

MINUTES  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2014

The Executive Committee of the SSA Board met at 5:00 p.m. on September 12, 2014. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Maleady. Attending the meeting were Frank Whiteley, Geoff Weck, Phil Umphres and Ken Sorenson. Also attending John Godfrey and Denise Layton.

The first business to come before the Committee was a review of the open action items. The first pending action item was filling a new badge and record committee. Chairman Maleady advised the committee had been filled and he was looking for a Chairman. He was going to contact Bob Faris (from Colorado) or Woody Cannon (a member who volunteered to help) and hopefully one of the two would be willing to serve as chairman. There are a few issues pending, so he is working at getting this committee up and running as soon as possible.

Frank Whiteley mentioned the badge and record link currently shows old information for committee requirements and this needed to be corrected.

The next open action item was presented by Vice Chair Whiteley concerning the FAA. He advised he had spoken with AOPA and there was no new information available. This item is related to the following information:

FAAAC 00-25

[http://www.faa.gov/regulations\\_policies/advisory\\_circulars/index.cfm/go/document/information/documentID/74286](http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/advisory_circulars/index.cfm/go/document/information/documentID/74286)

and FAA Order

[http://www.faa.gov/airports/resources/publications/orders/compliance\\_5190\\_6/](http://www.faa.gov/airports/resources/publications/orders/compliance_5190_6/)

<http://download.aopa.org/pic/AOPAGuideToFlyingClubs.pdf#page=4>

See also on page 4

A Word from AOPA General Counsel Ken Mead

Both set policies for flying clubs at public airports. Conflicting policies that is, where the order is restrictive about professional services (instruction and maintenance) with flying clubs. The circular is quite reasonable.

AOPA is seeking to have the FAA modernize and make consistent. I've been liaising with Brenda Tibbs at AOPA quarterly for updates. As we have several clubs and chapters operating from public airports, changes may impact their business models.

The next open item was the two million dollar liability insurance some foreign organizers are requiring for WGC entrants. This came up when the U.S. Teams went to the WGC's this year and organizers were asking for the two million dollar insurance. Chairman Maleady advised he would talk with Pat Costello and get his recommendation on this, and will report back to the group.

Chairman Maleady advised the next item of business was the budget process. He wants the SSA Board to approve the preliminary budget with the ExComm approving the final budget in December of each year. If this will be accomplished, the SSA staff can input the information and start January 1st each year with a budget in place.

Vice Chair Umphres made a formal motion that this procedural change in the budget process be implemented. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Weck and approved.

The next item of business was discussion of the proposed Pan American contest to be held in Chilhowee. Chairman Maleady and Vice Chair Sorenson have been in touch with Sarah Arnold and provided her with information and stipulations concerning the contest. Sarah Arnold was to have certain items accomplished by the time of this meeting. She now has the website live and is working on other requirements. After discussion, Chairman Maleady advised he would keep in touch with her monthly to keep abreast of the accomplishments. This is important since the SSA is a sponsor of this. Even if SSA was not responsible financially, it would look bad for the SSA and the U.S. if the contest is not properly run.

Vice Chair Weck gave a report on EAA AirVenture. He advised merchandise and FAST packages were sold. He advised there was a good turnout for the SSA booth but it's hard to judge how successful an event like this is. He said it is good PR that the SSA is represented but he wasn't sure if the SSA gained any new members (or how many, if any) but felt the cost was worthwhile because of the exposure for our sport. He advised the SSA had a great location and he saw many members come by during the time he was there. He did comment that the reception which is held each year was a little expensive to have and he thought maybe in future years he would not go this to save some money.

(Vice Chair Weck reported after the meeting he had researched the total revenue for AirVenture. There was 1 Youth membership sold, 2 renewals, 11 regular new members signed up. Two FAST packages were sold plus \$640 in hats, t-shirts and books.)

Weck advised the Perlan people were present and made the announcement that Airbus is donating money for all three phases of their project. He reminded the group SSA had pledged money to the Perlan people for data loggers. He advised he would bring this topic up the following day in the SSA Board meeting so Board members would know the Perlan people may approach the SSA soon requesting the money which was promised.

The next item of business to come before the ExComm was a protest filed by Tim Taylor concerning the 15-Meter Nationals contest. Vice Chair Sorenson advised the Contest Committee, as well as a committee at the contest, had reviewed the protest and had ruled on this matter. After reviewing the protest, Vice Chair Umphres moved that the Excom recommend to the full Board (meeting the next day) that the appeal from Tim Taylor be denied. The Motion was seconded by Vice Chair Sorenson and approved by the ExComm. Chairman Maleady noted that all documents relevant to this protest had been sent to the full Board already for their review prior to this item's consideration by the Board.

The next item of business was the 2015 budget for SSA Operations. Vice Chair Umphres moved the budget be recommended to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Chairman Maleady. In discussion, Vice Chair Umphres advised the Committee that almost all sources of revenues were down dramatically. He advised that expenses were being held down which was a help, but he felt the dues increase was certainly needed for the coming year, along with significant contributions of available money from the SSA Life Member Trust and the General Endowment Fund in order to have a balanced budget. A copy of the proposed budget which was submitted by Vice Chair Umphres is attached to these minutes.

The next item for discussion was communication with the full Board. Chairman Maleady advised the group he wanted to make sure all information and actions taken by the ExComm was communicated to the full Board in a timely manner. He advised he would like to see the agenda for ExComm meetings sent to the Board at least 48 hours before the meeting, and he wanted all ExComm minutes sent to the Board when being posted on the website.

Chairman Maleady also advised he wanted the ExComm minutes sent to ExComm within one week of the meeting. After two weeks, Layton is to distribute the minutes to the Full board and post them on the SSA website. Also, Chairman Maleady requested that Board minutes be sent to the full Board within two weeks of meetings, and posted on the website within three weeks after the meetings.

The above was agreed by the Committee. Vice Chair Sorenson asked if we should be including all documents with the minutes, which after discussion it was decided documents critical to understanding the actions taken by the Excom or Board would be attached to the Minutes of ExComm and Board minutes and kept in the official paper records maintained in Hobbs and posted on the website.

The next item of business was mentioned by Vice Chair Sorenson concerning an editorial in the August issue of Soaring magazine, written by the Editor. Sorenson advised he was disappointed the editorial was printed and the Editor had made no effort to discuss this with anyone before publishing. Chairman Maleady advised the Editor would be publishing a retraction or apology in the next available issue.

Vice Chair Sorenson advised the next item of business was a new Committee he had thought about.

### **Cross-Country Training and Development Committee**

Chairman: Rich Owen

Purposes:

- 1) To assemble and develop educational materials and procedures to be used for teaching glider cross-country flying techniques and to make these resources readily available to the SSA membership.
- 2) To develop procedures for and to promote cross-country training camps.
- 3) To develop procedures for and to promote cross-country/OLC camps.

Discussion:

Growth of the SSA membership continues to be a serious challenge. Bringing in new members is one issue. Equally important is retaining existing members. Transitioning glider pilots from local flying at the home airport into cross-country flying is an excellent way to enhance their soaring experience. This opens the door to many new challenges that keeps glider pilots interested in soaring, including flights for OLC points, SSA/FAI badges, records, local fun-meet contests, and SSA-sanctioned contests. Cross-country and racing training camps have been very successful and well attended. The OLC camp at Nephi, UT in 2014 was hugely successful. This committee will focus on enabling and promoting such events.

The ExComm agreed this was a great idea and this committee structure should be pursued. They provided thanks to Sorenson for the idea and the willingness to oversee it.

The next item was time and place of the next ExComm meeting. This will be the end of the year meeting where any changes to the preliminary budget can be discussed and the final budget approved, as well as any other business to come before the Committee. After discussion it was agreed the ExComm would meet in Dallas, Texas on December 20th.

There being no further business to come before the ExComm, Vice Chair Umphres moved to adjourn, seconded by Vice Chair Weck and approved.