

VKA Board Meeting November 12, 2023

Call To Order: President John Copeland called the meeting to order at 8:05pm

Roll Call: J. Copeland called the roll with the following results:

Board Members in Attendance:

John Copeland

Scott Nagel

Kurt Bogerman

Louie Figone

Bill McCornack

Sal Palatucci

Deo Curts

Bob Barthelemy

Board Members Absent:

Jim Kammuller

Joe Swantek

Lynn Haddock

Skip Owen

Guest Present:

Rolf Hill

President's Report:

President Copeland advised the board that the 2024 season is upon us with Riverside right around the corner with Barnesville right after that and he hopes to wrap up a few loose ends on some items this evening. He advised that the OVKA swap meet is Feb. 3rd in Wilmington, Ohio and the last several years VKA has had a booth there, asking if we would like to have a booth there again and if so would anyone like to man the booth? S Nagel advised he would get back in touch with John and let him know.

Vice President Report:

L Figone advised that he has been working on the Adams event. He has noticed that Jessie James is trying to put together to bring some karts out from the east and he will get in touch with Jessie.

L Figone advised he will be attending an event on the 18th to go and visit a few people in attendance, but he will not be participating.

L Figone is working on getting the flyer information over to the printers for Riverside and hopes to have the flyer ready shortly for posting on the website.

President Copeland advised the meeting minutes were approved via email vote.

Secretary's Report:

J Kammuller is currently not on the call.

Membership report:

D Curts advised there are 486 active members and 415 have expired of the ones she is keeping track of. Currently nothing in limbo currently regarding memberships and deposits, everything is completed.

Deo advised that everyone whose membership was expiring as of Dec. 31 has been mailed a postcard advising them their membership was expiring.

Treasurer's report:

President Copeland advised that the treasures report had been mailed out to the board for review prior to the call. As of right now he has only received back 5 votes to approve the report. L Figone advised he submitted his approval about 30 minutes ago.

J Copeland called for a vote to approve the treasurer's report: All in favor, Treasures report is accepted.

Public Relations:

S Owen is currently not on the call.

Website:

K Shampine is currently not on the call.

National Event Directors:

B McCornack advised he has several items to report on and has been working with R Hill getting the promoters package updated. The VKA promoter contract will be updated, and they are working on getting the magazine that will go out next month completed.

B McCornack asked J Copeland when he should send the current event schedule dates to K Shampine for posting. J Copeland advised anytime when K Shampine gets back from the SuperNats in Las Vegas. B McCornack advised he will reach out to K Shampine next week.

B McCornack advised a few people are needing the VKA banners and will reach out to Kent to get some ordered.

B McCornack advised he contacted D Curts a list of members, current and expired membership by city and state, and hope to plot on the map to see where exactly members are located in relationship to events, and will be working on that over the winter.

Enduro Report:

President Copeland advised he currently does not have anything for Enduro report.

Rule and Guidelines:

L Haddock is currently not on the call

Judging and Shows:

K Bogerman advised he currently does not have anything new to report.

K Bogerman advised the board that there is a software program called CANVA, that helps with designing flyers, T shirts and other promotional items and is available for free for 501c nonprofit organizations and will be looking into that and completing the required paperwork for them.

Regional Reports:

Midwest-

B McCornack advised the Cincinnati event in mid-May, he does have a committed promoter that will help S Bayliff, to help with the event.

Northeast-

Sal Palatucci provided the board with the following report to the board for their review:

On Nov. 4th, 11 northeast VKA members met at restaurant in historic Gettysburg PA to strategize on how to enhance our members' 2024 season. Traditionally all the event planning in our region is left to one individual to plot out the season, negotiate with our tracks, do all the publicity and be available to assist with everything that happens at the tracks. Not only is this not ideal, it also doesn't result in members wanting to volunteer to take on that much work.

We started with a survey that was emailed to all current and delinquent members asking:

How many events do you think you will be attending next year?

Are you planning on racing at any tracks outside of the NE?
Do you prefer 2 or 3 day weekend events?
2 heats or 3 heats; over two days or one?
Should we pursue a 3 - 4 or 5 events next year?

Then, in order to juice up our NE events next year - which are still being affected by Covid's impact on volunteer organization attendance, we are adding a precision karting competition we call 3 Lap Monte to our traditional format of practice, heats, kart show, see you next year.

3LM puts one competitor out on the track at a time, for 4 laps: one warm up & then straight into 3 timed laps. Whoever clocks the tightest 3 laps wins. It's a voluntary race, but in order to participate our members have to kick in \$5. At the end, the winner goes home with all the money in the pot, which could be substantial depending on how many drivers sign up.

The unique thing about 3 Lap Monte is whether a competitor drives an Historic kart or a dual-engine rocket; whether they have limited driving skills or are top-gun racers; if they weight 250 lbs compared to everyone else's 175 lbs, it makes no difference. Everyone has an equal chance of winning - which is exactly what happened when we tested it out at our Nicholson Speedway event in June. Our least likely VKA member had a "very precise driving day" and won the pot.

We even picked up a sponsor to add Bling. A razzle-dazzle 3LM poster is being designed and will be posted on our websites soon. We will let you know how it went next September. If our members like it, we will do it again in 2025. If it's a bust, then we gave it a shot and will move on to plan B.

S Palatucci provided an update to the board while on the call, that he has talked to a few people regarding Avon, and they are interested in hosting an event. He is paying attention to Camden and New Castle.

South:

B Barthelemy advised that Jacksonville event is Feb 29- March 2nd, 2024 and will be getting the flyer completed and handed over to K Shampine for submission onto the website. Barnesville is scheduled for April 4th-6th, 2024. Since 2019 4 cycle vintage has been running at the local kart events and not with the VKA and would like to open the Barnesville VKA event back open to 4 cycles.

B Barthelemy advised he is working on some other events for 2024, there was talk of running at NOLA, but the track rental fee is expensive there and have also reached out and talked to Biloxi, MS and Kershaw, SC. Discussion took place among the board for some possible dates in the fall for events.

West:

L Figone advised he currently does not have anything additional to add.

Old Business:

President Copeland advised he would like to make a decision if we would like to drop the support on the junior drivers' entry reimbursement. Discussion took place among the board on the pros and cons of the current program and a few change options to the program and the possibility of reallocating some of that money to other areas to enhance the VKA events.

S Palatucci- Motion made to discontinue the junior class program

Seconded by L Figone

Call for vote: All in favor No one opposed Motions carries.

J Copeland advised the next item on the agenda was the discussion on how to enhance the revenue/ reduce expenses and asked if everyone received the expense statement and discussion took place among the board. J Copeland asked if the board feels we need to do anything to increase the revenue, such as increasing the membership fees or promoter fees. A long discussion took place among the board.

Motion made by L Figone to leave the membership dues at \$35 for 2024.

Seconded by B Barthelemy

Call for vote: All in favor no one opposed Motion carries.

New Business:

J Copeland stated the next item on the agenda is the appointment of the new Membership Director position. Discussion took place among the board regarding the qualifications of Marty Weston, and his willingness to help VKA.

Motion by D Curts to appoint Marty Westin to the board as the Membership Director position as of January 1, 2024

Seconded by B McCornack

Call for vote: All in favor no one opposed Motion carries.

J Copeland thanked D Curts for all the hard work in assisting the VKA in helping untangle the membership report, cleaning up process and putting VKA in a much better place than what she inherited.

Meeting adjourned 9:23pm EST.

Respectfully submitted by: Kelly Frazier