

WAEF Board Meeting

Minutes

August 20th, 2000

UWSP, Room 210 College of Professional Studies, Stevens Point, WI

Board Members present: Geoffrey Bishop, Paul Denowski, Kerry Eastman, Michael Flitter, Cindy Halter, Elizabeth Janvrin, Mary Pardee and Paul Wozniak.

Others present: Cathy MacKay (Administrative Assistant), Pat Marinac.

Board Members absent: Jim McGinity.

The meeting was *called to order* by Cindy Halter, Chair, at 11:17 AM.

Approval of the June 2000 minutes. (Cindy). **Motion:** To approve the June 2000 minutes. (Michael / Elizabeth). *Passed unanimously.*

WEEB Update: (Pat Marinac). Pat reported that WEEB had their summer board meeting. A 5-year WEEB strategic plan has been updated and a copy will be sent to WAEF. Sen. Brian Rhude and Jim Gibson left the WEEB Board. Bill Rockwell replaced Jim Gibson. The new agriculture representative is Sabrina Gentile. 3 positions are up for election; they include Environmental and Nature Centers, Environmental Educators, and Business and Industry. The WEEB Board approved two new positions; Forestry and Energy. Pat asked that the WAEF Board submit nominations. Pat also reported what each of the WEEB Operating Committees is doing. (See handout). Pat asked the WAEF Board to consider getting more involved in the Nature and Environmental Centers Operating Committee. She also encouraged a WAEF representative to attend WEEB meetings. The next WEEB meeting will be Monday, October 30th at Bjorklunden in Bailey's Harbor, WI. Pat distributed the WEEB Grant Committee Schedule. (See handout).

Public Input: None.

Administrative Assistant Report: (Cathy). Cathy handed out her report. (See handout). Her report summarized that in addition to her regular office duties, she has been busy preparing for the Fall Conference registration and assisting the Fall Conference Committee with tasks. Cindy and Geoffrey approved the purchase of a new cart for the office. Cathy demonstrated the cart. Cathy will work more hours in September due to conference registration and fewer hours in October. Cathy will work registration at the Fall Conference on Friday afternoon and evening, starting at 2:30 PM and on Saturday from early morning till 1:00 PM.

Treasurer's Report: (Geoffrey). Geoffrey distributed the final financial report for July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000; and the current fiscal year report for July 1, 2000 to August 20, 2000. (See reports). He expressed WAEF has a healthy bank account. Cathy suggested she create a separate report for the UWSP account in the future. The Board agreed that it would make the report easier to read. Geoffrey also distributed the Fall Conference 2000 report. (See report). As of right now the disbursements are higher than the receipts because registration has just started.

OLD BUSINESS

Spring Adventure Workshop (SAW)/ WAEF Role: (Cindy). Cindy clarified WAEF will no longer have their Administrative Assistant handle the workshop; however, WAEF will still support the event. The DPI and the Department of Health Promotion and Human Growth and Development at UWSP will continue to sponsor the event. Pat stated that the SAW might be changing sites and that the planning committee hopes to incorporate more depth in skill development. She also said the Safari Club is very interested in CO-sponsoring. Pat encouraged WAEF to display their information board in the future and to send a person from WAEF to the planning meetings. Cindy agreed it is important for WAEF to have a strong presence at the SAW. Cindy will write a letter to Susan Gilchrist clarifying WAEF's role in the SAW.

Election of a Chair-Elect: (Cindy). A discussion was held regarding the structure of the Board-Chair and Chair-Elect. Cindy suggested having Co-Chairs, one in their third year and one in their second. The Board members decided to keep the structure as is, with one Chair and one Chair-Elect. Cindy read the Chair-Elect duties. The Board discussed who was eligible. Kerry, Paul W. and Cindy will leave the Board next year. Geoffrey was **nominated** as Chair-Elect (Kerry/Paul D). Geoffrey accepted the nomination. *The nomination was passed*

unanimous. Congratulations Geoffrey! Geoffrey asked the Board that they select a Chair-Elect for 2001 who will strongly serve WAEE.

EE News Review: (Elizabeth). Elizabeth reported for the Membership Committee. She expressed concern that EE News may not be meeting all WAEE member needs. She asked the Board for their input. A discussion followed. The Board decided to let the Membership Committee take a look at alternatives and the possibility of an electronic newsletter.

Winter Workshop: (Cindy). The Board discussed changing future dates for the Winter Workshop to February instead of January. Paul W. felt that January could then be used for the Board retreat weekend. The Board discussed the possibility and decided to keep the current board meeting structure and Winter Workshop dates in January. The Board decided they will ask new Board members to attend the December Board meeting, if possible, to just observe the meeting. They would also like the departing Board members to hand over their Board books to the new Board members and pass on important information at that time. The Board also decided the January meeting should be a welcome meeting for new Board members. The first half-hour, before the business meeting, they will go over protocol. Cindy will ask David Eagan to include this information on future nomination forms.

NAAEE Grant: (Mary). Mary reported that WAEE didn't get the grant. WAEE had requested it for conference funds. No reason was given for the denial from the grant reviewer. Mary will send Kerry a copy.

NEW BUSINESS

Web Site Development: (Kerry for Janet Hutchens). Kerry displayed the new WAEE web page on a screen and presented it to the Board. She clicked through the links and features. The web address is: <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/waee> (for the short cut omit the "cnr"). Paul W. reserved two domain names. Kerry mentioned to the Board that bookmarks have been designed to hand out at the Fall Conference promoting the web page. Cindy reported that Amy Kowalski, the web page designer has requested an additional 10 to 15 hours of work time. A discussion followed. **Motion.** To spend an additional \$150.00 for Amy's salary to complete the web page (Paul D./ Mike). A discussion followed. Paul W. felt WAEE was limiting them with \$150.00. Paul D. amended his original motion to spend "up to" \$250.00 instead. Paul W. seconded the motion. *Passed unanimously.* Cindy discussed WAEE's policy regarding linking to other organizations. The Web Page committee will be responsible for giving the Administrative Assistant updated web information so she can change it from the office computer. Janet asks that the WAEE Board members look over the web page and give her feedback ASAP. Pictures should be submitted to Kerry.

Committee Reports and Budgets:

Membership: (Elizabeth). The Membership Committee is looking for regional one-day outings. Jane Wernecke would like to host a field trip on October 14th, 2000 to the Necedah Wildlife Refuge. The focus will be on the Whopping Crane recovery and observation of the Sandhill Cranes from the Sandhill outdoor tower. Elizabeth asked for Board support. The Board agreed.

Awards: (Cindy for Clayton Russell). Cindy announced the award winners for 2000. The Student Award goes to John Haley and Jennifer Cain (\$100.00 each). The Earthguard Award goes to the Marquette High School Science Club (\$100 to be used for the purchase of EE materials). The Educator of the Year Award 6-12 goes to Larry Manic, at the Tri-County Area School District. The Non-formal Educator of the year goes to Rodney Rhode at the Wausau School Forest. Further consideration is currently being given to the Pre K- 8 category. Clayton revised the awards flyer per the Board's request from last year. Cindy will edit and review the awards brochure and get back to Clayton.

Networking: (Paul W). Paul reported that he would be meeting with Pat Marinac, Sterling Strathe, Kerry Eastman, Phyllis Peri and Al Stenstrup on August 21st, 2000 at the WAEE office. They will be discussing ways to link with other EE organizations. Paul will send the Board a report after the meeting.

Management: (Cindy). Cindy has been condensing old fall conference binders. Pat and Cindy will be meeting to go over the policy book to make it into a resource.

Elections: (Cindy for David Eagan). David has put together a nomination form. Cindy passed it around to the Board members for review. A mailing will go out to all WAEE members before the conference.

Fall Conference 2000: (Geoffrey). Cindy asked that each committee promote and share what they do at the annual membership meeting during the fall conference. Geoffrey reported that the registration forms have been sent out. So far only 9 people have registered. He praised his wonderful planning committee. He stated there would be leaders for every activity, that his staff will be helping as volunteers and that "teams of people" will be visible to help the attendees. He is requiring that each person fill out a registration form, even if they get free registration or lodging. Everyone will have to pay for food. Posters were sent promoting the conference to major university campuses. The Nature Center Fair and Exhibit has grown significantly. Lots of events are planned. Each person staying in a room will have to pay a registration fee. Children will pay the student rate.

Winter Workshop 2001: (Cindy for Mike Anderson). Mike Anderson will head the Winter Workshop, with Geoffrey's staff helping out. The Winter Workshop will be January 26th-28th, 2001 at Treehaven in Tomahawk, WI.

Midwest Fall Conference 2001: (Cindy for Jim McGinity). Jim will chair the conference. A Co-chair is still needed. The conference will be October 19th, 20th and 21st 2001 at the Salvation Army Wonderland Camp and Conference Center, in Camp Lake WI. Paul D. described the facility as very nice, and that it meets and exceeds WAEE's needs. Cindy reported that the Midwest Fall Conference 2000 was canceled this year. Geoffrey told the Board that 2 years ago he had sent a proposal to EE Chairs in Illinois, Minnesota and Ohio suggesting there be a Midwest Conference every four years. He did not get any response. Cindy will contact representatives from the other states.

EE Barter Network: (Kerry). Kerry displayed the web site for the EE Barter Network for the Board. She explained the registration process. Individuals register as a resource EE specialist on behalf of an organization. Credit is given to that organization if selected to barter. You need to be a member of Ed Gateway to participate. Please contact Kerry if you would like help registering. Kerry also offered to do a presentation on the Barter Network at the Fall Conference. Cathy will get a contact name for each Midwest liaisons and send registration information to them.

EE News Articles: (Cindy). The deadline to submit articles is September 10th. Cindy will contact people regarding the following possible articles:

- WAEE History – Susan Gilchrist
- WCEE 10 Year Anniversary –Randy Champeau
- Web Promotion – Web Committee
- Winter Workshop – Mike Anderson
- Fall Conference Report and Pictures –Geoffrey Bishop

Motion: to adjourn. (Geoffrey /Mary). *Approved unanimously.*

Meeting *adjourned* at 3:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy MackKay