

NFC Envirothon Operating Committee

March 16, 2017 Conference Call Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Committee Members: .; Barry Burch; Jeff Folger; Jessica Kaknevicus; Jeanne Dryburgh, Patricia Pohrebniuk; Wendee Zadanski, Millie Langley; Ron Hellstern; Sid Lowrance; Kerin Hume;. Shonny Nordlund; Lorelle Steach

Staff: NACD: Rich Duesterhaus, Peggy Lemons; Debbie Waycott, Melissa Augusto

Absent:, Dana Collins;

Guest: Tim Reich

Langley opened the meeting at 1:35 PM EST.

Roll Call by Folger

Minutes: The minutes of the January winter meeting were reviewed

Motion to accept by Burch, second by Hume, vote unanimous.

Langley welcomed returning members; Nordlund; Lowrance; Steach, Burch; and Folger

NCF Updates: Augusto reported:

- Grants still pending
- Following up on sponsor leads.
- Canon – remaining unclaimed scholarship funds will go to \$\$ awards this year.

Public Relations Update: Waycott reported:

Membership Dues - 41 Paid (March 8, 2017) Reached out to the remaining and some said they were putting their cheques in the mail by then end of the week, Few are financial hard times and working it out and asked for an extension of 30 days. (Maine, California, Louisiana) Operating Committee members that have not paid their dues please check on these.

Intent to Participate : 51 states/provinces have submitted “yes”. (Yukon, BC, California, Louisiana are in question) California yes, Yukon no, BC and LA questionable.

Logo - Worked with Jeff and John Redding to get things on track for Jeff to send a letter to John - John sent out the check on a NCF-Envirothon check.

Diversity Grants - Approved grants were sent letters of acceptance and conditions of acceptance

Host Committee Conference Call - Working with Lorelle, who has agreed to chair this committee again this year, we are working with the Host committee to help/review with them with the organization of the event. I.e. Test reviews - first draft of tests have been reviewed/edited /recommendations and sent back to Barry to work with the resource people in Maryland except the for the forestry test.

Registration: Registration is now live on the website.

The first 2017 state Envirothons of the spring will be held in Georgia on March 29/30 and Arizona on March 31/April 1 so Very similar to last years registration. Registration button is on the home page, and current competition page.

1 Student Training sign up sheet 2. Shuttle 3. Tours/ Guests and Advisors

I have been encouraging everyone to please read the EVENT GUIDE to help everyone with their questions. At our last Host Conference call Barry suggested that the NCF –Envirothon should produce the event guide for the coming years, and I agree with him, we could do make the template and each year just drop the info into the guide. Talk more with Melisa on this and the “Branding” of the NCF-Envirothon.

Early Arrival – One Day to everyone except the Operating Committee. Possible 3 days early?

Social Media - continue to work the social media aspects. Recent story on Wisconsin Envirothon was sent out on Facebook, and again this morning by list-serve. Starting next week the social meeting should pick up even more with the two state competitions coming up and some state regional competitions starting.

Ontario Soils Webinar – Is a possible for Muddy Monday

Committee Reports:

- Scoring - Hume will chair no report.
- ED Committee: Hellstern - no report.
Action orientated scenario, put projects into action prior to the event. Produce a video and display the video to the judges to accompany the oral presentation. Arrive at the event with the presentation done, eliminate sequestration. Educational clips will be available on the Utah website on how to create a video. Possible separate project submitted to the NA Event to be judged. Not all fleshed out, some challenges for universal adoption, ie, fall events.
- CAT: No update will be starting to communicate with Maryland, and request additional volunteers
- Scoring: Langley; no report.
- LOGO: Folger: The finalist, Aileen Zhang from Houston TX was notified and a check was sent to her. Kaknevicus
- Strategic Planning: Kaknevicus sent out a breakdown from the January notes. She will work with Melisa on Spirit Day.

Future Competitions:

2017: Maryland – Burch reported:

- The budget, \$ 365,084.00 expected currently balances out with expenses.
- No confirmation on China teams yet. Difficult communication in the last month.
- 24 Maryland Districts have contributed \$89K toward the event.
- The Event Guide is on line. Some of the tour timings will be rearranged to accommodate Ops Comm members.
- Guests are encouraged to stay on campus.
- Discussion on ultimate station sponsor contribution level expected to increase.
- Float trip on local river on Friday afternoon weather permitting

2018: Western Hosts: Idaho

- Questions on learning objectives in regards to attention paid to political views. Discussion on Ops Comm or NCF review of proposed learning objectives. Past policy was a 18 to 24 month submission of learning objectives for review.
- Possible change in the Host Guide to update the review timeline. Discussion on past practices by the Ethon Exec Committee. Feeling that reviews of learning objectives should be submitted at least 18 months in advance.
- The Ops Comm will review the Host Guide in terms of time lines, etc. and send to Millie for distribution prior to the next meeting.
- Idaho has had some personnel changes, so the prime contact person is in question.
- NCF will contact Idaho and include Idaho in the Ops Comm meeting.

2019: North Carolina – Langley reported:

- Donations have started, \$25k pledged so far. They're calling on Districts for support.

- Planning committee is being formed.
- NC State in Raleigh definite, topic will be “Agriculturally based”.
- Good proximity to airport.

2020: Nebraska – Dryburgh reported

- Formulating the budget. Using Maryland as a template
- Starting fundraising.

2021: Canada

- No Report

2022 –

- No Report.

Other Business: Next meeting in May expect Doodle Poll.

Adjourn – 2:20PM