee members are John Godfrey, Steven Northcraft and Tony Condon.

1st order Directors at Large Proposed Slate: Re-nominations are Richard M Maleady, Phillip Umphres, Kenneth G Sorenson, A. W. Greenfield, NAA. New nominations are Gary Rubus, William Hill, Jay Campbell.

Motion to approve the slate by Steve Northcraft. Seconded. Approved.

Thank you to Linda Draper-Hivert, Scott Fletcher and Jason Stephens for their services.

2nd order Executive Committee - Members are the Chair and four Vice-Chairs: Kenneth G. Sorenson - Chair; Phillip Umphres - Vice Chair, Treasurer; Richard M. Maleady - Vice Chair; Frank Whiteley - Vice Chair, Secretary; Geoff Weck - Vice Chair

Motion to approve by Jim Garrison. Seconded. Approved.

First Vice Chair was elected from the Vice Chairs by votes under the weighted-vote system. Vice Chair, Treasurer, Phil Umphres, was elected as First Vice Chair for the term of his office.

Motion by Steve Northcraft to destroy the ballots. Seconded. Approved.

6.2.3 Awards Committee (report from Jay McDaniel)

6.2.4 Group Insurance - Pat Costello reported the rates have not increased over the last 3 years due to improving trends in claims. Winch insurance is available. Most operating winches have not taken the coverage. It was suggested from the floor that the directors pass the winch insurance information to all local clubs. Pat acquired Instructor Liability Insurance at \$500 for \$1,000,000 coverage. Only 40 instructors bought the coverage. Need more promotion by Regional Directors.

6.2.5 Badge and Record Committee (report from Rollin Hasness) - Barographs are now obsolete. Effective October 1, 2015, Rollin will post electronically and electronic declarations will be available. A fillable PDF form for badge and records is now available. Sporting code flight declarations have changed. There has also been a change on Silver Badge requirements.

6.3 First Vice Chairman, Ken Sorenson

6.3.1 Contests

6.3.1a Contest Committee report - John Good gave no report.

6.3.1b Rules Committee report (report from John Godfrey) - Hot topic in contests this year is the use of FLARM. Stealth mode is controversial for contest use. This is an international controversy as well. FLARM supports two antenna inputs for complete coverage. Cell phones are not banned from cockpits during contests if they are not turned on. There is a strong division of opinion on policy of technology in cockpits - anti-leeching concerns make for historic strong differences in opinion.

6.3.1c Site Selection (report from John Lubon) - Currently beginning the process of soliciting bids for 2017 National Contests. The Bid Deadline will Friday November 6, 2015.

John Lubon moved to approve Sports Class Nationals be held in Uvalde Aug 7 to 15, 2016. This will be a 9 day National Contest over 2 weekends. Seconded. Approved.

6.3.1d Handicapping - No report.

6.3.2 Trophy Committee - The Ad Hoc committee appointed by Chairman Maleady was dissolved and morphed into the Trophy Committee. Members are John Godfrey (Chairman), Jay McDaniel, Sarah Arnold, Peter Smith, and Richard Maleady. All trophies will be held at SSA Headquarters. HQ will update engraving, handle repairs and shipping.

The committee recommendations will be presented at the next board meeting in Greenville, SC.

6.3.3 U.S. Team (report from Pete Alexander) - Early this year, US Team Committee Chairman Rick Walters announced his wish to step down from this position, in order to be able to devote more time to his business. Committee member Pete Alexander agreed to step into this job, and was appointed as Chairman by John Good (SSA Contest Committee Chairman). Rick generously agreed to fill out the remainder of Pete's term as a committee member. Late June brought the tragic news of Rick's death in a bicycle accident. Dennis Linnekin, who has been a member of several US Teams as team Captain and is admirably well qualified, has agreed to be the one who fills the remainder of Pete's term.

Accordingly, the US Team Committee's current structure is as follows:

Chairman: Pete Alexander (appointed)

Members: Sarah Arnold (elected - term extends through 2017)

Dennis Linnekin (appointed- term extends through 2016)

Dianne Black-Nixon (elected - term extends through 2015)

The committee is beginning a restructuring of team selections. Pete and John Good are making a self-funded trip this fall to visit foreign teams for information on training, etc. The goal is to improve US Team performance.

6.3.4 Sailplane Tracking (report from Lane Bush) - Pedja Bogdonavich continues to provide this to SSA free of charge. This is the 2nd year in use. Pedja has hired an employee to help in development and issue resolution. It was stated the tracker is a good educational and media tool and that the major use of this tracker is outside of contest uses.

6.4 Vice Chair, Geoff Weck (Government Liaison and G&P)

6.4.1 Director and Special Advisor Stephen Northcraft (Governmental Regulation, Airspace and International Soaring Groups)

6.4.2

Government Liaison Committee (report from Stephen Northcraft) (Federal Register Transponder Requirement) (SSA ANPRM response) (Letter to Honorable Harry Reid) (Letter to Honorable Mark Amodei) (Update on IS-28B2 life extension status)

There has been one overarching issue during the period since the last Board meeting, the FAA issuing ANPRM FAA-2015-2147, "Transponders for gliders". The SSA responded to this call for information and this Committee will continue to work this issue as appropriate.

Committee Structure

Committee Chair Stephen Northcraft

Airspace Cindy Brickner, Hal Becker on transponders

Pilot Certification Rich Carlson (SSF Trustee)

Airport Utilization Linda Draper-Hivert (Stephen Northcraft)

Aircraft Certification S. Northcraft (acting)

RTCA and Special Issues Bernald Smith

GPS/DAFFI Rick Sheppe

FAA Rule-making Advisory Comm. Tim Anderson

Surveillance Gerry Molitor

No news yet on ANPRM. In Oshkosh, Director Northcraft met with a working committee member. No information will be available until late September.

Chairman Maleady thanked Directors Umphres and Northcraft for their professional and thorough response on behalf of the SSA to the FAA.

6.4.3 Representation Committee & Representatives (RTCA report from Bernald Smith) - RTCA is writing rules of compliance on ADSB. FLIGHT RECORDERS - IGC's GFAC, of which SSA Member Marc Ramsey is a member, continues their work approving new FRs and currently some relatively minor amendments to their FR specs for likely Sep15 issue for Oct15 effect. OSTIV, under the guidance of SSA's OSTIV rep, Mark Maughmer, is arranging a speaker track and evening speaker for the next SSA Convention. Membership dues for individuals have been halved to Euro25 or \$28; TS is now on-line only. Look Boermans has retired as President, with Rolf Radespiel of Germany taking the helm. I have retired as a committed attendee of OSTIV's TSP meetings, which Rich Carlson is attending in Sweden eom August. UNOOSA ICG - The next meeting, which I will attend 02-06Nov15, is in Boulder, CO. Heavy on the agenda is the usual re GNSS compatibility, interference (including that from nearby spectrum users) and jamming as well as the growing UAS threat to airspace users. No doubt the renewed threat of that from Lightsquared be of interest! IGC - SSA's Rick Sheppe has replaced me since I retired therefrom as the Chairman of IGC's ANDS Committee, on which I still serve as a member thereof at Rick's invitation. EGU - I have retired from representing SSF/SSA's Associate membership therein, but did effect transfer from OSTIV of SSA's dues therein, which were reimbursed from SSF to OSTIV. FAI Environmental Commission - I retired as VP of the EnvCom, as well as retiring from being both NAA's delegate thereto and IGC's delegate thereto. FAI General Conference - I plan to attend Rotterdam, The Netherlands, for the GC 22-28Sep15 as FAI Companion of Honour, reporting on ICG and RTCA of which I am FAI representative. ANPRM - The writers of SSA's response to the ANPRM are to be commended for their better than excellent presentation. RTCA is of course hard at work addressing issues which will have a major role in whatever happens to that Notice. I have one minor quibble in the beginning when the SSA report seemed to be misleading describing transponders (the transponder feature only broadcasts when it has been interrogated). I have taken an even stronger position re UAS/UAVs: Users of airspace must have the same binocular capability of backup to electronic methods that is required of all aircraft users. I.e., 2 eyes for depth perception. AME waivers for monocular pilots is extremely hard to come by!

Possibly talk to Rick Sheppe about taking Bernald Smith's RTCA spot.

6.4.4 Growth & Development (report from Andreea Alexandrescu) (Cloudstreet distribution) (Omarama AOPA report) - The report is in the book. Lane Bush commented the L-13 is being primed and painted. The goal is for it to be ready for the 2016 convention.

ADJOURNED FOR LUNCH BREAK 12:12PM. Reconvened at 1:15PM

1:16 PM Recess SSA Board of Directors Meeting to convene the SSA Foundation Board Reporting and Business. Please see section 8.0 to 8.3.

6.5 Vice Chair & Secretary Frank Whiteley (Clubs, Governors and Youth)

6.5.1 Clubs and Chapters (report from Frank Whiteley)

6.5.2 State Governors and Record Keepers

6.5.3 Digital Media Committee (report from Frank Whiteley) - Need more activity in Facebook and Twitter.

6.5.4 Youth Committee (report from Tony Condon) Only one application was received for Cadet Youth Scholarship. There were 2 Bultman Awards.

6.5.5 COBM

6.5.6 Affiliates & Divisions

7.0 Regional Directors' Reports

7.1 Region 1 and 3 (report from Ann Lafford) - Lots of activity around the region. Region is lacking instructors.

7.2 Region 2 and 4 (report from Jim Garrison) - FAA awarded Bill Vickland for "Longest Flying Pilot without Incident." Master Aviator for 50 years.

7.3 Region 5 (report from Lane Bush) - Director submitted his report but is making a revision and it will be reposted.

7.4 Region 6 (report from John Lubon) - Flying activity has been better this year.

7.5 Region 7 (report from Geoff Weck) - Flights are down due to weather. No clubs are in danger of disbanding. Oshkosh was a success, the Perlan was there.

7.6 Region 8 (report from Stephen Northcraft) - SGC's Ephrata Operations 10 day gliding event was well attended.

7.7 Region 9 (report from Frank Whiteley) - The region has a mixture of clubs with increased activity and clubs disbanding. Since the last board meeting, Arizona and New Mexico experienced 1 fatality each, Utah had 2 accidents with injuries.

7.8 Region 10 - Major weather problems this year.

7.9 Region 11 (report from Jay McDaniel) - Clubs are in good shape, membership has increased, contests have been successful. Need more daily instructors.

7.10 Region 12 - Smoke from the fires have limited XC activity. Flight operations are down at a few sites. Good participation at VSA Memorial Day and ESA on Labor Day. There was a Pawnee crash at Crystal. Youth - SBS did 3 solos on nine day camp program, three pre-solos.

8.0 Soaring Society of America Foundation - Motion by John Godfrey, SSAF Chairman, to approve the February 2015 minutes. Seconded. Motion carried.

Report of the SSA Foundation Trustees - At a meeting of the Trustees held August 25, 2015 the Trustees voted to establish the Annual Distribution Percentage for the General Endowment at 4.5% for 2016. Per the ByLaws, this will be applied to the General Endowment balance as of August 31st. This percentage will also apply to calculations with respect to other funds at the appropriate time. More details are in the Treasurer's report.

Convene meeting of SSA Foundation to conduct Foundation business (members agenda for meeting) - Two Trustee terms are expiring this year are:

- David Pixton (whose first term is expiring)
- Peter Brown (whose third consecutive term is expiring). He is not eligible for re-election.

The Chair recommends the following each be nominated by a Member and elected for new terms :

- David Pixton (whose first term is expiring)
- Allison Tyler, who has agreed to serve if elected

SSA Chairman Maleady moved to nominate David Pixton and Al Tyler for SSAF Trustees. Seconded. Approved.

SSAF Chairman Godfrey also recognized by acclamation the outstanding contributions and work of Pete Brown over his terms in helping to guide the Foundation. Godfrey invites and hopes that Pete Brown will remain involved with the Foundation in an ongoing advisory capacity. SSA Treasurer, Phil Umphres, also wishes to express our appreciation to Pete Brown for his outstanding job as SSAF Treasurer.

Any other competent Foundation Business

Adjourn meeting of Foundation and reconvene meeting of SSA Board of Directors - John Godfrey moved to adjourn the SSA Foundation meeting. Seconded. Adjourned 1:28PM.

Recess for 10 minutes - Reconvened at 2:45PM with Executive Committee Session and opened to the full board at 3:20PM.

9.0 Other Competent Business

9.1 Hall of Fame Vetting board - (report from Peter Smith) (Nixon support letters) - Hank Nixon's nomination to the Hall of Fame was conducted by written ballot and was approved.

Treasurer Umphres moved to reappoint Jay McDaniel to the Hall of Fame Vetting board. Seconded. Approved.

Treasurer Umphres complimented Chairman Maleady and board members on their conduct of the discussion.

9.2 SSA Convention update (report from Scott Fletcher) - A designated website has been created for the convention and is the property of SSA. It can be updated and edited for future conventions. Breakfasts and lunches will be at the convention center and a bar will be placed between the speaker rooms and the exhibit hall in the front lobby. Shuttle busses will be used for transportation between the hotel and the convention center.

9.3 Date and time of next Board of Directors' Meeting - Proposed half day February 19 and 20, Greenville, South Carolina. Meetings will start at 9:00AM.

10.0 Adjournment - John Lubon moved to adjourn. Seconded. Approved.