



Central Rockies SER Meeting Summary

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

CSU: Forestry 114

Call number: [970-491-2612](tel:970-491-2612)

In attendance: Mark Paschke, Jessie Dillon

Calling in: Valarie Thompson (member, hoping to connect with restoration folks in the community), Randy Mandel, Jessie Dillon, Cini Brown, Casey Cisneros, Tim Hoelzle, Drew Rayborn and Irene Webber (Jefferson County open space), Tim Seastedt, Megan Bowes, Chris Benches, Jessie Olson, Susan Sherrod

1) President's Report

- Mark – Brett is unable to join us until later but he will join us shortly.
- New name for our chapter is on the horizon
 - The subject has been broached with SER national
 - We would change our name to Rocky Mountain chapter. Other chapters are very supportive of the name change. Mark will contact folks at national and take steps to move forward with this. Any questions or concerns?
 - Cini – What are the other chapters that would have concerns with this?
 - Pacific northwest, Great Basin, and the Desert Southwest chapters.
 - Wyoming is with us and MT is with Pacific Northwest.
- CeRSER Board of Directors elections update: Nomination period open through April 6th!
- Working to develop a process for the two student rep board positions.

2) SER Global Update

- Randy Mandel and Magda Garbowski elected to SER Board of Directors!
 - Good luck with our service with the board.
- Reminder: SER 2018 North American Continental Conference: *Spokane, WA, October 15-19, 2018.*
 - This conference will be held in conjunction with the Society for Wetland Scientist conference in the region
 - Get this on your calendar if you're interested.
- Update from March 21st SER Chapter Relations Working Group conference call (Jessie)
 - The call was well organized and a lot was covered.
 - Website: SER is working on a restoration resources website
 - This will be a place to input projects and ideas.
 - Ideally folks will be able to search the database for information about projects/methods.
 - Membership: There was a lot of talk about membership and what chapters can do to retain and attract new members.
 - Social media tools can be helpful and folks shared tips about how to create engaging posts.
 - As a chapter we should emphasize the return on investment to keep current members engaged and attract new members to the society.

- Event Registration: Lastly the group talked about event registration. Chapters may be able to use the SER platform to do this.

3) Treasurer's report

- Currently we have \$18,705 in our bank account.
 - \$1,200 is encumbered by checks yet to be deposited
 - CeRSER awarded its first scholarship to student for \$500.
 - The \$500 scholarship was a travel scholarship.
 - How many scholarships are we looking to award each year (Drew)?
 - Three \$500 scholarships will be awarded to students and four \$250 to professionals.

4) Secretary's report

- We currently have 123 members - up from last time.

5) Scientific Meeting Committee Report (Randy)

- We are anxiously awaiting getting together as a group.
- Mark may have potential contacts for keynotes from prior conferences. Randy will move forward with contacting folks.
- Mark has been in touch with conference services.
- As before, this will be a joint meeting with HAR.
 - HAR will move forward with their own planning and hopefully the groups can align plans soon.
- Drew Rayburn hopes he can be of assistance.
 - When its get closer he (and others from Jefferson County) are willing to help out.
 - Randy – we will take you up on that. It becomes a relatively light lift because so many people help out and because CSU conference services are really helpful.
 - **Action Item: Anyone who wants to get involved should contact Randy.**
 - Mark – what will likely happen, Drew, is there will be a call for people to join subcommittees and folks will help out with these tasks. People self-select which committees they want to be a part of and get tasks divided out. Everyone reports to Randy.
 - Val is also happy to help out!

6) Student Guild Report

- Joy Zedler Seminar – CSU student guild trip to University of Wyoming (March 30)
 - Magda has requested funding to rent a car for eight SER students to drive up to Laramie together for Joy Zedlers talk on March 30.
 - Motion is to have CeRSER will pay for van to Wyoming trip for Joy Zedler's talk.
 - Magda will work with Casey about reimbursement for the rental.
- Mark: We have students that should be on the call but we rarely hear from them and maybe we should think about the structure of how to interact with the group.
 - We can leave this discussion for another time.

7) Membership committee report (Jessie)

- Enrollment for scholarships is open - please pass on the word.

- Next steps from member survey: Jessie will be in touch with Laura from SER national to find out more about how to get feedback from members.

8) Outreach Committee report

- April 18th Ecological Restoration Leadership and collaboration workshop, Golden, CO
 - Keynotes and panelists have been selected
 - The emphasis of the workshop will be on communication, not necessarily science.
 - A “save the date” has been sent out.
 - Susan is still looking for sponsors
 - Drew - what levels of sponsorship are available?
 - \$500 is the lowest one? Levels were from biannual conference so guidelines may not be appropriate for one-day workshops. We have had some sponsorship for workshops in Denver so maybe Randy remembers what those levels were.
Susan would greatly appreciate references from the past.
 - Mark – basically we are happy to get any sort of sponsorship. If people like to give more we like to recognize them more.
 - Randy – For the joint conference with the American Society of Landscape Architects we just used past examples to decide what to do. Perhaps we should develop actual protocols/guidelines for this.
 - Drew – they can help advertise through communications team in the area.
 - Continue conversation about better integration of our events with SER CERP program.
 - The Leadership workshop may be able to count as “credit” for the certification.
 - **Action item: We should look into whether the leadership workshop can count for SER CERP credit before advertising.**
 - Drew knows this is a great time for the program and they are maximally flexible in getting the program established.
 - Process – you can submit before the event. Drew thinks this will be a form to fill out. If we could get it approved before hand then we could advertise it this way and this could attract more people to attend the event.
- Spring Fort Collins pub talk? Need help organizing
 - Jeremy Sueletenfuss has been involved but we haven’t planned much yet.
- Soapstone prairie tour – next fall?
- Pubtalk in Jackston
 - Micheal Curran and Pete Stahl from the University of Wyoming are thinking about holding one in May June
- Summer field tour – HAR will take the lead.
 - Randy is helping organize.
 - Update from Randy: All key players: NRCS, Colorado Water Conservation Board are on board
 - We are hoping to hold the tour the second week in July and will likely last two days.
 - Currently we are coming up with sites folks are interested in touring.

- CeRSER has offered to host a presentation one of the evenings.
- It is now a matter of talking with HAR about logistics.
- One thing that needs to be worked out is transportation.
 - We had a request that we use buses to move people around.
 - Mark – that’s something we can discuss with HAR that has a connection with CSU to make that happen.
- Susan – CeRSER elections are next month but Susan will hang out and “pass the baton” if the new person needs it. That person will be assisting with the HAR tour organization.
- Randy – There is a lot of buy in from the people involved. Will continue working with watershed coordinators to get things planned and organized.
 - Randy – there have been 67 watershed restoration projects initiated in the Front Range in the last two years. We are proud of how that work has progressed. It will be neat to see the same areas we toured two or three years ago.
- Tim has been working with Randy to identify potential hotel will be. Wondering if they will get a federal discount. They will report back to the group shortly.
 - Randy –Estes Park could be an option of organizing a hotel.
 - Mark – we will get to those details soon.
 - Mark – Susan, thanks for brining outreach committee so far since you’ve started. Its great to see all of the planning and energy.

8) Additional Business

- Elections
 - Several positions need to be filled.
 - Need nominations for communications and secretary nominations?
 - Is this correct?
 - Can we twist arms to get people involved?
 - It would be great to have these vacancies filled.
- SER Restoration Certificate
 - Drew is on the practitioner program review board and is willing to advise on the process and answer questions about this.
 - Mark – I think we are leading the nation with people who are getting certified.