SERNW Chapter Board Conference Call Meeting
April 24, 2008  7pm -8:30pm
Minutes prepared by Allison Warner

Respectfully submitted, April 28, 2008
Final minutes with corrections May 31, 2008

Board members present: Jim Hansen, Ali Wick, Lauren Urgenson, Bob Korflage, Jake Jacobson, Katrina Strathman, Frank Reckendorf, Tom Elliot.

Board members absent: Cara Nelson, Lisa Dunham, Lily Westcott

AGENDA review--
Meeting started on time.  No changes suggested.

1) Treasurers report

Have 9,403.62 currently, includes EPP deposits and payouts
Have 3,700 in obligations before the end of the year
In CD- $50,822, at 2.2%

2) Old Business

Bylaws- No report

A) Summer meeting- August 2-3  Allison
Jake inquired of the Board the number of folks that would be attending.  We have a quorum as at least 6 Board members said they would plan to be there.  Allison inquired for ideas as to possible contacts for field trips as she has not been successful in making contact with the Research Biologist at Mt St Helens.  Tom suggested Julie Hover from the National Park Service at Mt. Rainier.  He would provide the information to Allison to contact her.
Need final location by May 20 to advertise

B) AWARDS-
The committee has focused on scholarship program establishment. Jake noted that our policies ask us to make three awards annually. Need these and they will be awarded at the summer meeting and announced at our 2009 conference

Board members are asked to provide proposed names for the awards to the committee for selection; Jake will provide name for President’s award.

B) Board development-
Frank added Barry Southerland from NRCS-from Portland so we get someone Federal or State agency

Jake bought up process - we should put the folks on the list in the order we want them asked.
C) Long range planning
There was a general discussion on developing goals towards establishing dedicated funding for certain activities such as scholarships and grants. We decided to set aside 75% of current assets and 75% of new net revenues until we have accumulated $100,000. Capital appreciation and interest from this account will be used to support these activities. Kat is preparing a one page summary of this, and Jake and Ali will seek the advice of an investment counselor. After this intermediate goal is reached, the chapter’s growth efforts will expand to include resources for organizational support. Still to be determined how to partition earnings beyond $100 K.

3) NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

A) SCHOLARSHIPS
Working on ads right now- 3 that will be spread throughout the region. Will try to get them out by May 1. Research grant. Paying for supplies and costs-

B) STUDENT GUILD
Over 50 Students in several different departments- have structure set up(Pres, etc) and 3 committees:
- Liaison-?? participate in annual meeting
- Restoration projects on campus
- Events/Outreach SERNW Conference in April-projects- possibly taking over poster session

Montana Guild- 13 Students that will be geared up in the Fall.

$250 was raised and paid to SER- in fall can apply as a Student Org on Campus for supplies etc. Frank suggested they look at matching funds with SERNW

C) INVESTMENT FUND- Already covered

D) WEBSITE/WEED MANUAL- Web publishing
Lisa, Lily and Kat
Simplifying website, making it more user friendly
Making less Board oriented
Several pieces of the website are time-sensitive- whether we should continue those since we don’t update them constantly-the committee decided to move toward links to other websites.
Weed manual- Jake will table it until he has time to look into it. Committee did talk about it briefly- agreed it was a very big project- we could partner with another organization and contribute to it through funding.
Allison brought up that in the SERNW archives there was documentation for a database of restoration projects- some discussion ensued- Global Restoration Network is a database already set up by SERI. Frank mentioned though that we need a regional one- Lauren says that the GRN can be queried - Sno County has a Salmon Retoration project one Some discussions about linking
our website to the available databases, which is the approach the committee had decided on. Also about job announcements- would switch to links to job websites as it is too big a project for Lily to continually update job announcements.

E) Fall LWD Workshop-Still in early planning.
F) Next Conference-
Native Plant Society has not accepted our invitation to co-sponsor
Total burden of all organizational things in our corner
Jake has not completed the contract because we need the volunteers to fill the conference committee
Session stuff is easy to fill
Ali had an idea and made an inquiry –the local AFS Chapter is planning a spring 2009 conference in April- maybe interested in partnering.

Another thing is date- Week in April we picked is Native Plant week- doesn’t work for NPS. Should we move the date out to May?
Several individuals on the NPS board want to help with sessions, but Gary Smith will not coordinate overall technical sessions.
Restructured what that position would have to do- lessen the abstract review- but they do have to coordinate all the abstracts.

Allison suggested we hold off until we hear AFS response, then look at changing date, and trying to fill committee from a number of organizations. WDFW is interested in partnering and could coordinate field trips very likely.

Jake wants to know do we have 5 Board members committed to major committee work. Ali has offered to do sponsorships again, Allison will help with whatever is needed on the committee- food, sponsorships or advertising. Jim Hansen hesitantly will do Technical oversight over the 3 Technical chairs, with 3 tracks- still need a leader to bring all the stuff together. Frank offered to do workshops. Need 3 Technical session chairs.

Will wait to hear from AFS before signing contract.
If AFS says no, may still sign contract, Jake says we still can do it in his opinion.

Conference Committee - will meet early June-- propose meeting date to AFS

Final business: Clarification on Candidate asks for Board—Ali will send out assignments for calling.

Board dismissed at 8:30pm.