
AGENDA
1) Welcome & Introductions

2) 2007 Annual Meeting Minutes Review

3) Status & Accomplishments
   a) Treasurer’s Report
   b) Benefaction Program
      i) Investment Plan
   c) Membership Update
      i) Chapter-International membership classes
   d) 2007 Conference Report
   e) 2008 Inland Northwest Symposium Report
   f) Student Guild Report
      i) Seattle
      ii) Montana

4) New Business
   a) Bylaws & Policies Updates
   b) Board meeting schedule
      i) Oct 18, 2008
      ii) Feb 14, 2009
      iii) May 19, 2009
      iv) Aug 01, 2009
      v) Oct 17, 2009
   c) Annual Meeting in Lynnwood, WA (May 19-22, 2009)
   d) Future Conference in Tri Cities? (Fall 2010?)

5) Elections – 2008
6) Chapter Awards
7) Comments from the Floor
8) Adjourn

AGENDA review--
Meeting started at 9:45 am
1) Welcome and introduction
All board members excepting Barry Southerland and Cara Nelson were in attendance at the annual general meeting. Also attending were the following: Members at large from the newly formed student guilds - Greg Peterson and Sarah Carvill from U Montana and Liam, Laura and Ben Peterson from U Washington. Cheryl Lowe from the Whidbey Camano Land Trust also attended. Introductions were made by all.

2) Minutes
Minutes were summarized from the April Board meeting, having been sent out by email earlier.

3) Treasurers report
Have $9,297.73 currently in the bank, reflects check to Lynwood Convention Center
Have $1,000 in pending obligations (Lynwood check).
In CD- $51,108 at 2.2%. Will come up for renewal in about 2 weeks.
We have decided to invest part of that vigorously and part of that conservatively. Of 75% to be diverted to investment, 2/3 invest into the aggressive fund. Jake to talk more about that later.

Reimbursements will made for park entrance fee in addition to mileage.

Rob Taylor asked about investment fund and problem of paying fees to mutual fund management. Suggested looking to lower fee options. Jake says we found a firm, Sound Investments, heavily invested in resource protection. Frank is looking into fees. We will invest in a no load mutual fund so no fund fee, but we will pay for financial counseling.

Idea is to set up an informal endowment fund that could fund students scholarships for SERNW activities and other appropriate environmental training and research. Question about where we get most of our money. All of our money comes from conferences. Our current balance is a result of success of conference in Yakima and Vancouver and design to dirt workshops.

SERI’s contribution is hosting our website and taking in memberships, ballots. We did not get an updated Chapter membership list.

2) Old Business

Conference 2007 Report
Expected attendance of 350, and budgeted accordingly, we got 500, netted about $25K. Entered into partnerships and engaged in profit-sharing with other organizations for the Conference.

We need cash reserve for risk protection for these Conferences. We have currently signed contracts for $30K to secure venue and support services for next Conference.

Comments that this was a good meeting. Good talks, great food. There were 35 people on organizing committee. Most comments were positive. Lily requested information from Conference for the website, such as resources that were handed out. Requested that Lily put out request for types of stuff she is looking for.

Comment from Becky is that cost of attending the conference is a little high and for university
people this could wipe out your travel budget. Jake discussed what the actual cost per person is for the Lynwood conference.

**2008 Inland Northwest Symposium Report**

Report from Rebecca Brown who organized conference. SERNW provided $1,000 in sponsorship. The Conference was a big success, with 50 expected participants and 150 in actual attendance. Outreach was aided by a list supplied by Jim Hansen from SERNW Conferences and 3000 emails were sent out advertising the event. There were 35 speakers. Kept costs down using university venue.

Feedback was that attendees would like to have a conference in future years, but Rebecca doesn’t want to host annually, and is looking for others to take it up. Frank mentioned that he heard positive things about the Conference from folks he happened to be on a field trip with in Idaho, later in the Spring.

**Student Guilds**

Report from each Guild of their status and accomplishments

**Seattle (U Washington)** –

They have established 3 committees:

1) Outreach- They are planning a fall speaker series to find students interested in restoration topic. May be interested in having folks from the SERNW Board come and talk.

2) Restoration Project- Decided they wanted to take on a Restoration project to involve particularly undergraduate students

3) SERNW 2009 Conference- The person working on this wasn’t at the meeting, but will be networking with Jake. Student guilds have been asked to run poster session for the Conference.

**Montana (U Montana)**-

Have 3 founding members and have a mission statement. They have not gotten as far with planning due to summer break. Want to organize work days on restoration projects around campus and Missoula. They are also thinking of speaker series. They need to build membership. Jake pointed out we can use our website to portal to Student Guild web-sites if they get ones established.

**3) Board elections**-

It was decided to seat the board before undertaking votes on other Old Business such as Investments. Jake did not get a final report from SERI on membership, but election had enough votes one day prior to end time to be ratified. Postions filled as follows:

Program VP – Jonathan Scherch from Antioch U.
Treasurer – Reelected Frank Reckendorf
Publications – Reelected Lily Wescott
Director at Large – Rebecca Brown (Eastern Wa University) (Position 4, replacing Bob Korflage)
Director at Large – Barry Southerland (NRCS – Portland) (Position 3, Replacing Kat Strathman)
Director at Large – Rob Taylor (Nature Conservancy) (Position 5, replacing Tom Elliot)

Board positions are two year terms. Next year election will be for President, Executive VP, Secretary, and Directors at Large Lauren Urgenson, and Lisa Dunham. Jake noted he will be asking the Board quarterly for their volunteer hours. 40 hour commitment annually is what is requested of board members.

Farewell as Board members to Tom Elliot, Katrina Strathman, Bob Korflage and Jim Hansen. Jim will be continuing to serve the chapter as Conference Chair of Technical Sessions for the 2009 Conference.

Jake passed around a list of Committee participation (assignment) opportunities. These exist due to the change in board composition (see attached for resultant committee assignments).

4) Investment Planning
Jake needs a vote by the Board to sign the authorization to open an investment account with Sound Investments for an initial amount of :$42,000 . A motion was made by Allison Warner, with a second by Ali Wick. A unanimous vote was taken in favor of establishing an account with this firm.

5) New Business

a) Bylaws and Policy Statements
Jake had sent out a proposed revision to SERNW’s Policy Statements. The revision items were reviewed for the meeting.

Policy Statement #2 – (Added) Member categories. – No change on cost of membership except for Organizational was lowered to $50 from $70. A member category of free Associate membership was added to make any SERI Basic member a member of our Chapter. A problem has existed where we don’t know who are SERI members that aren’t chapter members within our Cascadia Bioregion, due to privacy laws affecting SERI membership. By adding this membership, we should be able to send notices to all SERI members residing in our region as well.

Policy Statement #3 (Changed from #2 to #3) Travel Reimbursements- The mileage reimbursement rate is proposed to be raised from .14/mi to .295/ mile due to the increased price of gas. If you take a mileage rate deduction as an expense on your Federal Taxes, you are still only allowed 0.14/mile. At .295 rate, Jake estimates Board members should break even on gas, at a mileage of 20 mi/gallon.

Policy Statement #5 – Bylaws Committee - a sentence was added that the Bylaw committee will annually review the bylaws in preparation for the Annual meeting.

Motion by Frank R. to adopt new Policies.
Second by Jonathan Scherch.
Voted by Majority to revise Policies as proposed.
Effective date is date of Adoption Aug 2.

b) Board meeting schedule
Jake set tentative dates for the Board meeting Schedule over the coming year. After discussion the suggested dates were accepted and tentative meeting locations were established.
   i. October 18, 2008 – Pullman
   ii. February 14, 2009 Seattle, Achor Environmental Offices
   iii. May 19, 2009 – Lynnwood Conference meeting (combine with Annual meeting)
   iv. August 01, 2009 – Crater Lake
   v. October 17, 2009 – Yakima or Wenatchee
It was suggested that we return to Rainier for the August 1 meeting next year, however, it was pointed out that the location had been chosen to coincide with a field trip. An alternate location for a similar campout was requested. Due to the fact that the meeting was getting close to the end of the time frame, no discussion was held further for the appropriate location.

c) Over view of Lynnwood 2009 SERNW Conference
(See attached handout)
Jake gave an overview of conference.
Contract is now in place with WSU for registration, programs. Ali Wick has prepared sponsorship and exhibitor packets.
See handout for schedule. Sept 15 is first call for papers, Jan. 15 is first call for registration. March 15 the program is to be finalized and April 15, Program will go to printer.

Lauren asked if there was anything that could be done to reduce the student rate. Discussion of student rate ensued. $210 is at cost. Ideas to make conference have better attendance by students: request sponsors for student attendance. Jonathan Scherch suggested finding an academic institution to host, to offer credits, such as through Antioch. Jonathan will develop a proposal so students can get course credit for attending. The question was raised if students couldn’t volunteer to help at the conference to attend. Jake responded that he would prefer to have students attend as attendees, rather than have to volunteer; would like to see dedicated funds to make that happen. A subcommittee is needed to figure that out. Jonathan Scherch will head up.

d) New SERNW Brochure for XXXX Conference to be attended by Jim Hansen.
Jim passed out the flyer. Motion by Frank Reckendorf to empower Jim to produce flyer. A budget of up to $200 was approved for this purpose.

e) Future conference in Tri-Cities, Fall 2010
   Jim has researched the location for the next Biennial conference. The Three Rivers Convention Center would be a very adequate location. Perhaps this could be the location for the next Riparian Restoration conference.

f) Chapter Awards
Unable to prepare awards for this meeting. Jake asked that we prepare awards to be announced at Lynnwood meeting next May. The committee was expanded to include Rebecca, Jim Hansen and Jonathan Scherch.
E) Comments from the floor

Board dismissed at 12:00pm.

NOTE- SEE ATTACHED STRATEGIC PLANNING 2008 ACTION ITEMS AND WHERE WE ARE AT WITH THEM HALF WAY THROUGH THE FIRST FYEAR.

Group that participated in field tour with Julie Hover of High Meadow restoration sites on Mt. Rainier, met at Sunrise picnic area following meeting
ACTION ITEM SUMMARY
SERNW BOARD STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING
FROM JANUARY 2008

COMMUNICATIONS/WEBSITE COMMITTEE
-Schedule of board members to provide content or to just look at website and make 3 suggestions. NOT YET DONE
-Propose policies for what could be posted.
-Weed manual publishing proposal- DROPPED AT LAST BOARD MEETING

BYLAWS COMMITTEE.
Review Bylaws- a gas re-imbursement is currently at 14 cents per mile, probably too low- need proposal for new mileage terms – NEW MILEAGE ENACTED AT AUG 08 MEETING

AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE--
-Develop a scholarship program including guidelines - administer scholarships
-Manage award program PENDING

STUDENT GUILD COMMITTEE
-Link community needs with restoration practitioners and researchers (students and professional)
-Develop student guild program by inviting student leaders to attend annual meeting. DONE-

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
-Lynnwood Conference
-Policy track and peer review, support for SER primer IN DEVELOPMENT

BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
-Ensure geographic distribution of Board. Attempt to secure board members from Oregon and eastern Washington. DONE – BOARD MEMBERS FROM SEATTLE, AND BOTH EASTERN WASHINGTON AND NORTHEAST OREGON BOARD MEMBERS ADDED.

ADHOC COMMITTEE- DEVELOP FINANCIAL PLAN
Ali, Cara, Jake, Frank, Kat. - PROPOSAL DEVELOPED AND CARRIED FORWARD - INVESTMENT AUTHORIZED AT AUG 2008 MEETING.