



Central Rockies SER Meeting Summary
Wednesday September 26, 2018
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM MDT
Great Ecology Office
1435 Larimer St., Suite 200, Denver, CO
Call number: +1 (872) 240-3212
GoToMeeting Access Code: 489-047-477

In attendance: Mark Paschke (President), Randy Mandel (Scientific Committee Chair)

Calling In: Casey Cisneros (Treasurer), Michael Curran (Outreach Committee Chair), Jayne Jonas (Communications Committee Chair), Liz Kehm (CSU Student Rep), Jesse Dillon (Vice President)

Regrets: Carla DeMaster (Secretary), Jessie Olson (Membership Committee Chair), Brett Wolk (Past-President)

1. Welcome to our new Student Association reps
 - a. Liz Kehm, CSU chapter
 - b. Emma last name?, UWyoming chapter
2. Approval of past minutes
 - a. Approved 9/5/2018 via email with Board members and available on the website
3. Reports:
 - a. President (Mark)
 - MP: Update on name change to Rocky Mountain chapter. Sent emails to SER leadership. Received response from Bethany yesterday that it will be discussed at the next SER Board Meeting (which is scheduled for 10/13/2018).
 - RM: Will attend SER Board Meeting and support the name change.
 - b. Vice President (Jesse D.)
 - JD: Nothing to report. Will follow-up with Mark re: HAR-CeRSER Conference and CeRSER VP duties
 - c. Secretary
 - JJ on behalf of CD: We currently have 139 members - up from 137 last time (July)
 - d. Treasurer (Casey)
 - Total CeRSER Fund Balance = \$15,849.19
 - 2018 Remaining Outreach Budget = \$1,715.64
 - Balance includes a \$1000 sponsorship from Westervelt Environmental for upcoming Fall 2018 pub talk (TBD Front Range).
 - 2018 Remaining Student Scholarship Budget = \$531.40
 - 2018 Remaining Professional Scholarship Budget = \$1,000
 - e. Scientific Meeting Committee (Randy)
 - RM: Keynote nominations are being voted on by committee. Hope to have invitations out to keynote speakers soon. Next Conference Exec Cmte meeting will be coming up soon (Randy will send out email re: scheduling it by the end of today).

f. Outreach Committee (Michael)

- MC: Pub Talk in Jackson on 9/10/2018. Had only 6 people attend the pub talk.
 - **Action Item: Mike, provide summary and photos of Pub Talk to Jayne for website.**
- MC: Next event will be a Pub Talk last week October or first week of November by Brett Wolk and others at CFRI? at New Belgium Brewing in Fort Collins. Already have \$1000 sponsorship from Westervelt Environmental (as noted in Treasurers report) – would like to have a table to advertise at the Pub Talk, also expecting it to be a Front Range location.
 - MP and RM: Likely to draw a large crowd since it is in Fort Collins and at New Belgium.
 - **Action Item: Mike, check in with Westervelt to be clear about what, if any, expectations are tied to their sponsorship.**
- MC: With extra funds, could possibly do another Pub Talk in 2018 in Greeley?

g. Communications

- JJ: Communications Committee prepared a draft Communications Plan for the Chapter. Primary change being proposed is to begin sending out a monthly newsletter to CeRSER members only, reserve the RESTORATION listserv, which has a broader subscription base, for announcements we want have widely circulated (e.g., event promotion, job advertisements). Member-only newsletter serves as a benefit of membership, while listserv gives us an avenue for wider distribution that may reach some that are not connected with us via social media.
 - MP: Question about reach has been discussed periodically in the past, but never really decided.
 - Discussion among Board about pros/cons of some lines of communications being for members-only. General agreement that the plan is acceptable.
 - MP: Vote on communications plan as submitted. VOTE: Unanimously approved.
 - **Action Item: All Board members, Review plan and send revisions to Jayne.**
 - If significant revisions needed, can revisit at the next Board meeting.

h. Membership Committee

- CC on behalf of JO: Awarded a third student scholarship since the last meeting. One more student award available for 2018. No scholarships have been awarded to professionals yet.
 - Awards have been given to students meeting the guidelines (available on the website).
 - MP:
- **Action Item: Liz and Michael, let CSU and UWy students know that money is still available.**
- **Action Item: Jayne, post announcement recognizing award winners.**

i. Student Associations

- Liz (CSU): 1 Million Tree Initiative started in Spring 2018. Student Guild has trees available in the greenhouse, but needs place(s) to plant them.

- MP: If anyone know of places where they could plant, please let them know.
 - RM: Jessie Olson (LWOG) may have some locations where trees could be planted.
 - CC: Larimer County may have a place near Windsor that could use tree planting.
- CC: What has been done as far as outreach?
 - LK: Main outreach so far has been to CSU students and faculty. A few fliers distributed in Fort Collins.
 - CC: Send out on CeRSER listserv/membership along with a list of species and sizes that are available.
 - LK: Blue spruce, red oak, American elm, Kentucky coffee, [missed some!].
 - RM: Also reach out to Colorado State Forest Service. Most of those species are more for urban settings than wildland uses.
- MP: Two parts of the project – 1) making trees available, 2) producing a website for citizen science engagement.
 - MP: Allows citizens to log monitoring information about trees, students may be able to do some monitoring too eventually.
- JD: Could student guild be asked to grow specific species to meet needs of an outside entity?
 - LK: Yes, eventually that is what they are hoping.
 - JD: Great. Will be in touch.
- RM: How many trees do you have?
 - LK: About 10,000 in the greenhouse at CSU.
- RM: What size?
 - MP: 1-year old (~1 foot, but varies by species).
- MC on behalf of Emma: UWy group has several projects going on too.
 - Growing sagebrush and trying to distribute seedlings.
 - Laramie Greenbelt project funded by Union Pacific Railroad and CH2M. Goal is to create pollinator habitat along RR right-of-way and get certified as a pollinator garden.
- MP: The CSU and UWy student guilds planning to get together and discuss potential collaboration.

4. New business

a. Bylaw revisions

- MP: Sent out proposed changes to Board yesterday (9/25/2018).
- MP: Primary changes: 1) chapter name and 2) student guild membership on the Board
 - Article 1. Changes needed if Chapter name changes to RMSER. This needs to be approved by the SER Board. Track changes reflect those that would be needed if name change is approved.
 - Name change would also require updating 501(c)3 filing and bank information.

- MP: All Chapter printed materials would need to be revised or phased out.
 - MP: Would be best to have the new name in place by the March HAR-CeRSER Conference.
 - Article 2. Objectives
 - MP: Propose removing the methods by which objectives should be met from statement of objectives. As they are now, we are in violation of our by-laws because we aren't doing all of the things that are listed.
 - RM: Agreed.
 - Student Associations (primarily in Article 6, Section 1c and Section 4c)
 - MP: Clauses originally written when there was only 1 student association in our region. Now there are 3 student associations. May not serve the Board well to have reps from each association because the Board becomes too large and harder to reach a quorum for votes. But, we want and value student input and participation in the Chapter and on the Board.
 - MP: Proposed solution is to give a representative from each association *ex officio* status so that they can attend Board meetings, but their attendance would not be required to meet a quorum for Board votes. Provides student associations flexibility to attend or not, designate a single representative to attend Board meetings or let it rotate among students.
 - RM, MC, JJ: Expressed support for this solution
 - RM: Potential downside is that students may feel slighted by this change.
 - LK: Good idea to not have 1 student committed for a full year. CSU Student Guild had a hard time finding a person to fill this role. Possible downside is that students may be less motivated to attend Board meetings if there isn't one person designated to do so.
 - RM: Perhaps our continued support of students (reduced conference rates, scholarships, etc.) may provide sufficient motivation for student engagement.
 - MP: Is there any guidance CeRser should provide to Student Associations about how to choose representatives to attend Board meetings?
 - RM: Leave it up to the Associations.
 - MC: Thinks it will improve Association involvement if all 3 are allowed to attend/engage in Board meetings.
 - MP: Any other Board member have suggested amendments to bylaws? Feel free to make additional edits and circulate via email. Will revisit and possibly vote on revised bylaws at the next Board meeting.
- b. Annual Statements
- MP: According to the bylaws, Board members should sign a statement agreeing to

abide by the conflict of interest statement in our bylaws on an annual basis. This was added when we received 501(c)3 non-profit tax-exemption. Mark created a form using verbiage directly from the bylaws for Board members to review.

- **Action Item: All Board members, read through the form Mark emailed yesterday (same email with the bylaw revisions document) and suggest any changes via email before next meeting.**
- RM: Concern about a potential conflict with student associations [didn't get all of it – something about money changing hand/donations from CeRSER to student guilds?]. With change to student reps being *ex officio* members of the Board should be insulated from this being a problem.

c. Format/dates for future meetings

- MP: Next meeting scheduled for November 28 from 2-3PM.

5. Meeting adjourned at ~3:05PM.