

March 4, 2001 Meeting

CWES, Amherst Junction, WI

Board Members present: Geoffrey Bishop, Paul Denowski, Jim McGinity, Mary Pardee, Michael Anderson, Seth Huebner, Brandie Cheatham, Elizabeth Janvrin, and Rebecca Clarke

Others present: Christy Allar (Administrative Assistant), Cindy Halter and David Eagan

Board Members absent: Michael Flitter and Bobbi Zbleski

Geoffrey Bishop, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:20 AM.

Approval of the January, 2001 minutes. (Geoffrey). **Motion:** To approve the January 2001 minutes. (Michael Anderson/ Jim McGinity). *Passed unanimously.*

Treasurer's Report: (Mary Pardee). Geoffrey suggests \$44,000 in the MCMT Fund be rounded up to \$45,000 and placed into a better interest rate account for 6-12 months and put the remainder of funds into a liquid account. Cindy addressed concerns that we have enough liquid funds for the upcoming Midwest Conference. Discussion continued on funds coming in and going out: grants, scholarships, what kind of travel expenses, paying for speakers, printing. Consensus was that we need at least \$5,000 liquid. Jim suggested that \$40,000 be put into an investment and the remainder to go to liquid account.

(Paul) **Motion:** To have the accounts moved to higher interest account and then for the finance committee to make recommendation at the next meeting for funds. (Mike seconds) *Passed unanimously.*

Discussed mass mailing programs, and use of a student "work study" to convert e-mail addresses from the Membership database. Seth needs Board Book. Calendar needs to be updated. Introduction and welcome of Brandie Cheatham the new Student Board member.

Midwest Environmental Education Conference Pricing Policy-Geoffrey brought up pricing policy for conferences. Discussion ensued regarding: should children be free, should children be discounted, an official policy on children, seniors. This is a professional organization, not for kids. Mike stated maybe should be addressed in registration materials what child pricing would be for housing, meals, etc. Should an age limit be addressed with regard to college/high school versus preschool/grade school? Discussion on family lodging should it be off site.

(Geoffrey) **Motion:** Student registration discount based on our expenses but not a discount for meals or lodging. (Paul seconds)

Discussion continues: Mary Pardee thinks there needs to be two policies, a children's policy and one for an extra person (i.e. spouse, boyfriend). Should they (spouse/significant other) go into database with a special code for meals and overnights but not charged a registration fee. Geoffrey agrees with Mary.

(Paul) **Motion:** Children be charged the student fee but that any other fees (meals, lodging, program fees would be full priced). (Mary seconds) *Passed unanimously.*

Spouse/significant other policy- (Mike) **Motion:** Policy be the same for spouse/significant other as is stated for children. (Mary seconds)

Discussion continues. Mary has a problem with person paying registration fee that isn't attending the conference/workshop. Geoffrey feels we should differentiate in a nametag. Comment that people don't wear tag past first day. Becky asks for suggestions. What is the cost to the organization to register extra people? Geoffrey suggests a waiting list for spouse/significant other. Jim suggests a family off site housing/rooming accommodations.

(Paul) **Motion:** Amendment to the previous motion: Non-participating members will not pay for registration but will pay for lodging and meals. (Mary seconds)

Geoffrey calls for a vote.

5 nays

1 abstaining

2 ayes

Proposal has not been passed.

(Mike) **Motion:** Non Participant Attendance Fee of \$5 and pay full price for lodging and meals. (Becky seconds)

Vote taken.

8 ayes

9:40 time check

Proposed amendment to Registration Fee to state "student member" (Board Meeting 3/99 item XII Motion) Discussion begins. Geoffrey suggests that a Board Member sponsor the student. Paul suggests that we leave it as is.

(Elizabeth) **Motion:** we amend that set registration fee be \$10 for student members not \$5. (Mike seconds)

8 ayes

Passed

Green Teacher magazine is put in new member packet. Tim Grant from Green Teacher magazine has offered another discount. Cindy reads the coupon "\$2 off Green Tree".

(Paul) **Motion:** Go with this coupon and that they receive it with New Member packets and current membership mailings. (Mike seconds)

Discussion-Elizabeth feels we need a disclaimer, stating we do not endorse any special offers. Geoffrey questions do we need a policy regarding any endorsing? Elizabeth states it could go in New

Member letter and renewal letter. Further discussion continues regarding various organizations that we could be affiliated with. Paul is concerned it (ORION) might be controversial. Paul feels Green Teacher is in line with WAEE.

This item is tabled.

Fall Conference-Becky Clarke is chair for conference committee and will check into potential conference sites and chairpersons.

Committee Reports-(Jim McGinity) Midwest Conference call for presenters is out and due back March 15. We have only received about 15 proposals. Program committee is meeting April 12 in Madison to approve tracts and get information out to people. Field trips are being lined up and keynote speakers are under contract and doing a workshop. The Committee will be laying out 3-day weekend with an empty bowl lunch at an extra cost. The participant will choose a bowl and get soup and sandwich. The cost of food goes to local pantry. Still looking at activities for Saturday night. Committee would like to do something off site because of the no alcohol and no dance policy. There would be a need for bus shuttles and the cost will be worked in with an option not to attend the Saturday night banquet. There is a possibility that they will just do an auction and dance/entertainment. Jim is also checking into sources of Grants and a final budget. Paul is working with exhibitors and compiling a list that will go with a mailing in the next month. They are looking at energy related gifts, solar calculator, and hand-powered flashlight.

Membership Committee-Elizabeth Janvrin states the minutes from the Membership Committee meeting will be available.

Networking Report-Committee has been established with Mike Anderson as Chair.

Student Report-Student committee has been established with Bobbi Zbleski as Chair. Discussed-David Eagan will send web site for green colleges and contacting them to see if anyone interested and get new members. Do a survey to student members regarding what do you think and how can we promote conferences. What we can give as list of benefits to student members?

Nature Center – The Nature and Environmental Center Section was unable to meet due to inclement weather.

EE News-Please come up with ideas for articles. There will be a list of all board members in EE News. Mike will talk to David Engleson and ask him to write article on “Why is it important to have EE Consultant?”. Mary will write a note about Cathy Mackay and what’s up and where she is now. The deadline is March 10th and all articles need to be sent to Janet Hutchinson. Need an annual report for Members regarding what WAEE did for the year 2000 including a financial report. The report should go into the Web Page also. The report will need to be done every two years. A suggestion was made that the report should go in EE News.

Additional Agenda Items

Time check 11:00

Winter Workshop- Many people stayed too late and extra rooms were opened? There were too many people at meals. Do we need meal tickets? Suggestion brought up that we need a clean up committee. Date for next W.W. to be Feb 1-3 2002. Will it be called a Winter Renewal, Winter Retreat or Winter Workshop. People expect different things at a Workshop versus a Retreat/Renewal.

Life membership-Get Geoffrey stationary so he can do a personal letter to new life member. Committee to look at Membership cards for life members.

Lobbying as a non-profit organization-Paul states we should be careful as we are an education based organization and we don't endorse candidates. The DPI consultant position was discussed. Cindy will be contacting the EE Coalition for the 21st Century to find out what action is being taken concerning the upcoming election on April 3rd. The board agreed that candidate information should go out to our membership soon and that it would be good for people to attend debates and forums and ask questions concerning EE.

David Eagan wishes to speak regarding a sense of Natures Place. He feels we need to make a point of knowing the place historically, local information, the nature for the places we hold the conferences and workshops. Can we encourage that all groups do that sort of thing NEEAP, etc? Geoffrey states that may be an idea for Networking committee. Jim feels incorporating could be a standard portion of the conference for everybody.

Time check 11:48 *adjourn*.

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Allar