

August 11, 2002 Meeting

College of Natural Resources, Stevens Point, WI

10:55 Call to Order (Paul)

Members Present: Paul Denowski, Mary Vymetal-Taylor, Mary Pardee, Michael Anderson, David Swanson, Rebecca Clarke, Gail Epping and Jim McGinity

Board Members not Present: Amanda Dworak and Colleen Robinson

Approval of Minutes from last Board Meeting: A request that in future Mary's names be written out and action items be highlighted. *Jim motions to approve. Rebecca seconds. All in favor.*

Public Input: None

Treasurer's Report: (Mary Pardee) Reviewed the fiscal report for June through August. The deficit for Administrative Assistant is due to paying the April through June quarterly bill.

Administrative Assistant Report: (Christy) The following tasks have been completed: August renewals have been sent out, the taxes have been sent to the accountant, Fall Conference planning has begun, a flyer for the Fall Conference was sent out bulk mail, Work Study position was updated and posted to the Millennium system, NAAEE Grant work has begun.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: (Paul)

We received office supplies and dry erase easel from EPA. Administrative Assistant contract was renewed. The fringe benefits package was increased to 36% from 34%.

Winter Workshop (Dave)

Dave has a theme, Community, with all things. Track ideas are Sharing, Participating and Connecting. Experiential educational activities would fall into Participating. Connecting would fall into character education. Keynotes are still unsure. Aldo Leopold message really fits with this conference theme. Dave would like to get six presenters and request that they share what special moment got them into EE.

Fall Conference 2002 (Mary Vymetal-Taylor)

Review the Conference Planning Team. Programs Chair is looking for feedback on the Tracks and are we comfortable with the layout. Do we have enough in the Tech Track? Board seems to feel that the Sessions look good. Board recommends that Programs focus on Technology but mostly make sure the tracks are good. Registration form is reviewed. Board is asked to view the numbers for registration. Overall consensus is that the numbers look good.

Student Report (Colleen or Amanda): Not present.

Membership Committee: (Mary Vymetal-Taylor) Nothing to report.

Networking: (Gail/Michael)

Contact list has been compiled for media contacts. The list is extensive and was completed by the Student Members. Mike stated that the awards choices have been made and the Board will receive an update shortly.

Liaisons Reports

Nature and Environmental Center Section (Jim)

Kathe received a grant to put contacts online. Jim has worked with Kathe on NatureNet.

NAAEE (Mary Vymetal-Taylor)

NAAEE just finished the conference. Mary has posted our vote on the internet. There is discussion regarding the affiliate position and how the process of communication is handled. Do we want to continue doing things as we have been? Board will look into contacting other parties attending the NAAEE conference to at least participate for us. The next conference will be held in Alaska. **Paul has been designated to contact Mike Flitter regarding the affiliate position and the future of it within WAE.**

Midwest Conference Leadership Clinic Team (Paul)

A group from WAE will be going to the Leadership Clinic. The following participants will be attending: Paul Denowski, Jim McGinity, Mary Pardee, Mary Vymetal-Taylor, Gail Epping, Kathe Crowley Conn, Susan Ermer and Korie Klink. The final costs will be sent some time in the future. The team will be meeting prior to the conference and promoting the fact that WAE will be attending. They will discuss the national and statewide issues. The team will be looking for strategies and ideas for improvement for the WAE organization.

PLT Liaison Report (Susan Gilchrist)

PLT in WI is developing a short collection of activities for preschoolers and kindergartners. At the facilitator conferences this year we got to observe an expert working with young children doing movement and rhythms. The PLT effort seems like an exciting model for expansion for many of the EE programs we work with. PLT could piggyback with WAE for the initiative to further this new audience.

Unfinished Business

Midwest Conference Planning Grant (Paul)

EPA approved the Midwest Conference Planning Grant. WAE is looking for teams of three people from each state as representatives. They are currently working on the team from

Wisconsin. The September meeting is an overnight meeting and will be held in Southern WI. The groups will meet to discuss the future of the Midwest Conference. Minnesota and Illinois have their teams assembled.

WEEB Grant (Paul)

Mary has presented a proposal to take on management of the WEEB Grant. The overall Board consensus is that we move forward with Mary's proposal. We will be working on a plan to move forward with the grant with Mary as the Program Chair. *Gail motions that we move forward with the grant and accept Mary's proposal to complete the Grant. Mary Pardee seconds. All in favor. 7 in favor, 1 abstained. Motion passed.*

Scholarship Policy (Paul)

The Board suggests that a committee be established and a proposal be brought to the next Board meeting to discuss. *Mike motions that we review the Policy from the March Board Meeting and accept it as stated. Gail seconds.* Board reviews the two past Board Meeting Minutes and finds that things are unclear. **Mike, Jim and Dave will work on a Policy for the next Board Meeting.** Pat Marinac interjects that this has been an ongoing problem from way back and suggests that you just begin from now. She states that a Policy Manual has been discussed historically but never completed.

WEEB Update (Pat Marinac)

WEEB had the summer meeting. The strategic plan that they had been working from is about 5 years old and they are revisiting it. Grant program has suffered dramatically. WEEB has lost most of the general fund. Forestry and Energy will be the primary grants. The general grants will be restricted to \$5000.00 or less. Another significant change is that the 50% restriction for site enhancement has been raised to 75% for the school districts that have school forest. There is a slim to none chance that there will ever be a general fund. WEEB will need to move forward in garnering funds from private institutions to go toward the general fund. Rick Koziol is staying on as the Chair and has asked that people from WAEE be involved. Rick would like to visit with members at the Fall Conference to give information regarding the focus of WEEB.

New Business

Board Member Resignation (Paul)

Paul reads Rhonda's resignation. *Gail moves that we accept the resignation. Mike seconds. All in favor.* Paul then states we have two responses for the Board Position. The first is Nancy Saulsbury of Rutabaga Outdoor Programs. Paul reads her application. The second is Pat Boshen of Niagara School. Paul reads her application. Board discusses the strengths of both applicants and wishes they had two positions to give. The Board states that whomever is not chosen should strongly be encouraged to apply for the Board position during the upcoming elections due to the strong background of both. After much discussion and Nancy Saulsbury is elected as the new Board Member. Paul will make the announcements.

Administrative Position

Christy asks the Board to rescind her resignation and the board accepts.

Work Study Position (Paul)

Mike motions that we amend the position be upped to a \$300.00. Mary Pardee seconds. All in favor. Motion passed.

Conference Registration Form (Paul)

Board reviews the Registration form. Board requests that the Scholarship information be placed on the form. Board states that the scholarships will be roughly 50% of the average cost. The Board suggests that the lodging be upped by \$5.00 and the meals go up by \$1.00. Board suggests that we review the Student fee. Board thinks the Registration Fee should be upped by \$5.00 across the board on fees. *Rebecca motions that the all Registration fees be raised by \$5.00 with the exception of Student Fees (which are to be at \$15.00). Gail seconds. Motion approved.*

Conference Alcohol Policy

Board discusses at length the liability issues that would be present if WAEE purchases liqueur. Board feels WAEE should not purchase alcohol. *Gail motions that we recommend to the conference committee that WAEE not purchase alcohol with member funds. Jim seconds. Motion passed.*

Board Involvement with Fall Conference

Paul requests that each Board Member solicit an Auction Item with an approximate value of \$50 or more to show support for the Conference Committee. Mary Vymetal-Taylor will e-mail a list of Conference Committee chairs to all Board Members.

NAAEE Grant (Mary)

Mary updated the Board on the status of the NAAEE Grant.

Next Years Fall Conference Site

Mary Pardee volunteers to find a site and a theme for the 2003 Fall Conference. Paul states anyone that has ideas should e-mail Mary.

Election Timeline

David Eagan will coordinate the elections. Gail requests that we put something in EE News regarding the elections.

WEAC Conference

Gail or Rebecca may be able to staff the booth. **Christy will forward on the booth and time information to all when WAEE receives it.**

Future Conference Structure

Paul asks that we put some thought into how we can fulfill conference needs with Board Positions.

EE News Articles

Mike Anderson was looking into an EE Center or Organization. Dave will work on the Board Article and Winter Workshop. Dave Eagan will be asked to do something on Elections. Paul is doing letter regarding Grants. All articles are due to Paul by September 1st.

Budget (Mary)

Board reviews the handouts from Mary regarding the Budget.

Fall Conference

Who is handling the Auction? The Board will wait to hear who will be organizing the Auction items. This is usually the Special Events chair.

Next Meeting

Breakfast Meeting at 7:00 a.m. at the Fall Conference.

*Motion to adjourn Mary Vymetal-Taylor. Mary Pardee seconds.
Motion passed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Christy Allar