

## SEPTEMBER 18 2022 BOD MEETING MINUTES

**Current Board members:** Karnak, Ursula, m4, Smiles, Miles, Epic, David, Wax, Bucky, Aye, Lotus, Hatter, Cramer - 13 people

**Attendance:** Ursula, Kelly, Smiles, Aye, m4, Dave, Cramer, Epic, Cramer, Bucky, Miles, Karnak, Wax  
Quorum - 7 people

### Agenda

- Welcome and Check-ins
- Review and Vote on August Minutes - approved, none opposed
- New Business
- Old Business

### NEW BUSINESS:

- Upcoming BOD Calls
  - Constellation Prep (Tentatively Mon 9/26, 18:00-?)
    - Review for BoD at constellation of
      - Role of board members
      - Escalation policy
      - BoD on-call role
    - Not going to Constellation: Hatter, Epic, Miles
    - Part of the event: Bucky, Kelly
  - Monday Oct 17, 6pm
    - De-brief from Constellation
    - Often don't bother with an official board meeting months we have events
      - Does that meet with the bylaws? Yes
  - Sunday Nov 13, 6pm
  - Retreat will be Jan 13-16
- Board Responsibilities and Escalation Process for Constellation
  - Needs scheduling
  - Scheduled for 9/26
- Proposal:
  - replacing the stolen items from camp recharge
    - Events end at noon, this has always been kinda loose
    - At PDF, around 2-3pm when DPW went to storage unit, Naked Jim's (the Iceman) chargers were stolen from Camp Recharge

- [https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0797NZFYP/ref=cm\\_sw\\_r\\_api\\_i\\_CD4D9M82ZB40DMHKYZD0\\_0?\\_encoding=UTF8&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0797NZFYP/ref=cm_sw_r_api_i_CD4D9M82ZB40DMHKYZD0_0?_encoding=UTF8&psc=1)
  - Proposal the first: wake up and actually rage. Make noon a harder deadline
  - Proposal two: Buy Jim some chargers
    - Blocks are \$60/ea for a total of like \$240
    - Sucks that it happened, slippery slope if we start buying stuff for theme camps
    - This probably wouldn't have happened if Jim hadn't had to leave site as part of DPW. Took Jim a while to confirm these had actually walked and that he wasn't being pranked
    - Rental insurance might cover this, unlikely it'd go up as a result of this claim
    - Maybe pass a hat around board/PDF coords than make it an official board action
    - Talk to Jim about setting up an Amazon wishlist to replace them. Will drop them into the FPCS-BoD Slack
- Onboarding - 3 sessions this week
  - Thursday 9/22 19:30 Cramer, Hatter, Aye,
  - Saturday 9/23 10:30 - Wax, Lotus
- Bylaw review
  - David has a writeup of changes for the bylaws
  - Today found a markup by Patty and Ursula that has never been voted on that covers almost all of David's comments
  - Would be better to work through Patty, Ursula, and Boru's comments from Feb 2019 draft and go over them at the next Gov & Finance meeting, then bring them to the full board meeting
  - David to look into what if anything needs to be submitted to state of MD
- Regional Contacts
  - With Millie gone we should have an RC on our BOD who actually lives in the region.
  - <https://regionals.burningman.org/becoming-a-regional-contact/>
  - Who wants to do it? Dave, Kelly, Aye
  - Ursula - may set up a meeting after Constellation for interested folks and Ra\$pa
  - Current RCs:
    - <https://regionals.burningman.org/regionals/north-america/washington-dc/>
      - DC: Spacious Duane, JR Nexus Russ, Charles Planck
- BoD Flag
  - Karnak needs a flag for some kind of chicanery at Constellation

- We have a corporate seal but no physical stamp
- <https://cdn.drawception.com/images/panels/2015/5-21/fNd8WWsC91-2.png>
- 

**OLD BUSINESS (Includes outstanding items from previous meetings):**

- Committee Updates:
  - Event Planning - Constellation - Miles/Smiles/Karnak
    - Contract - Signed.
    - Insurance - STILL talking with agent
      - Have insurance, want better insurance
      - Golf carts are not covered under current insurance
      - Considered not having golf carts at all
    - Tickets: 720 registered.
    - Ticket cap: 850
      - Sold so far: 584
      - Paid Pegasus for RND 1 tickets sold. 9/18
      - Lightning Round Open Now
      - Reserves Open now - Sept 29
    - Budget
      - Lamplighters crap ordered
      - Running into credit card limit
      - Placing orders spread out over the next few weeks
    - Safety Plan due 09.15.22
      - Emily working on it, was due to BOD by 9/15
        - Not received yet
    - RIDE survey to Constellation Leads - Sent 09/17/22
    - Board Safety / Escalation Procedures -Scheduled 9/26 18:00
    - Board Member On Call Spreadsheet
      - With this many BoD members, could shorten to 8 hour shifts
      - [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1vn8UI3Mq6SyQIs1XL--5Y1\\_nqJx7KLGt8DsFX7WCmk/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1vn8UI3Mq6SyQIs1XL--5Y1_nqJx7KLGt8DsFX7WCmk/edit#gid=0)
      -
    - Notes
      - Karnak - things are going well
        - Harpsters have been delivered
        - Work weekend CANCELED
        - Talk to Toaster if you want to go to site early
        - Ducks and Emily may be on site Saturday/Sunday
        - Big equipment order is being delivered Tuesday
        - Rangers may use sleep channel
      - Hired security to guard the gate at night
        - Someone Mark and Bonnie have used before

- Effigy up in the air due to COVID Policy, see Michael V email
- Deliveries of infrastructure primarily on Tuesday, majority of set up on Wednesday
- Concern for Parking / Guardians
  - Givler onsite parking lead, but no one else
  - Zero Sign ups for Friday night - both departments
- Tools for Constellation
  - Timeline:
    - <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1bVScJVPr0bSmls7n1oLYPiJ3auHCvI57KsdtlFVg4Lg/edit#gid=0>
- Conduct Committee
  - Who is on [conduct@firepony.org](mailto:conduct@firepony.org) email group?
    - Smiles needs access and management / edit ability
  - 8 total cases, 1 stalled that needs to be retired
    - Assigned to committee members for review
  - Meetings
    - 8.24.2022 - Smiles and Aye
      - Procedure Review and Case Prep
    - 09.14.2022 - Full Committee
      - Case assignment
    - Scheduled 09.22.2022
      - Incident Form Review / Clean Up prior to Constellation
  - Can we get an email from “Conduct Committee” so emails are not personal?
    - **WIP** - Instructions sent to do this, still need to set up
  - Still One stalled case since February 2021
    - Will message submitter to sunset - Smiles
      - Sent 09.17.2022 - offered reactivation or closure - waiting reply
- Finance and Governance
  - Current focus on filings, afterburns and BOD recruitment
    - 2021 Filing up next, extension filed
  - Committee wishes to retain a WV lawyer to review insurance
    - Connect with Toaster
      - Toaster has experience with this kind of thing and will review the insurance plan
      - Epic can also take a look, not as the BoD’s official lawyer
    - Need \$1000 authorization - Approved
      - David - cast a wide net: don’t focus on a specific insurance policy. Make sure Event and Directors and Officers (D&O) insurance is broad enough to hold us harmless

- 12 voted, none opposed
  - Other committee actions
    - Add Cramer as a check signer for Firepony
    - Look into how to create a shared pool of check recipients for Wells Fargo
    - Schedule next meeting - tbd
    - Schedule FSA meeting
  - Board commitments letters .
    - Will become part of annual meeting in January
  - Annual Reports
    - 2019 Annual report in queue after 2021 and PDF 2022 afterburn
    - 2021 Annual report **tbd**
  - Still need a Bylaw mtg - Dave to take lead on Bylaw revamp/reconciliation
    - *Note (May 2017): New board members are recruited throughout the year as needed.*
    - *Note (May 2017): As of July 2016, term limits for directors and officers were agreed upon, and are described in more detail in [https://docs.google.com/document/d/15OErsUSOCM\\_vAqsLkmzaDGNLX9ogNZO8/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/15OErsUSOCM_vAqsLkmzaDGNLX9ogNZO8/edit)*
- 
- Event Planning - PDF - Smiles
    - In the Afterburn Phase
      - Retreat held 7/16
      - Draft afterburn here  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hTs3Q\\_MYNq2icMsui31dLFTrgzBuioOwCyLRFvYVHEU/edit#](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hTs3Q_MYNq2icMsui31dLFTrgzBuioOwCyLRFvYVHEU/edit#)
      - Still waiting on Financials. Will publish without the afterburn reports missing from some departments.
    - Key BOD Takeaways/Action items
      - Need to focus support on Rangers, Sanctuary, Gate, DPW
      - Are people who fill the form being contacted? Energy is great right now, it's a fine time to recruit.
        - Folks diverted to Constellation when possible
    - Insurance - check D&O coverage
      - <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1pOLi7ErkfcPop3xnXpimNvvv2pQi8Jmq>
    - Next PC Calls
      - Aug 28 @7 - [agenda](#)
        - Low attendance, broad discussion of various ideas / proposals originating from Retreat (primarily drones and various reserve ticket ideas)
        - Drones will deliver hot tubs, shot down/warmed by lasers

- Oct 2 @7 (Sunday)
  - Nov 6 @7 (Sunday)
  - Smiles to hold meeting with Fiona for PDF 2023 timeline, upping art grant open date - include Hatter (yes pls)
    - WIP Not yet scheduled
- Community Art and Civic Engagement
  - CACE is the umbrella for all “non-event” community engagement
    - Considering a Philly-area event hosted by FPCS/PDF
    - Baltimore has a monthly brunch thing? Picnics?
    - DC Happy hours has started again, run by
  - Community Grant Program
    - 2023 - Smiles Spoke with Millie on .9.14.22 - New Interest from Millie and Patty for MALC and CACE 2023 cycle
      - New Board Member to Partner with them?
        - Aye is interested
        - Should talk to Millie at Constellation
      - Interested in holding MALC again in DC/Baltimore area
      - FPCS doesn’t “own” MALC, but we do fiscally sponsor it
      - Discussions are generally about how to spread burning man ethos to the world, not about event logistics
    - 2022 grant program on hiatus due to staffing
    - 2021 Grants: Ursula needs to connect with artist with new deadline for report out.
  - RIDE FirePony: Radical Inclusion Diversity & Equity - Smiles
    - Action items
      - RIDE survey sent to Constellation and Board .9.17.22
      - Awaiting new BOD member involvement
      - OnTap - Analyze PDF Survey results
  - Connections Committee
    - firepony.org/volunteer needs updating / revamp to simplify
    - Next Burner Banter Hour - 3rd Wednesday of every month
      - A few regulars :-)
      - Next meeting Wednesday Sept 21, Oct 19, Nov 16
      - Zoom ID 750 660 4772
  - Ursula’s dream is that board meetings will someday be all CACE and events will be community driven
- Technology Committee - m4
  - Everything will be shutdown 6/7 to stop any potential AWS bleed
  - Zoom account migration in progress
  - Site technology infrastructure:

- Need a community member to step up to oversee/maintain site tech
    - New Ticket System Status
  - Land Purchase - Ursula, Miles, David
    - Next Meeting
      - Every second Tuesday at 7 pm. Next: September 20, 8 PM, then October 11 at 7pm - Zoom 750 660 4772
        - Whatever, Hatter, interested in being added
      - Need to keep community involved
      - Need to get a business plan before we pull the trigger
        - Model
          - <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BK647S2Vvj7dQSAF2t53oBCrQ7R-HVj/edit#gid=1802353357>
        - Need to consider if we cross out of our Not for Profit space into the profit world, and how that affects our IRS filings.
      - Connect with Realtors who do land purchase in our areas of interest (WV, SE & Central PA, NW MD). Dave met with Realtor Kim Markle in South Central PA in June
        - No retainer, no upfront charges, exclusive right to represent us in that region
      - Need an accurate current account value ~\$465,672 ( =85% of FSA investment)
        - Currently we spend ~\$X on land rent per year
      - Suggest get professional property management if/when we have our own land.
      - More property available recently than in the past few months
      - Could consider clearing wooded property
        - Added risk - need to contract additional services
        - Currently focusing on land with an already cleared section, or ideally “reclaimed” land like the PDF site
        - There are some promising wooded sites in Delmarva peninsula
    - Smiles -Have discussed in the past having the appropriate paperwork ready to go if promising land comes available
      - Would need a “Statement of Authority” that someone from the Land Search Committee has board’s authority to enter into a contract on a piece of land
      - Would ideally call a full board meeting to review a piece of land before getting a contract in place
- Ranger Council Update - Epic, Wax, Lotus

- Epic Wax mtg 6/7
    - Suggest looping in Shek at Portal
    - Need to decide a direction and culture. Regional?
  - Consistent plan on how we Ranger at FP burns
  - Recruitment across the region - help from Participation Station (PDF)
  - Epic did manage to shadow some BRC Rangers to understand what rangering looks like at the big one
    - Half of what happens out there we don't need for locals
  - Lotus is a BRC ranger, David rangered this year in BRC as well
  - Wax wants to sort out what happens at the Board level with rangers, what aspects of both burns can be left to the leads of those burns
  - Constellation 2022
    - Haven't heard directly from Saurkraut at Constellation/BOD calls
    - Planning to set up pink light camps
    - At this moment there is no mechanism for on-site signup
    - There is no equivalent to Party Station for Constellation
    - Epic going to tag up with Sauerkraut directly in the next week
    - Producers want to be in the chain between rangers and BoD
- Safety Committee - Epic
  - Hiatus
  - Nothing new to report
- Communications
  - "What does the BOD do" elevator pitch
    - Who wants to help craft this?
    - Currently on the board page of the website "As with any nonprofit oversight body, the function of the Board is to set policy and direction for the organization which are consistent with federal, state, and local laws, and to see that these policies are implemented and that all legal responsibilities are met."
  - New board members: need paragraph and photo for website
    - Need this from new board members & Dave Wilkes
      - Website updated with info from newsletter
      - Lotus, What is your firepony Email?
    - Revisit / clean up advisory team?
      - What is the role of the advisory board
      - Thus far we've only reached out to folks for specific info
      - Could also extend Ride survey to the Advisory Board
      - Wax has been fired from the Advisory board
      - Almost exclusively former board members, has also included folks like Wax with valuable knowledge to contribute but not enough bandwidth to join the BoD



- - [Board of Directors | FirePony Creative Society](#)
  - Next Newsletter (s):
    - Constellation Newsletters
  
- Anything Else
  - Calendar and Communications
    - CACE MEETING - nothing planned, recruiting effort instead
    - PC Call
      - Oct 2 @7 (Sunday)
    - Land Committee - 2nd tuesday 7pm
    - FIN & GOV Committee -- tbd
    - Burner Banter - 3rd Wednesday @ 7
      - Sept 21
      - Oct 19
    - FP Newsletter - none planned
    - BPE Newsletter - none planned
    - Shooting Star - happening on schedule
    - Ranger Committee Mtg - On hiatus
    - Technology Mtg -
    - FP RIDE - low interest at PDF, on hiatus, want to gauge interest by new board members
    - Conduct
      - Sept 22

Meeting Adjourned at:

[Committee assignments:](#)

- Governance and Finance: Ursula, Miles, David, Cramer
- Land Purchase: David, Miles, Bucky
- Event Management: Constellation: Miles, Karnak, Cramer, Aye
- Event Management: Playa del Fuego: Smiles, Karnak, Hatter
- CACE/ Art grants: Wax, Lotus
- CACE/ Ride: Smiles, Aye
- CACE / Community Connections: Smiles, Ursula
- CACE/ MALC : Aye?
- Conduct: Smiles, Aye, Bucky
- Safety / Overall: Epic
- Safety/ Ranger Council: Epic, Wax, Lotus
- IT and Tech: m4, karnak, Wax, Bucky, Hatter

- Communications: Smiles, Hatter