

International Comanche Society, Inc.
Minutes from TeamSpeak Meeting – December 15, 2015
By LaVerne Stroh, Secretary

1. Av Shiloh, President, called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM EST

2. Roll Call by LaVerne Stroh

Officers:

President	Av Shiloh	Present - Voting
Vice President	Bob Williams	Absent
Treasurer	Bob Berry	Present - Voting
Secretary	LaVerne Stroh	Present - Voting
Past President	Bob Cretney	Present - Voting
CFF President	Mike Foster	Absent

Tribe Chief/Tribe Representatives

Tribe Chief SW	Craig Varga	Absent
Tribe Rep SW	Scott Myers	Present - Voting
Tribe Chief SC	Bob Fox	Absent
Tribe Rep SC	Ron Franks	Present - Voting
Tribe Chief/Rep SE	Jeff Munford	Present - Voting
Tribe Chief MidStates	Carl Talkington	Absent
Tribe Rep Mid States	Pat Donovan	Absent
Tribe Chief NW	Dennis Springer	Absent
Tribe Rep NW	Bill Case	Present - Voting
Tribe Chief NC	Fred Eisert	Absent
Tribe Rep NC	Zach Grant	Absent
Tribe Chief/Rep NE	C J Stumpf	Present - Voting
Tribe Chief/Rep W Canada	Ken Mori	Present – Voting
Tribe Chief/Rep E Canada	Tim Stain	Absent
Tribe Chief/Rep Europe	Kate Burrows	Absent
Tribe Chief/Rep S. Africa	Russell Knowles	Absent
Tribe Chief/Rep Australia	Nigel Wettenhall	Absent

Guests:

North Central	Dave Fitzgerald	Present - Non Voting
North Central	Hank Spellman	Present - Non Voting

Quorum: Nine (9) voting board members were present at the beginning of the meeting. Eight (8) were present at the end of the meeting.

3. Acceptance of Agenda by Board of Directors

There were no objections to the agenda as written.

4. President's Opening Remarks by Av Shiloh

Av welcomed everyone to the meeting. Av stated he hoped to keep the meeting to 60 to 90 minutes; so, we may have to hold some items until next month.

5. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes of the 11-17-2015 TeamSpeak meeting by LaVerne Stroh

The minutes of the last meeting were sent out. No corrections were received.

Motion: CJ moved to accept the meeting minutes as written. Ron seconded the motion. The motion passed with no dissenting votes.

6. Treasurer's Report by Bob Berry

All bills are paid to date. Refunds were given to members who had paid twice.

Enrollment in the CAPS program has been accepted by the post office. We are waiting for Fifth Third Bank to set up the automatic withdrawal portion. Bob Berry is the primary contact. Heather is the secondary contact, and LaVerne is the third contact in the event there are any questions or problems.

Bob Cretney asked if there was any oversight or auditing of the program to ensure we weren't overpaying. Bob Berry stated the program only covers mailing of the magazines. Village Press delivers them to the post office, the post office weighs them, ships them, and bills us. So, the charges each month should be fairly close. If the cost fluctuates considerably, it would stand out; and Bob will look into it.

Bob Berry is working with a vendor on some updated clothing lines for ICS. This vendor provided information on mostly Nike products. Bob will contact some other vendors to get other quotes. The goal is the company would keep an inventory of the products; and we would no longer have to keep track of the stock, nor keep items in stock. This will save both time and money since we don't have to hold onto slow moving inventory.

Bob Berry also suggested moving the Tips to Webco; that is provided they would want to do it, and there are no other conflicts. That would alleviate the \$2 charges we are currently billed from Village Press when they are contacted. Even if there is a cost with Webco, it would go to a company helping support our airplanes. Bob Cretney asked how much they would charge. Bob Berry stated he hasn't even contacted them yet. It is just a thought of how to possibly save some money.

Av stated we would postpone the discussion on TIPS and other published items for new business at next month's meeting.

Bob Berry will contact Webco to get more information before the meeting.

Bob Berry stated we are on course for the 2015 budget. Two payments of \$1200 each have been made to the website developers. Ken Mori and Scott Myers asked about the \$4200 in the budget for the website. Bob Berry stated that amount is for the 2016 budget. For 2017, the amount includes \$600 for the web hosting and the \$250 monthly management charges. The assumption is the website development will be completed during 2016.

Oshkosh registration is paid for, and we need to pay for the tent by January 29 if we want to get the discount.

The 2017 budget that was sent out with the agenda was reviewed and discussed. Bob Berry stated that of November, we had 285 members who paid their dues through 2017. That amounts to about \$4-5000.

CJ asked about the CFF donation amount. There is not an amount listed. Bob Berry stated that any amount from CFF is an amount of their choosing. It is a donation from CFF to ICS. It could be zero or whatever amount they decide to donate to our cause.

CJ also asked about inventory sales. Bob Berry is working with several vendors. In the meantime, we are using our current inventory.

CJ asked about the membership committee and the safety study. She wanted to be sure that money was still available. Av stated since that amount was approved for 2016, it should be available. Bob Berry stated that if an amount was approved in the past, he left it in place unless he knew it wasn't continuing.

LaVerne asked about the CD interest increase since it was considerably higher. Bob Berry stated as the CD's come due, he is anticipating we will get at least 2%. Plus, we are hoping there are higher interest rates coming in the future.

LaVerne Stroh moved to accept the 2017 budget and get it posted in the Flyer. Ron Franks seconded. There were no dissenting votes, so the motion carried.

Bob Berry will send the 2017 budget in the current .pdf format to Melissa to get posted in the Flyer.

7. Nominating Committee by Dave Fitzgerald

Dave was not available but Av stated he talked to Dave and there were no additional nominations at this time.

Bob Cretney asked if the information would be in the January Flyer to meet the bylaws timeframes. Av stated he would double check with Dave. LaVerne stated that in the meeting minutes from the last meeting, Dave stated he would work with Melissa on getting it in the Flyer to meet the guidelines.

Av will follow up with Dave to be sure timeframes were met.

Av asked if there were any objections to the nominating committee report. There were no other comments.

8. Oshkosh/AirVenture Committee by C J Stumpf

CJ stated there were no new items for this time, but in regards to the tent, it had to be done by April. Av stated that to get the discount, we need to have it by January since the discount is substantial. Bob Berry stated that the timeframe was January 29. All he needs to know is the size and type of tent so he can put a deposit on it and not miss out.

CJ will get with Bob Berry on what the tent requirements will be so the tent can be reserved prior to January 29.

9. Membership Committee Report by Bill Case

Bill began contacting the Tribe Chiefs about following up on the new Comanche owners who received the trial membership offers but did not join ICS, as well as those whose membership expired. He ensured all Tribe Chiefs were getting the expired members reports and the address labels if they choose to send them a letter.

The focus should be pursuing the 200 new Comanche owners from 2015 since we got such a small percentage to join.

Av stated the committee is doing a good job and the current membership drive has saved us money over the previous way, even though the results have been less than hoped for.

10. Bylaws Committee Report by Scott Myers

Av stated Scott sent an email with the proposed bylaws changes to all Board members as he joined the meeting. The bylaws committee spent many hours discussing the items that are in the proposal. Av participated in the last meeting, and thanked the committee for all of their time and efforts to get the proposal completed for this meeting.

Scott apologized for the lateness of getting the bylaws change proposals out. Scott stated there are two primary items that are addressed in the proposed changes. One item is the lead time required to get information in the Flyer. The emphasis will be more toward using the website and email rather than the Flyer. We will still use the Flyer. It just will not be the primary source. The second item is to extend the term of office for the President to two years with an option for two additional terms. This would also include the Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Scott stated the committee worked through several different proposals and ideas and this document was what they reached consensus on.

Av stated that to make a change to the bylaws, the general membership has to approve it. We are just voting on if the Board will allow the proposed changes to go forward to the general membership to vote on. Hopefully, we can get this done and voted on in the upcoming election year.

Bob Cretney stated he thought the changes had a long lead time before they can be voted on. Scott stated he was not aware of a long lead time but would check into it. Later in the conversation, Bob Cretney stated he found the time frames, and they are listed in Article VIII (8), Section 1 and Section 7. The time frame is sixty (60) days.

a. Voting Rule Changes

Scott covered the current and proposed bylaws changes for Article III (3), Section 1, Item A and B. The proposal would change the term limits from a one year term with the option for an additional one year term to a two year term, with the option of two additional two year terms, for a total of up to six years. The thinking behind the changes was more continuity for the President and the other offices by giving them time to really know their jobs before it is time to leave; thus, making the Board more productive. The bylaws committee all agreed on the two year term, but there were varied opinions on the total number of years the president should serve.

Av stated by extending the term, we also save the time of having yearly elections, thus cutting the work in half.

Bob Cretney asked if there was a problem with the current term limits. Scott stated the main purpose would be to give the President time to "get their feet wet" before their term was up. Secondly, we don't have that many members who are willing and able to serve, so this gives some flexibility to allow those who want to serve the option to continue for more than the two years allowed now. Bob Cretney stated he did not agree with the argument of it taking a year just to get up to speed since, in the past, the Vice President runs for President. If the Vice President and President are working together while the President is in office, there shouldn't be much time needed to get comfortable. Scott stated that there are times the President was not a Board member previous to taking office, the Vice President did not want to run as President, or wasn't that involved prior to becoming President.

Bill Case moved to accept the recommendation of the bylaws committee to change Article III, Section 1 as proposed. Jeff seconded the motion.

CJ asked if the bylaws committee discussed the changes with Dave and Hank. Scott stated they are part of the committee. Av stated the entire committee was involved to come up with the final proposal. Scott stated they may not all have agreed on each and every item; but as with all committees, there was some give and take to come up with what was presented to the Board. It was a committee decision. Bob asked if Hank disagreed with this particular item. Scott stated Hank agreed with the two year term. There was some disagreement among the committee about the extra term limits. CJ asked if Hank was in disagreement over the extended term limits. Scott stated there was a lengthy discussion on the number of consecutive terms, but Hank agreed to what was proposed. CJ asked what Dave's position was. Scott stated Dave's initial proposal was for no term limits at all. Hank's position was he didn't think anybody would want to continue to do the President's job for an extended period of time.

Bill Case called for a question and the vote was taken. All were in favor, except Bob Cretney. Av abstained from the vote, and CJ had dropped off prior to the vote.

The next items for discussion in the proposed bylaws changes dealt with timeframes. Scott stated the time frames all are related to nomination and voting time frames. The goal of the committee was to change the bylaws that currently require notification of members to be done via the Flyer. It takes at least a six week lead time to be able to get things posted. Since we have more updated ways to contact the members, the feeling was we could cut the Flyer constraints out. That does not mean it won't be published in the Flyer, it only means we won't be held to the current time constraints for publishing it in the Flyer. The plan is to continue to use the Flyer to provide information as long as it is available. The timeframes in the bylaws were established when the Flyer was the only means of notifying the members. We now have more immediate means for notifications, such as the website and email notifications.

Scott stated the first item was the addition of a new section (Section 13) to Article VIII (8). This new section states "the official ICS website will be the official means of communication to the membership on all voting questions, notices, and matters of governance pertaining to the operation of the Society."

The same thread of timeframes runs throughout the other proposed changes – previously the Flyer was the primary means of communication, and now it will be the website and email.

Section 3 changes the names and contact information of the nominating committee to be published on the website rather than the Flyer. They also added a timeframe for the information to be published. It would be 30 days from the appointment of the committee.

Section 6 changes deal with a special vote. It currently is 30 days and the suggestion is to amend it to 20 days, since everything will be online now via website and email notifications. If the issue is urgent, we need to get the vote done as soon as possible.

Section 7 changes the requirement from the Comanche Flyer as the primary notification to the ICS website. As stated before, the Flyer will still be used, but it will not be the primary source.

Section 12 deals with special voting. Currently, if the vote fails due to voting irregularities, the timeframe for the special vote is 90 days. The proposal is to change it to 30 days for special emergency voting.

In Article IX (9), the annual general meeting notification will be changed from the Flyer to the website. The 60 day timeframe will not be changed.

Av suggested we vote on all of changes at one time if possible. We can take them one at a time if the Board feels the need to do that.

LaVerne moved to vote on all of the remaining items we just discussed in one vote. Ron Franks seconded. All approved the motion.

Hank asked if there was still a quorum present since we had some members leave the meeting. Av stated Jeff gave his vote of yes prior to leaving, but even without his vote, there is still seven voting members. So, we still have a quorum. LaVerne stated she had been monitoring the numbers as people entered or left the meeting.

CJ came back online after the vote and stated she had major concerns over moving away from the Flyer to online access. She felt it was not in the best interest of all of the members. Av stated he understood her concerns, as did the committee. The committee discussed it at great length. We will use the Flyer while we can, but we need to look to the future. Scott stated we currently do our voting online, and there have only been a couple of instances where someone called in their vote.

LaVerne stated this was not a vote for the bylaws changes to be implemented. It is only a vote to allow the items to go to the membership to vote on. The membership will decide if they want these changes implemented.

CJ stated she understood that, but felt we may not be taking all of the membership into consideration. Hank and CJ were both concerned that some members may not have a computer or a good internet connection. CJ stated she often goes to the library to get online and many members may have to do the same thing. Av stated that if a member cannot get online, they cannot vote. Hank stated members can vote without internet access. They can call in their vote. Hanks stated we need to be sure the members know they still have that option available.

CJ asked if we are going to take action to let everyone know what changes are forthcoming and attempt to get email addresses for those we don't have.

Scott stated if the bylaws changes pass, we can put the information in the Flyer to reach out to everyone. Since Scott deals with sending out emails to the group, he knows there are 162 of the 2000 members who do not have an email address listed. It may be they don't have email or they may not want to provide the address. He suggested we put information in the Flyer about providing the email address to get timely information. We can also offer to provide assistance with the website if someone needs that.

Av stated again that the intention is still to provide information in the Flyer as long as it is there. These changes just help relieve some of the lengthy time frame requirements now needed for the Flyer.

b. STC Changes –

This item was postponed until the next meeting.

c. Committee Appointments/Schedule by Scott Myers and LaVerne Stroh

Av stated the requirements are to reappoint the committees each year, and he thought the Secretary needed to keep track of who is on the committees. Av asked Scott to check on the requirements, but Hank was able to provide the answer. Hank stated the committees have to be appointed annually. That was put in place so the President was not stuck with committees that he did not appoint and to disband committees that were no longer needed. The only thing the Secretary does is record the information in the minutes. The only exception to this is the nominating committee.

11. Comanche Flyer Information by Av Shiloh and the Board of Directors

a. Editor in Chief – Flyer Update/Facelift

Av has been talking to Village Press. The face lift is in the works. He will send information out with Village Press' proposals.

b. Flyer – Member Spotlight Update

Gloria Smith will prepare a column each month. The first one will be in the February issue, and it just happens to be a Comanche romance story.

c. Flyer – Letter from Directors Schedule by Av Shiloh

This will be discussed during the next meeting.

d. Flyer – CFF Pages update by Mike Foster

Mike Foster was not present, but Av stated he had talked to Mike. Mike stated CFF would only use one page of the Flyer each month.

12. Comanche Instructor Program by Zach Grant and Av Shiloh

Av and Zach changed the point values as requested during the fall board meeting. The type rating area was reduced from 50 to 5 points per event. A copy of the updated document and the sample letter that would go out to all of the current ICS instructors asking them if they want to renew were attached to the agenda. If an instructor still wants to be listed, they would be grandfathered in. Anyone new would have to fill out the form. Av asked for any questions or comments.

LaVerne asked for clarification of who would be grandfathered. Av stated it would be those who are currently listed and were approved in the past. We don't know if they are still current, so we would send out the letter asking them if they are still current and want to be listed as an instructor. If they want to be listed, we would allow it since we know they had the required training to be on the list. LaVerne asked if her understanding that they would not have to fill out the questionnaire was correct. Av stated that was correct. They would be grandfathered from filling out the form.

Bob Berry stated he felt everyone should have to fill out the form to have a fresh list. Just because they were qualified in the past does not mean they are still qualified. Av stated he and Zach discussed it, and Zach felt strongly that these people had been sufficiently qualified in the past either through Larry Larkin courses or CFF.

Scott stated that since CFF is updating their requirements and list, this would be a good time for us to refresh our list as well by having everyone complete the form. Anybody who is actively involved with Comanche's should not object to it. If we tell them we are updating our list to ensure we have a good list of instructors for our members, they should not be opposed.

Bob Berry stated he felt strongly about having everyone fill it out.

Av will take the information back to Zach and discuss it with him and cover this again at the next meeting. Bob asked if we could just vote on it now. Av stated he would prefer to discuss it with Zach and get his input before we take any action since Zach is such an integral part of this and had strong feelings about not making everyone fill out the paperwork again.

The Board was going to take a straw poll to see what the majority felt. LaVerne suggested since we were running so late, we just table this item for the next meeting. CJ seconded. The item was tabled.

13. New Website Report by Dave Fitzgerald, Ron Keil, and Scott Myers

This item was postponed until the next meeting.

14. CCCC (Comanche Cuba-Cayman Caravan) by Av Shiloh

Av stated there are thirteen or fourteen planes planning on going at this point. We are limited to twenty.

15. Fund Raising Ideas by Bob Berry

This item was postponed until the next meeting.

16. Should ICS be charitable? 501 c? by Bob Berry, Pat Donovan, LaVerne Stroh, and Av Shiloh

Av asked for the Boards' permission to have this subject investigated to see if this is something we would like to do. Scott stated the Board does not need to approve this. Av can just appoint Bob to look into it. Av stated he was giving Bob permission to head the effort to look into this item.

17. 015/2016 Convention Update by LaVerne Stroh and Alan Breen

This item will be postponed until the next meeting.

18. GCA by Av Shiloh

Av stated this item had to be discussed and voted on at the next meeting. Av made his suggestion. LaVerne asked if someone can get the award twice. Av stated there is nothing that would prevent it.

Please be prepared to vote on this at the next meeting. Get any nominations to Av prior to the meeting.

19. Miscellaneous Old Business by BOD

There was no old business.

20. Mechanic Listing by Av Shiloh

This was postponed until the next meeting.

21. Miscellaneous New Business by Board of Directors

Scott stated when he made the suggestion of monthly meetings it was with the idea that they be short meetings. He suggested we limit the meetings to one or two topics rather than full Board meetings. Av stated he agreed the meetings needed to be shorter. If they are so long, people may just quit participating. We may need to set time limits. We will discuss it during the next meeting. Hank stated the reason it takes so long is because there is no staff work prior to the meeting. For instance, if an item is circulated prior to the meeting, along with the comments, it could be voted on without the lengthy discussions during the meeting.

Av will put this item on the agenda for the next meeting. Everyone needs to be prepared to discuss this.

22. Next TeamSpeak Meeting by Scott Myers

The next TeamSpeak meeting will be January 19, 2016 at 8:00 PM EST.

23. Adjournment by Board of Directors

Motion: LaVerne moved to adjourn the meeting. Scott seconded the motion. There were no objections to the motion.