SERNW Monthly Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 14
6 PM-8 PM
Conference call 605-475-6700 Access code 315192

Board Members present: Allison Warner (President), Barry Southerland (Executive Vice President), Janice Martin (Program Vice President), Frank Reckendorf (Treasurer), Jim Hallett (SEI Rep), Alaine Sommargren (Publications), Adrien Elseroad (Director at large Position 1), Joshua Chenoweth (Director at large Position 2), Keith Nevison (Director at large Position 3), Rolf Gersonde (Director at large Position 4), Ray Entz (Director at large Position 5), Betsy Bermingham (Secretary), and Danielle Berardi (Student Guild Rep)

I. Board Administration
   1. Meeting Minutes: were approved
   2. Treasurers Report: NatureBridge reservation: $460 was paid leaving a balance of $1270 for the fall workshop. We have obligated ourselves for $1800. The minimum balance (for 12 attendees) is due 30 days before the event. The event will be held October 18-20th.
   3. Latest Chapter Report May 1, 2013 - SERNW has 166 members

II. Old Business:
   1. Ballots due May 17 – we’re right on schedule, we can report within the next few weeks with results. Alaine, Betsy and Janice will talk with Barry about the ballot counting process after the meeting.
   2. Director’s Insurance – our insurance agent feels we should have this coverage. This would entail a $1 million liability coverage and for attorney’s fees there is no maximum; the coverage has an annual premium of $664. This would make our total insurance bill about $1000. The type of coverage we have does not cover the directors if someone decides to sue us. Frank would support this coverage. Barry would like to know what SER thinks about this. Frank would like to know if SER could get a policy and the chapters pay them.

III. Recurring Business
   1. Strategic Communications Team
      a. Restoration Highlights-Elwha article, Joshua is on board to write an article we will need the article within the next month.

   2. Program Committee
      a. Restoration Walks: Seattle: Union Bay Natural Area on Saturday, June 1st: at Discovery Park, on June 15th we have one at the Burke Gilman trail. Portland: Environmental Services, August 24th, 9am
IV. Conference 2014 Discussion

a. Rolf discussed the potential partners that were contacted. Frank asked if professional organizers can negotiate lower prices with venues. Rolf will check on this.

b. Janice went over some of the upcoming conferences. We are looking at fall of 2014 as a good time frame in terms of getting good participation and sufficient sponsorships.

c. Allison went over potential partners and the decision for the location and topics. Allison is in favor of doing an eastside Oregon conference. We did have a strong response from SER-GB.

d. Frank asked about NRCS. Allison noted this suggestion came from Trevor and Nancy. Barry noted that funding has been an issue but we can reach out to NCRS.

e. Frank noted that we really need someone to step up and chair the conference for 2014 because if our potential partners do not have money, the financial risk will fall on SERNW. Keith suggested talking with Nancy from SER-GB more. There might be willingness (especially given upcoming retirements) for her to chair or co-chair the conference. At this point it is the most viable option we have. Barry agrees. Allison thinks Nancy will bring Forest Service support with her; Allison would be interested in focusing on forestry for the conference; we have some potential partners with PNW Research Station and also Nancy works with the Forest Service. A break-even is about 200 participants so Allison appreciates the financial input from Frank, this is a very important aspect.

f. Barry asked how many GB members? About 40 members. Barry said we might involve GB and a third partner as well to make it work in Bend.

g. Adrien clarified that the conference location is in Redmond. The concept sounds great to her; she knows that GB doesn’t have a huge membership but Nancy Shaw has a great reputation in the region and there are a lot of possibilities for bringing in a large number of participants. She would prefer this location over Eugene. Barry agreed that the location sounds great.

h. Adrien would be willing to help out, but can’t co-chair. Rolf would be interested in playing a strong role in conference planning, especially the forest restoration piece. Keith is not willing to be a lone-co chair, but is willing to take on a strong role (like Rolf). Allison would like to discuss this aspect within the program committee.

i. Votes for Bend/Redmond: Rolf, Betsy, Alaine (either), Ray, Janice, Josh, Danielle, Adrien, Jim

j. Votes for Eugene: Alaine (either)

k. Benchmarks? Rolf will organize. Frank suggested decide whether we will have a conference organizer and identify co-chairs. Allison would like to have a third partner identified.

2. Next meeting June 18, 6-7 pm (3rd Tuesday)