

Vintage Karting Association Inc
Board of Directors Meeting
Sunday-March 9, 2008

In Attendance

Board Members: Carl Weakley/Carl Billington/Bob Lapke/Brad Fultz/Mark Havery/Terry Ives/Tom Thorin/Jeff Campbell
Guests: Faye Pierson, Matt Saunders-Attorney

Call To Order

The third, regular, monthly teleconference meeting of the board of directors for 2008 was called to order at 5:03 pm PST by President, Carl Weakley, who acted as chairman and secretary of the meeting. Carl W called roll, and board members were present as per above. Carl W advised that copy of the minutes of the regular, monthly, teleconference meeting for February 10, 2008 had been emailed to all board members. Tom Thorin, Archivist, moved that the minutes of the three previous teleconference meetings be approved with Carl Billington, Vice President, seconding the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Opening Remarks By President

Tom noticed that the invitation to the meeting was sent to many members. Carl W remarked that he hoped that a few would decide to call in.

Carl B indicated that he invited an attorney to call in and explain copyrights, trademarks and “cease and desist” to stop promoters from using the VKA logo. Carl W remarked that the VKA is trying to get more events and don’t need any of the above. Carl B strongly objects and states that the VKA must stop others from using the VKA logo and then not operating the event according to VKA rules. Carl W asks what is the first thing to do in this regard. Carl B stated that the first thing to do is the VKA rent the track and provide an agreement to the track. Carl B stated that the first step is accepting his idea. Carl W tabled the subject until later in the meeting.

Carl W indicated that he had written a couple of emails on the subject of his management style: Let board members have plenty of room to do their job, bring actions to the board for approval and then have “one voice” to the membership.

Carl W’s second comment was that human nature works to a deadline. Therefore, always check your email shortly before the meeting to see last minute messages.

Carl W is working on a board history and will do more work after April 15. Carl B advised that there were no records in the early years. Carl W is gathering info for the “Get to Know Your Board Members” feature on the internet. Certificates of Appreciation for prior board members are coming. Carl W collected shirt sizes from the board.

The Australians at Riverside gave the VKA a plaque which is sitting on Carl W's office shelf, but a permanent home needs to be found. The Australians request a picture of the plaque be on the internet.

Secretary

Carl W reported that the IRS non-profit status has been finally approved, ie, it has been long in coming. Also, Carl W talked to Nevada who wanted to charge sales tax to the organization.

Treasurer

Bob Lapke, Treasurer, reported that the beginning balance for last month was \$7,150.95 to which was added \$6,156.00 (Riverside and memberships) less \$2,174.15 leaving a balance of \$11,132.80. Bob has converted to a monthly reporting system which matches bank statement transactions.

Carl W thanked Faye and Terry for the financial proceeds from Riverside.

Bob reported that the six Midwest promoters donated \$50 each to the cost of Kart Expo.

Carl W had emailed a budget to the board and deferred discussing it until a future meeting, but asked the question, what do we want to spend our money on? The treasury is building under Bob's leadership.

Vice President

Carl W asked Carl B to report on the upcoming events. Carl B advised that no promoters had contacted him. Carl W asked that the VKA be pro-active and go to the promoters to send manuals to them, discuss checklists, etc. Tom indicated that he had sent PDF templates and a packet of things to Mike Hartman for Bakersfield. Tom wants the PDF's on the website for easy download to the promoters.

Carl B talked to Dave Larson and indicated that he was easy to talk to. Dave offered \$5 million insurance coverage and pit passes. The VKA can carry pit passes to any track that we want. We put on the vent and everything will work the way we want. Carl B would be the promoter at Oakland Valley, and he will check with Oakland Valley. Tom says the trick is to get the promoters to come on board with the program. Carl B says it won't happen. Terry said it will take the VKA becoming a sanctioning body. Carl B says that if someone uses the VKA logo and doesn't follow VKA procedures, the VKA is liable. Only way is to sanction events and be completely responsible. To emphasize, Carl B said there are two ways, eg, give up or do it.

Carl W said that the third way is to be a name insured, be proactive with the promoters and if the promoters don't have insurance, we would know it. If we start flying officials around the USA, it will be expensive. Carl B believes that we have enough people that we trust, that we will run the race with volunteers helping to oversee. Brad says that we would have to pay them. Carl B says that there would be some compensation, but we would take income from the event to cover the expense. Carl W stated that the promoter

takes the risk and the reward. Carl B stated he has been a promoter. Carl W asked Carl B to pull together a detail plan. Carl B stated that he would do so by our April meeting and asked for help from the others, and stated that it hasn't worked previously.

Faye Pierson stated that once a release is signed, everything is covered. Carl B said that is not correct. Terry Ives said that Cary Agajanian has a release form used worldwide and as fool-proof as possible, and courts recognize it as a viable release. Everyone uses it.

Carl B then introduced attorney, Matt Saunders, who does trademarks and copyrights. His general advice was that a logo is two things. First, it is a trademark and indicates us as a source of goods and services. A trade mark does not require federal registration. He noted that we have used our logo for a long time. Second, a copyright is for a creative work. No federal registration is required. However, federal registration allows one to sue for infringement. The attorney questioned whether there was an assignment or whether we have a license to use it. We could send a demand letter to stop using the logo or suffer repercussions. We wouldn't necessarily be liable for an occurrence, but still could be sued. \$600 would be the cost to write a "cease and desist" letter. Plus, we should get an assignment from the owner of the logo. Carl B asked if there were any questions from the board and dismissed the attorney from the meeting.

Carl W stated that the VKA wants more events and more promoters. The VKA is not in the promotion business. Carl W asked Carl B to put together a summary of the attorney's proposal and circulate it to the board.

Terry Ives stated that Tom Medley is the author of our logo and it was donated to the VKA. Terry suggested that we get it in writing from Medley.

Carl W stated that the entire board is concerned, sanctioning is fine, but someone needs to put together the details.

Membership

Brad Fultz, Membership Director, stated that membership is at #284, 240 full members and 44 associate members. There were 13 new members in January. 163 has not renewed. There are 121 paid members. Tom stated that is tragic. Brad said the membership fees just "dried up" in the last months. Just a few are renewing now. He wants to put out some posts on the internet. Faye said that with the holidays, some have simply forgot. Mark asked who is paid and deserves a newsletter. Some are receiving newsletters and asking why they should pay. Carl W asked Tom when is the cut-off? Tom said that he would not mail a newsletter last year after the March issue last year. Carl B wants to personally contact all 163 unpaid members at, say, ten members per board member. Jeff wants to post on the website. Tom asked Jeff when we could get a members only section on the website. Jeff said that he needs to install new message board software installed, but then, questions how do we control who has access? This can be tedious.

Mark asked if everyone had been mailed membership applications, because Tim Summers didn't get one. Tom said everyone got one with the newsletter last November. Brad said that he knows Tim and sent a special membership application... Tim just didn't respond. Jeff will put a notice to renew on the website but needs a cut-off date. Mark asked for 03/25/08 and a list from Brad to limit mailing newsletters. Faye gave \$25 off registration at Riverside. It was a "no big deal" for participants to simply join the VKA.

Safety

Terry, Safety Director, learned a lot at Riverside with the track owners and will have a written contract next year. Faye had a verbal agreement with the track owners. Faye said that next year, if the Adams don't sign an agreement, another track will be used. Faye hates to do it, but there were too many glitches. Tom and Carl W both proclaimed that the event looked good and the participants didn't see problems.

The 5/8" carburetor restrictor plate for juniors is being mandated at the next two California events. The promoters have no objectives.

There are new head restraint products coming onto the market.

Terry feels that we should pursue the "no contact" policy. He only had two problems, and we have to continue to monitor.

Faye wondered if we can invest in headsets for communication between officials. Terry said it will be required if we sanction.

Newsletter

Mark Havery, Newsletter Editor, said that the next newsletter will be in April. Contents will include a MC 93 build, the Adams event, a Koenig feature, a MC replacement condenser and a Blitz Kart. The whole year is mapped-out. Tom and the entire board on Mark's first newsletter looking great.

Adjournment

The meeting was terminated prematurely due to static on the telephone line. Initially, those left on the line wanted to meet on Tue evening, but Carl W emailed all board members on Tue that he would not be able to meet then and requested a special, teleconference meeting for next Sunday, March 16, 2008 at 5:00 pm PST.

Respectfully submitted, Carl Weakley, President and Acting Secretary