



The North Central Chapter

Society of Wetland Scientists

MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA

5:45 – 6:30 PM Atlantic Time, Tuesday, June 6, 2017
San Juan, Puerto Rico
Call in Number: 712-432-0460 access code 341085

1. Call to order and Introductions of Members Present (Jessica Ackerman) 17:52
2. Determination of quorum by Secretary-Treasurer (Jessica Ackerman)

Jessica Ackerman
Joy Marburger
Casey Judge
Dave Mushet (phone)

3. Approval of Minutes from 1/20/2017 Board Meeting (Jessica Ackerman)
 - Motion to approve by Casey, Joy seconds.
4. Financial report by Secretary-Treasurer (Jessica Ackerman)
 - Big thanks to Joy for her special donation to support two more student travel grants
 - Loretta asks if chapter development grant has been distributed yet, Dave says that the award recipients haven't been announced yet
5. Standing Committee Reports
 - a) Membership Committee (Jessica Ackerman)
 - Marinus asks about drop in membership, Loretta comments there's been a similar decline across all chapters, although 16% drop seems large.
 - b) Program Committee (Julie Nieset)
 - Julie unable to call in for update but Jessica talks about Wetlands of Distinction (WoD) and encourages members to submit their local WoD on the website. Ramsar sites are generally acceptable and Marinus states that a wetland that has the WoD distinction may have a better chance of becoming a Ramsar site.
 - c) Grants and Awards Committee (Karen Mangan)
 - Karen is unable to call-in so Joy talks about student grant award winners (Nathan, Gwen, Jhon, and Ana Maria). Gwen in attendance at meeting, other winners not in attendance. Students have a great broad range of research!
6. Old Business
 - a) Vote on Changes to NCC Bylaws (changes to Standing Rules already approved)

- Arnold motions for approval, Marinus seconds.
- b) Annual Meeting Update (Dave Mushet)
- Dave encourages attendance at Fargo meeting. Marinus discusses the chapter meeting, highlighting dates, workshop, field trip, presentations (less scientific, more general), and getting Native American artists involved which could help with media attention for the meeting.

7. New Business

- a) Request for NCC Contribution for an Artist Award at NCC Meeting (Otte)
- Marinus also discusses Native American student artists creating work themed with wetlands, that could be exhibited in the coffee shop/library, which could also be awarded. The call out to these students should happen soon due to the short time frame and lack of a huge stipend. Maybe we could have a fundraiser to support awards. Probably wouldn't have different categories, just any art (paint, photo, etc).
- Might be a good chance to extend this to an international meeting. Get into touch with Rocky Mountain chapter and Canadian chapter to invite to meeting.
- Is there a target donation amount for artists awards? No, anything would help!
- Dave motions to add a \$500 donation from the NCC budget, Jessica seconds. Discussion continues about the award, motion carries unanimously.
- b) Other New Business?
- Casey attended business meeting on Sunday, June 4 and talks about how the NCC could potentially host the 2023 international meeting. Also that we should put together a proposal to submit to future meeting committee.
- Arnold cautions that internationalization efforts may lead to more international meetings, which may change (again) when we are slated to host since more international locations need to be included. So we'll wait for the call for proposals to proceed further.
- c) Election Results and Installation of New Officers
- Jessica introduces new officers in room/on the phone (Christina, Dave, Jessica, Eric, and Joy), and those in absence (Julie, Liz, and Bree).

8. Meeting Adjournment 18:31

**NCC Membership Meeting
Treasurer's Report
Submitted by Jessica Ackerman
June 6, 2017**

Current Financial Status

- As of 4/30/17, the NCC has \$26,544.37, divided among the checking account (\$8,145.64), a money market account (\$5,104.59) and Wintrust investment (\$13,294.14).

Chapter Investments

- Our Wintrust investment has increased since our last meeting.

Budget

- The only updates to our chapter checking account, since our last meeting, has been a paid student research grant of \$1000.

Potential fundraising ideas

- NCC meeting in Fargo in October.

**NCC Membership Meeting
Membership Committee Report
Submitted by Jessica Ackerman
June 6, 2017**

Current Membership

- As of May 26, 2017, the NCC has 409 chapter members. This is down from last year's May report – 80 less.
- Of the 409 members, 45 are student members. This is down from last year's May report – 9 less.
- Membership is still up compared to where it was in October 2015 (364). But still down from where it was last decade (500-700).

Potential Opportunities

- There seemed to be some interest, especially from students, at the Wisconsin Wetlands Association meeting this past March, but unsure what became of the email list from the booth. Will inquire of Kara at SWS.
- Continued exposure at state professional wetland events would help increase people's interests in membership...?
- Encourage the people that have liked our Facebook page to join our chapter as well – 252 Facebook page likes. And vice versa...