

KISAR September 20, 2023 General Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 7:06 PM at Bayside Fire Hall

Minutes prepared by: Tschersich

Directors present: Tschersich, Szabo, Boyle

July general membership meeting minutes were read and approved.

New members: Scott Ellis introduced himself as the new Bayside Fire Chief where he has been serving since July after 34 years with other fire departments. He moved to Kodiak with his family and looked forward to working with KISAR for responses in the urban/wildland interface and doing cross trainings between Bayside Fire Hall and KISAR.

Treasurer's report: Due to the potential Federal government shutdown, the Alaska Geographic Association has cancelled its upcoming meeting and Paul Anderson will not be traveling to Alaska as a result and so would not be able to conduct a training with KISAR. Nick said he had spoken with Steve about possible dates for Deb Ajango to do a custom wilderness first aid refresher class in January with the possible dates Jan 6-7, 13-14, or 20-21. Julia said she would send out a 'doodle' poll to the membership to assess if any of the proposed dates suited the members better.

Josh Boyle outlined some changes to the Alaska Search and Rescue Association (ASARA) grant funding mechanism. He said grants would now be forward-funded and that applying organizations would need to submit proposals for purchases or training ahead of time in quarterly funding cycles and that not many SAR organizations around the state had been applying, so the likelihood of receiving grants was good. The next deadline for applications was November 15. The Alaska Avalanche School was proposing leading Avy Level 1 classes in Kodiak March 15-17, and KISAR members could apply for partial tuition reimbursement up to 70% through ASARA. Josh also mentioned that ASARA had launched their 'SAR Academy' and KISAR could look into bringing instructors to Kodiak for a SarTec course.

Steve's road system trail maps were discussed and Philip and Nick would contact him about making more copies. Scott Ellis mentioned that Bayside had a printing budget that could help in purchasing maps.

Philip gave an update on possible cross training with the USCG Air Station and the Royal Canadian Air Force on October 3-4. The Air Station was proposing an inland search scenario on Pyramid Mountain to practice helicopter hoists.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

There was no training following the meeting.