**SER-SW Chapter**

**Board Meeting Agenda**

**Q3 2019**

September 4, 2019

Members:

Molly McCormick <mmccormick@usgs.gov>
Gornish, Elise <egornish@email.arizona.edu>,
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Caity Winterbottom <caw442@nau.edu>

Marci Caballero-Reynolds <marcicr@email.arizona.edu>

# Welcome – new student reps!

1. Caity Winterbottom – second year PhD student at NAU. Studying saguaro cacti. Undergrad work was related to ER. Interested in pollinator restoration.

Student organization meeting last week. Putting out first newsletter to the campus. Scheduling seed planting and snail garden work days. Screen ‘Beaver Believers’ movie on October 4 at the Cline Library.

1. Marci Caballero-Reynolds – U of A Restoration Club; pursuing second bachelor’s degree. Previously worked with Molly, Carianne, working with USGS on CO Plateau. May move to northern AZ.

Club update – installing garden in school building. Built a bike seat pelletizer. Would like to conference call with NAU chapter.

Will include student chapter updates in future meetings.

# Any business to cover from last meeting?

U of A funds of $200 awarded for pollinator garden. Funds will be requested after September 16. Plants will be planted September 30.

Elise suggested we host a student lunch for students attending SER-SW. Molly had put this item in agenda. Would be good to do with student chapter leaders. Could also have separate meeting room/space to get together over coffee. Some of the student volunteers could maybe facilitate. Let’s discuss this at our next conference planning meeting.

# Review Agenda – any new items?

# North American Coordinating Committee (NACC) Update – Shawn

Calls take place every 6 months. Last call was June 20. Bi-ennial conferences – next one is July 7-11, 2020. Looking for partners to host 2022. If interested, Shawn suggested UT/Great Basin. NACC leadership has not provided cost-share structure. More information pending during December call. Partnership fund has $8000 (as of June). Will release RFP to disperse funds.

Shawn’s term ends in November. Will need someone to attend December call.

Carianne liked idea of teaming with Great Basin for event.

Ondrea will give an update on the Chapter Relations Committee (CRC) meeting at our next quarterly meeting. The next CRC meeting is September 9.

# Amended Bylaws: changes reflect current SER MOU & added student reps to board members

Restrictions regarding insurance and business memberships has been removed. Can then apply for grants to do projects. Reminder to student representatives, not a voting position but would like input/feedback.

# Conference – Elise

Abstracts closed Friday. Have ~60 talks, ~30 posters; not counting two symposia and youth panel.

Symposia – arid land restoration, restoration of soil communities, and social perceptions of weed management (this third one not definite yet). Then could have organized lunch around symposia topics (see below).

Next planning meeting will be scheduled soon.

Will propose carbon offsets for the meeting.

Molly was asked about having a sign-up sheet for small groups to get together on specific topics, arid regions, etc. Then they could go to lunch together or that type of thing. Molly asked for topics: want to start your own chapter?, arid region restoration, etc. Have student lunch on Friday. Group lunches on Saturday. Need for a facilitator? Let’s put out the announcement and see what interest there is.

## Student scholarships – Loralee

Student scholarships and travel grants due Oct 1.

No one has applied for the travel grant yet.

Caity noted that students will be carpooling and will be applying.

Loralee suggested could send a follow-up email to registrants or abstract applicants.

# Budget

Vicky created online spreadsheet. We have received 37 registrations for conference so far. Plus we’ll have 80+ speakers that still need to register. Numbers look good.

# Elections –

How do we want to hold elections (during or after the conference)? We have had them at conference, after conference, etc. What would be the best way?

Carianne noted that the conference is a good way to meet candidates and get people excited about voting. Certain positions have to be voted on by the membership. Important that people know the candidates. Nominees could introduce themselves at the conference and talk with people.

Vicky has always handled voting. If it can work timing-wise for candidates to meet people at the conference, that would work best.

Elise suggested that during the poster session, have a table or two that candidates can sit at. ‘Meet the Candidates’ table. ‘I Voted’ stickers.

So we need to get our nominees before the conference or before Friday (11/8/19) of the conference. Put announcement at top of conference packet.

Carianne suggested checking by-laws for nomination period, etc.

Open spots for the next election:

* Representative from NM
* Representative from CA
* Representative from NV
* Representative at-large
* Scott will not be able to represent NV due to work responsibilities. He will have a nomination.
* Loralee will agree to self-nominate for NM.

Molly will send email with specific process (will check by-laws) on how to proceed with nominations. In the past, an email and survey was sent out and receive a bio from the nominations. Goal would be to have these before the conference so that voting can occur prior/during the conference.

Molly will send google survey in next newsletter requesting a bio. Molly will make sure will check by-laws: *If we vote at the conference, we would need to declare it 4 weeks in advance (Oct 11) and have nominations in by Oct 25. If people nominate during the conference, we have to wait to vote until 2 weeks after the conference.*

Ballots can be accepted physically or electronically and be announced within 4 weeks of the voting.

Molly and Ondrea will work together to confirm nominations. Ondrea will check with all candidates to obtain consent. Molly asked that people nominate potential candidates.

# SER Global Conference – anyone going?

Molly’s supervisor Seth Munson is attending. Would like to note any members attending. If attend, should note from SER-SW chapter. If attend, provide write-up for our newsletter.

# Reminder to send newsletter items to Molly

Job announcements, journal articles, etc. Shawn has also been keeping the FaceBook page up to date.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 6 from 12-1:30 MST