

**WAE Board Meeting**  
**Winter Workshop January 31, 2003**

Board members present: Jim McGinity, Rebecca Clarke, Mary Pardee (leaving board member), Gail Epping, Emily Jacobs (new student rep), Nancy Salisbury, Mary Hollenbeck, Mary Vymetal-Taylor (VT), Mike Anderson, Amanda Dvorak (leaving student member), David Swanson (present but busy as conference chair).

Missing: Paul Denowski (past chair), Carrie Hembree, Christy Allar (Administrative Assistant)

4:04 Call to order by Jim McGinity. There was some early discussion about people not receiving awards ballots or their information on the web/board list was not updated. Jim McGinity said he would address this with Christy Allar.

Introductions of board members. It was brought up again that past chair, Paul Denowski, was not here to introduce everyone, so new Chair Jim McGinity started things off.

Confirmation of New Board Members Jim will meet with new folks after meeting to orient them to their board book and meeting procedures.

Introduction of New Executive Committee Members Mary VT is new Chair Elect and Nancy Salisbury is the new Treasurer. This was decided at the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Approve the minutes of December 8<sup>th</sup> Motion by Mary VT to approve minutes, Gail E seconded, all in favor.

Discussion of Approval for Calendar for 2003 Jim went over dates. Unfortunately no one brought a calendar. Jim will send calendar to everyone to approve dates before next meeting.

EE News Deadline is March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Jim explained to everyone that with every EE News we try to highlight an environmental education entity to highlight (facility). Mike Anderson said he would look into writing this article, as he had submitted one before that did not get in the last EE News.

Mary Pardee said she look into getting the last year fall conference award winners into the next EE News. Membership committee should have pictures of the awards committee and it was discussed that the membership committee should keep track of these pictures. Mary Pardee said she would check if Dr. Dennis Yockers, from the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education, had copies of the pictures of the award recipients from the fall conference.

Gail Epping needs to submit an article as a board member bio. Mary VT said she would do an article on board goals based on the March Work Weekend.

After some spirited discussion it was decided that the networking committee would do an article on an environmental entity every EE News.

**ALL ARTICLES NEED TO GO TO JIM MCGINITY (OR THE BOARD PRESIDENT) FIRST.** He approves them and then sends them out.

It was suggested that we should keep on file hard copies of EE News for the last two years for records of what was written. It was suggested that Christy should bring those to the March meeting this year at the Lion's camp for the Networking committee.

Fall 2003 Conference Report Mary Pardee has some chairs. Dennis Yockers has decided to do field trips again. Dean (of Brutal Gourmet fame) and Mary Swiftka are chairing events.

The Fall 2003 conference is going to be at another religious camp, so we will have to go to a supper club off site to dance, etc. Lodging is similar to Treehaven, says Mary Pardee, but there are bathrooms in the rooms and they are nice.

Mary wrote a mini-WEEB (Wisconsin Environmental Education Board) grant for \$1000. This money would be for honorariums for keynotes, and promotion of keynotes. So this will help with promoting and registration. Mary Pardee will be having an organizational meeting at Treehaven this weekend to recruit volunteers.

2003 is the Year of Water in Wisconsin, so this will be the theme, although there is no catchy title as yet.

Mike Anderson has volunteered to present and is going to help Mary by making a presenter form and sending this to Christy.

Winter Workshop 2003 David Swanson wanted to give Mary Pardee and David Eagan lots of credit for this winter workshop's big turnout for their excellent job at chairing last year. Their "Elders" theme really gave the weekend a great feel and David credits last year's success for much of this year's.

2003 Winter Workshop is "packed" according to David with 110 registered people.

2004 Fall Conference Rebecca Clarke gave an update as the Wisconsin K-12 Forestry Education Program (LEAF) is essentially spearheading the conference. Sterling Strathe has written some WEEB grants to help with transportation. He has made some preliminary steps at finding chairs and has some from around the state. The conference will take place at Telemark lodge in Cable, WI. Sterling Strathe, LEAF director, chose to take over this conference because in 2004 it's the 100-year anniversary of forestry in WI.

At this time things are moving along but Sterling stressed he didn't want to get things too hyped up about this conference and take support away from Mary Pardee and the Fall 2003 conference.

Midwest Leadership Clinic Gail gave a brief background about this clinic. This was sparked at the last Midwest conference and the clinic was there to develop ties between neighboring states and what they are doing to forward EE in their state. Each state's team chose things to work on to forward EE in their state and then develop a strategic plan to do so.

They came up with lots of highlights of things that the Wisconsin team came up with to work on in Wisconsin. Jim said he would get clinic highlights to Christy.

WEEB Grant Update Mary VT gave an update on her project. She said they are a little behind right now and couldn't find enough reviewers of EE materials to implement into

this project. The WEEB board of directors met last December. Mary VT has contacted all the researchers she has identified and they are all excited to get started on finding EE materials.

WAEE Work Weekend March 2003 Jim will send out a rough idea for the weekend and send this to everyone before the meeting in March. Basically everyone should be ready to meet all weekend on a variety of long term planning topics. There was some discussion about the purpose and lay out of the weekend.

#### 5:30 Committee Reports

Networking Mike Anderson still looking into getting state news affiliates for reasons of getting WAEE actions and activities to the public, into an Excel file.

No other committees reported.

Student End of Year Report Amanda Dvorak report for both her and Colleen Robinson who was absent. They have an attached report that was handed out to all the members. Both Amanda and Colleen were very thankful for the opportunity and they felt they accomplished a lot. They tried to increase student membership and participation. They hope to increase WAEE notoriety with their new jobs.

Amanda went on to ask about the vacant student position still on the board. Colleen had found an interested student at Point who would like to join but can't because there is already a Point student on the board. According to the bylaws, it states that there must be two student reps on the board from different schools. It was not clear what this meant when elections were done and no other school had an interested party, except for the one school already represented. There was some spirited debate on this subject, of whether the by laws were applicable to this situation.

The board decided to try and recruit another student at the Winter Workshop weekend.

Administrative Assistant Report Jim gave an update about Christy's accomplishments in the past months. The books are done, the 1099's are done, and there were lots of membership renewals that she is processing. It was mentioned that new membership materials would be needed NOW, as the old pamphlets are almost gone.

There was some discussion about the expectations of office hours for this position. Some members and board members questioned when someone was there to answer phones, etc.

Mary VT suggested that the executive committee create a draft of job expectations and an evaluation procedure for Christy for the March meeting. Jim will ask Christy to work more regular hours and post this hours on the answering machine, web site, etc.

Leadership Clinic Mary VT has notes on a grant she and Paul Denowski are working on to attend a Leadership Conference. She said she would get these notes to Rebecca to include in the minutes.

Nancy Salisbury moved to adjourn. Mary VT seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.