

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS MEETING

December 12, 2022

Present: E. Baringer, M. Behm, M. Gargac, J. Hein, S. Kieffer, C. Reedy, R. Rudes, T. Rudes, T. Warner

Absent: J. Brikmanis, S. Hutton

President Terry Rudes opened the meeting at 7:04 p.m. and served as Chairman.

The minutes of the Trustees & Officers Meeting November 12, 2022 were read and approved.

Treasurer: Cindy reported all bills are paid and the books are reconciled.

President's Reports: With the present inflation rate, the club is noticing increases in everything we need from insurance to electricity to propane, to fuel for equipment. The club will have to increase income in order to maintain present services and expenses. The finance committee suggested a \$50 across the board increase in dues. This would include grandfathered members and spouses. It would not affect members who have already renewed (get renewal in early) or existing members for 2023 and would take effect for new members in 2023 (refunds if not approved at annual meeting). The annual dues would be \$150 per year, which is comparable to other clubs in the area and we offer considerably more facilities than they do. Several trustees also voiced support of an increase in dues having noticed the increasing cost of everything that they purchase.

President Rudes also suggested creating half year dues for members joining in July or later in the year, up to October. This may encourage new members to join during the year. The processing/initiation/new member fee would remain the same as for a full year.

Beginning in February, members not current on their dues will have their fob deactivated. This has not been done in the past. A \$10 reactivation fee is required per the bylaws to reactivate the fob. People have been trying to renew as Senior Members. We do not have a senior membership rate, except for those who were grandfathered, and if their membership is not timely renewed, they lose that status and pay regular member dues.

President Rudes also stated that the club needs to have a long-range plan for the finance of the club. John Fowler is chairing the finance committee and will be working with the planning committee on planning for the club's future.

President Rudes asked for consideration to change the club from a C-4 to a C3. We could create a new corporation or change the present organization to the C-3 which would allow us to get tax deductible donations and financial bequests and allow for a greater range of grant availability. Richard Rudes moved and Scott Kieffer seconded a motion to consult with a firm that has C-3 experience. Motion carried. Joe Hein moved and Mike Gargac seconded a motion to amend the previous motion to approve \$500 to cover a possible consultant fee. Motions carried.

President Rudes reported the WRP will be getting us a new plan for the Darr as none has been in place for a number of years. He also commended all the Darr workers as they have done a tremendous job at maintaining the Darr. The brush clearing on the dikes has been going well. Scott Storrer provided before and after photos of the areas cleared with dramatic improvements. The clean-up has revealed the need for repair of some of the dikes. Bud Baringer has plans for the dikes to be scraped and leveled, weather permitting. When we get the plan for the WRP we will have to evaluate how we are going to fund the plan requirements. As a heads up, expect that we will have to have discussions on possible increases for Darr use fees.

Joe Hein questioned if fire arms are available to participants of the tombstone and junior rifle programs if they don't have their own. Yes, fire arms are available. He also stated he feels it is good to encourage families to participate in the programs. President Rudes stated that all of the club's programs have been inclusive, with families and parents being invited to participate with their children. The reference to junior or senior in various programs are not to limit participation and youth are always encouraged and, in some cases, given priority in the programs.

There is a conflict in the Wild Game Dinner dates. March 25th was approved in April and Bud stated the date was April 8. Bud will get with Keith Kralik to resolve.

President Rudes reported the investment committee has recommended we move our investments from Croghan Colonial Bank to Edward D. Jones and Company. It appears there would be a better return. Richard Rudes moved and Scott Kieffer seconded his motion to move investments. After questions arose about how the monies would be invested Joe Hein moved and Richard Rudes seconded a motion to table until next meeting. Motion carried.

Committee Reports: Bud reported the Thanksgiving and chucker hunts went well. The next one is the Christmas hunt Dec. 17. He still has tickets available for the gun raffle. The drawing date has been extended until all tickets are sold. They will be having a work party to clean up the trees that need to be removed from the cleaned dikes sometime between Christmas and New Year. The Ford tractor has been fixed and all tractors are in the barn and annual maintenance is being conducted.

In Steve Hutton's absence, Richard Rudes reported the tombstone matches continue to go well. They had 11 shooters at the last match. Richard asked the second Saturday of the month be reserved for sporter matches run by or sanctioned by the Civilian Marksmanship Program, which was approved.

Bub Baringer made a motion, seconded by Scott Kieffer, to recommend the membership approve Phase 2 of the dike clean-up and waive the 90-day completion date for \$9,750. Motion passed.

Bud Baringer moved and Joe Hein seconded a motion to approve the Darr dates that were presented at the November meeting. Motion carried.

Bub Baringer moved and Richard Rudes seconded a motion to allow trap shooting at the Darr. Motion carried. Richard Rudes and Bud Baringer are working on the establishment of a shotgun range at the Darr. They expect to have the planning done by March. In the interim, the usual shotgun training can be conducted.

New Business: President Rudes stated there has been conversation regarding changing the date or time of the annual meeting. He suggested sending out a survey with the newsletter seeking member input whether to move just the time or move it to a Saturday. He will do this.

President Rudes brought up the violation of range rules. There is no written policy in the club Range Rules or by-laws. The procedure that has been used for years is that when there is an incident contact is made with the violator and a resolution is sought. If an agreement is made, the incident is closed. If there is no agreement the person can request to meet with the trustees in executive session. Richard Rudes moved and Bud Baringer seconded a motion to approve the addition of the procedure to the range rules. Motion carried.

President Rudes stated they checking account is a non or low interest-bearing account. He suggested we may want to move some of the funds into an investment account. Richard Rudes moved and Bud Baringer seconded a motion to move up to \$60,000, ensuring that there is sufficient liquidity in case of an emergency to avoid penalties. Motion carried.

President Rudes requested approval of the following dates: RSO class; January 7, concealed carry classes February 3 & 4, March 3 & 4, and March 31 & April 1. Richard Rudes moved and Joe Hein seconded these dates be approved. Motion carried.

The following individuals were recommended to be approved for membership: James Fouke III, Aaron Fouke, Brian Lenhart, Ceclia Gettys, Michael Collins, John Pratt, Don Barrett and Brian Kovach. Richard Rudes moved and Scott Kieffer seconded a motion to approve the new members. Motion carried.

Good of the Order: 2023 will be the 75th anniversary of the Oak Harbor Conservation Club. President Rudes would like to promote the club and have as many activities to bring the public into the club.

Bud Baringer suggested we consider purchase of an AEDs for the club and at the Darr. Richard Rudes suggested we have substantial first aid/trauma kits also. President Rudes will put this item on the January agenda.

Joe Hein moved and Richard Rudes seconded a motion to adjourn.

The President adjourned the meeting at 8:35 P.M.

Marilyn Behm, OHCC Secretary, Accepted as read/corrected on January 9, 2023

Terrence Rudes, OHCC President

GENERAL MEETING

December 12, 2022

President Rudes opened the meeting at 9:45 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance and served as Chairman.

Minutes of the October general meeting were approved as read.

Scott Storrer moved and Kevin Jacobs seconded a motion to waive reading of the trustee minutes. Motion passed.

Financial reports – all bills paid and books balanced.

Old Business: None

New Business: President Rudes stated the trustees are recommending entering into a contract with Brush Busters for Phase #2 cleaning of dikes at the Darr for \$9,750 and waive the 90 day completion. Terry Warner moved and Kevin Jacobs seconded a motion to approve. Motion passed with Scott Storrer abstaining. Scott Storrer stated the Packer Creek dike will have to be leveled off before they can begin Phase 2. They should have Phase 1 completed by the end of the year.

Good of the order. Jason DeSatte asked if the club would be interested in coordinating with the Boy Scouts to hold a merit badge program. President Rudes advised that the club has supported several church groups, scout groups, and other youth organizations in the past and are always open to such organizations interested in firearms safety and use. Jason will contact the Boy Scout district personnel.

Kevin Jacobs asked the club to think about purchasing a sprayer for pulling behind a tractor. The club has use for a sprayer with multiple applications due to the varied areas. He will get with Bud to come up with a recommendation.

President Rudes announced that he does not want to stifle member input, but wants to keep meeting moving and organized. If a member has a concern or issue, they should contact a trustee for information or resolution or email him so it can be put on the agenda.

Bud Baringer moved and Scott Storrer seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

President Rudes adjourned the meeting at 9:10 P.M.

Marilyn Behm, OHCC Secretary, Accepted as read/corrected January 9, 2023

Terrence Rudes, OHCC President