

NFC Envirothon Operating Committee

July 21, 2018 Summer Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Committee Members: ,; Jeff Folger; Patricia Pohrebniuk; Wendee Zadanski, Millie Langley; Sid Lowrance; Kerin Hume; Shonny Nordlund; Becky Geneau; Jeanne Dryburgh; Lorelle Steach, Barry Burch

Staff: NACD: Debbie Waycott; Carly Burton

Absent: Tim Reich, Becky Geneau, Dana Collins

NCF: Peggy Lemons

Guests: Tamra Cikaitoga, Chris Banks, Irval Keer, Andrea McKeown

Langley opened the meeting at 9:15 PM MST.

Roll Call by Folger

Minutes: The minutes of the April conference call were reviewed
Motion to accept as amended by Lowrance, second by Hume: vote unanimous.

NCF Updates: Burton reported:

- Burton reported that Laura Demmel has been hired as the NACD Program Manager. She will have less involvement in Ethon than Melisa. They will define roles with more of a focus on fund raising.
- Ops Comm terms: Members with terms expiring at the end of 2018 are: Hellstern, Langley, Zadanski, Pohrebniuk, Collins, and Hume.

2018 Event: Idaho: Cikaitoga, and Banks

- Banks reported on the alternative housing issues.
- There is construction on the road leading to the testing station.
- The host committee has fielded a lot of questions from individual that the State/Prov Reps should be handling.
- Discussion on providing info access to inquiring teams by the state/prov. reps

Policy Updates: Non- discrimination clause – discussion on adding to the Ethon Policy.

- **Four Person Team Discussion:** Most State/Prov have a five person team definition. Do we allow a four person team to compete? Discussion on an emergency drop-out vs register only four students as an original team.
Discussion on eligibility for scholarship prizes. Exec NCF board rule in effect for 2019 that a four person team will not be eligible for a cash award. Extend the rule to include ineligibility to place as well.
- Add a statement under the Scoring section of the Rules and Regs. A subcommittee will come up with exact wording to send to the NCF.

Public Relations Update: Waycott reported:

- Registration: Bridge the Registration and Health form to solve issues of incomplete registrations.
- Discussion on streamlining procedures for payment.

- Website upgrade is planned in the upcoming year. Curriculum guidelines need to be updated, info, links, etc.
- Live stream the final oral presentation this year.
- Host challenges: Best to have dedicated host personnel for each task. Recommend to go over expectations with future hosts.
- Experience with the overall event: need to send future host team to many annual events prior to their own event.
- Need to send a needs assessment to the NCF Board.
- Need direct communication with key people in the host state/prov. – not info through the host leaders.
- Possible changes to the oral presentation:
 - Survey results of State/Prov. Reps – 38 responses: 35% traditional presentation; 32% scenario sent out ahead of the event to participating teams; 15% traditional sequester with devices; 8% Community projects; 72% no devices
 - Survey results of Advisors – 32 responses: 92% no devices
- Project Learning Tree – advisors workshop offered: not enough positive response from advisors to justify holding a workshop. PLT books will be raffled off at the advisors meeting. The Education Committee could work at coordinating with PLT.
- Draft a resolution that the Ethon partner with other environmental education programs/organizations.
- Housing issues for future hosts: School policies are changing in that students from one school cannot share a room with students from another school. Also there have been requests from advisors that they not share rooms with other advisors. Discussion on the Ops Comm review of future facility bed capacity. Extra fees for special room requests can be built into registration costs.

Committee Reports:

- ED Committee: Current issue topic selection discussion at the Rep meeting. Nebraska: “Protecting Water Resources for a sustainable Future”. Will review published material on the website.
- Diversity Grants: Updates from recipients on Thursday.
- CAT: Pohrebniuk reported: Will travel out to the training/testing sites at 9am on Sunday morning. Discussion on policy to provide metric measuring tools for the testing. Need to acquire sets of metric tools for future hosts.
- Scoring: Hume reported: Six volunteers are needed to check scores on Thursday and Friday.

Future Competitions:

2019: North Carolina – Langley reported:

- Possible ocean site for the fun day.

2020: Nebraska – Dryburg reported

- July 26 through July 31.
- Compiling the topic info

2021: Some inquiries, but nothing concrete.

Other Business

NCF Exec board request for an additional position to physically assist the host.

Langley will be stepping down as Chair to focus on the NC Event next summer. Steach will be Chair.

Conf. Call via doodle poll in September.

Winter meeting in San Antonio – February 2, 2019

Adjourn – 3:30PM