

# **Sandia Soaring Association**

## **Quarterly Meeting**

### **Star Brothers Brewing**

#### **January 4, 2024**

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Attendees:

Greg Clark

James Duplain

Jeremy Herbert

Jeff Wayland

David Harrington

Brian Reindl

Sarron Simpson

Max Montgomery

Ben Abruzzo

John Nagyvary

Gilles Trawalter

Benny Abruzzo

Meeting Begins. 1900

President opens with updates on RRRG/USHPA insurance

President states the Applications were opened on 12/26/23 and are due 2/10/24. He also states the Club Administration is in the process of RRRG application. President notes that when using the "cost estimator" and comparing to costs last year there is a considerable increase. A figure of \$4,479.00.

Next issue discussed is regarding the Sandia Peak Tram and the Third Party Tram Insurance that is required to maintain. The Club is reminded that the Sandia Peak Tram's insurer requires there to be \$5 million liability coverage for Hang Gliding and Paragliding. The Third Party Insurance is coverage to \$4million with the RRRG covering the difference as an additional insurer. The cost is to cover damage to people or property. The cost in 2023 was \$10,040 and is expected to increase to \$11,000 in 2024.

The Club Administration is asking the Insurance Company to possibly change the effective start date of the insurance from January 1 to March 1 due to the fact that the Tram will be down until March for extended maintenance.

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There is a suggestion from the Club Admin regarding getting a quote for 9 months of coverage verses 12 months of coverage. The reasoning is that fewer Paragliders use the Peak or Crest Launches then. Maybe that can qualify as a discount.

President then Presented RRRG-Sourced insurance. In the spring of 2023 it was estimated to about \$16K. In the fall of 2023 the RRRG estimate was between \$16-20K. The club has asked to RRRG to forward us an application.

The next topic is regarding the Sandia/Cibola Permit

President reminds club that the Permit is a Ten Year Permit. The Permit expired 12/1/2023. He mentioned the difficulties he's having in contacting the within the Forrest Service. Unanswered emails and phone calls. As of January 4, 2024 the issue remains unresolved.

Topic moves to the Tax/IRS Report

President states that in the spring of 2023 the Administration went to file the non-profit tax postcard and found that the non-profit status had been revoked. It was noted to have happened before in 2018. At the time work was done to get it reinstated only to have it revoked again.

Currently working with IRS on non-profit status and are expecting to hear back in November of 2024.

Next, topic moves to the Financial report.

Assets reported to be:

January 2023    \$1,382.00

January 2024    \$14,361

Costs ( Tram Ins, PO Box, Property tax, etc)

2023    \$11,800

2024    \$16,000

Revenue from memberships

Members totaling 49 Pilots

15 Members w/o Peak Pass totaling \$1,500

34 Members w/ Peak Pass totaling \$8,500

Total Revenue from membership = \$10,000

Topic now moves on to SSA Bylaws and elections.

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SSA bylaws state that elections shall take place during the October annual meeting. Most recent election took place in January 2023 which is when current board was elected.

Next the meeting was opened to comments and suggestions

Regarding in insurance increase it was noted that the 10% increase from 2023 to 2024 very reasonable

Question: Can you park and hike to launch from the Ellis trailhead to launch.

Question: Is Insurance required to fly at La Bajada

Answer: Yes

Question: Is Insurance required to fly Blue Springs

Answer: edit- Secretary did not hear any yes or no

Question: How much would the club save by dropping Blue Springs

Answer: About \$1,000

Steve for motions to amend the rules for elections. He would like to vote to change to voting to April.

Vote Change to April - "AYE" unanimous

Vote to extend current Board Members until April – "AYE" unanimous

Steve also talked about safety

Benny offered to assist the club in meetings with the Sandia Peak Tram leadership.

Meeting concluded

Adjourned 2100