

President Jack Tans called the conference call meeting to order at 7:03 PM CST.

Present: Jack Tans, John Haugh, Donald Kelly, Andrew Engel, Ton Pavlack, Kenneth Keth, Steve Patke, Gary Matthews, Billy Williams, Chris Naler, Robert DeFrancesco, Michael Hampton. Absent: Michael Ferchaw, Stephen Malcolm. Staff: Michael Dowling; Rules Committee Chairperson: Trish Magyar.

Michael Hampton explained that the purpose of the conference call is to evaluate and decide the best path for this year's election of Zone 9 Service Directors. Michael asked Trish Magyar to provide a history of Zone 9 development and practices.

Trish Magyar reviewed the history of the Armed Forces Skeet Association and Zone 9. (See informational Addendum.) From inception until the AFSA by-law changes 3 years ago only Active Military were eligible to nominate or serve as a NSSA Service Director representing their service members. The NSSA by-laws specify that "7 Directors SHALL be elected- one from each of the 5 services (Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard) and one from APO and one from FPO".

Chris Naler reviewed the process leading to the Armed Forces Skeet Association (AFSA) By-Law changes to include Retired Military (RM) and Military Veterans (MV) in AFSA governance and eligibility to compete in the annual AFSA skeet championship.

Discussion included: At this point only the Air force has an Active Military candidate nominated by 5 Active Military members by the April 30th deadline. The other 4 services have willing candidates, some of whom are Retired Military, who have had nominations submitted by Retired Military members. In the past only Active Military candidates, nominated by Active Military served as NSSA Zone 9 Directors. The NSSA by-laws do not differentiate or preclude Retired Military from being elected as a NSSA Zone 9 director.

Motion by Chris Naler, second by Don Kelly: For the 2016 election (term 2017-2018) the 5 NSSA Zone 9 Service Directors may be ML or RM of their respective services. ML, RM, and MV may vote for their Service Director or State Director- not both. Motion passed unanimously.

Michael Dowling advised that relative to the currently in process NSSA elections, that we would be sending paper ballots via USPS to all "members in good standing" that did not have a valid email address. Michael further added that the cost in materials and postage would be approximately \$3k, and the cover letter would include the following:

--Future NSSA elections (i.e. 2019-2020 and beyond) would require a valid email address in order to participate as ballots will be exclusively electronic.

-- "Negative confirmation" verification as to whether or not the recipient would like to remain on our mailing list- be it with a physical or email address.

The ballots and cover letter were sent to 5,207 members, the vast majority of which we have not heard from in a very long time.

Motion to adjourn at 8:24PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donald J. Kelly

Secretary/Treasurer

Addendum

Trish Magyar provided the following information as background on the military service branches' positions on the Board of Directors:

In 1988 the AFSA revised their bylaws to specifically state that the NSSA Director for each of the five military services be active duty military. Additionally, should an individual filling one of those positions retire, then he/she was required to resign as the NSSA Director.

At that time, the AFSA Board of Directors was composed of four directors from each service, two each active duty and retired, and the two NSSA Directors from Rod & Gun Asia and Europe.

Though not been stated in the bylaws, the President of the AFSA has always been an active duty service member, an NSSA Director and the NSSA Zone 9 Executive Committee Representative.

Around 2003, due to my impending retirement in 2004, Don Snyder (then the Executive Director) and I developed a proposal to restructure Zone 9, which in essence eliminated the Zone 9 EC position. The AFSA was having difficulties identifying a replacement that could commit to making the EC meetings because of the increased deployment tempo. We also explored the idea that, in lieu of each service having a director, the military members elect the requisite number of directors, regardless of service affiliation, based upon the number of active duty NSSA members. Additionally, if the Zone 9 EC position were to be eliminated a NSSA service director would have the option of running for the EC position for the Zone in which he/she resided, just as a director-at-large does. The proposal did not receive the support of the AFSA, so it never gained any traction.

Though the NSSA bylaws do not specifically state that five service directors must be active duty, it was understood to be the case. When ballots were sent to active military NSSA members, they were given the option of voting for their service director or state director, but not both. Retired military members were never provided this option.