

NFC Envirothon Operating Committee

June 28, 2017 Conference Call Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Committee Members: ,; Jeff Folger; Jessica Kaknevicius; Patricia Pohrebniuk; Wendee Zadanski; Millie Langley; Sid Lowrance; Lorelle Steach; Dana Collins; Kerin Hume

Staff: NACD: Rich Duesterhaus; Debbie Waycott; Melisa Augusto

Absent:, Shonny Nordlund; Ron Hellstern; Jeanne Dryburgh; Tim Reich

NCF: Peggy Lemons;

Guests:

Langley opened the meeting at 1:32 PM EST.

Roll Call by Folger

Minutes: The minutes of the May conf call were reviewed

Motion to accept by Steach, second by Zadanski: vote unanimous.

NCF Updates: Augusto reported:

- Interviews for a part-time programs manager position have commenced. Looking to have the position filled in time for the Maryland event
- Following up on sponsor leads.
- The Canon contact was not available so the former scholarship \$\$ may not be available. For Maryland.

Public Relations Update: Waycott reported:

- California will attend – 54 teams participating which include 2 teams from China.
- Still need more communication between Regional reps and the State/Prov rep.
- Suggest a FAQ on the website.
- Many questions have been fielded concerning registration accommodations.
- Team listing and pictures posted on the website
- Social media: continuing to post info on field events. More to come.
- Diversity Grant: Final reports starting to come in.

Maine Team member accessibility discussion:

The Maine team has a student who's confined to a wheelchair. Discussion on accommodations needed for the student to participate in the training, and testing portions of the event.

Can accommodate the student in the guest dorm.

An approved "note taker" will accompany the student. They will take notes on the training day but will not be able to attend the testing day.

Instruct the note taker not to interact with the team during the travel from the training day and during the study session.

Need to clarify to the note taker their parameters with the team.

Question on the request for a cell phone being carried by the student for emergency contact.

Wheelchair access will be limited to the forestry station.

Maryland host members have been advised by legal council not to assist access during the training day.

The student can be transported to the forestry station early. The student's mother will be there to assist.

Additional time will be needed to move the student from site-to-site during training and testing.
Suggestion to contact with groups capable of assisting challenged individual with transport.
Burch stated that the forestry training site will be accessible to the student.
He requests NCF to render legal guidance.

Deusterhaus: Looking for Ops Comm recommendation to the NCF.

Need for documentation for future policy discussions.

Contact with Maine on the level of accommodation that can be achieved has been done. Further contact with Maine suggested on how the student was accommodated at the Maine field event.

More conversation with the student's caregiver may be needed.

Discussion on scheduling the movement of the student to the stations.

Options: -build in extra time to load and unload from the vehicle

-early arrival of the Maine team to the station that the student specializes in first.

NCF will follow up with the Maine team and caretaker

2017: Maryland – Burch reported:

- 54 teams attending.
- Less than 1/3 of the teams are flying.
- 70 guests will attend
- Testing and training site will have shade available
- Extra personnel will be available to assist the CAT team.
- The oral scenario is complete.
- Advisor activities: some sold out. The Soil Workshop has only 12 signed up to attend.
- Still assigning tasks for volunteers.
- Medical at all sites.
- Host staff will arrive on Wednesday.
- The Ops Comm meeting will be in the Ohara dining room on July 22nd.
- The state Rep meeting will be in the Keeler Dining hall on July 27th.
- A reception will be held at the Host cottages on July 22nd at 6:30pm.
- The Hospitality room will be centrally located and will be open from Sunday thru Friday with hour posted.
- Maryland raised \$220K with \$90K donated by 23 out of 24 Conservation Districts.
- State and federal agencies were also major contributors.
- The “Smiles Video” will be accessed on the website.
- Maryland Public TV will be present representing “Farm and Harvest”.
- Swimming is allowed in the Park.
- Vector avoidance will be discussed.
- Float trip on local river on Friday afternoon weather permitting

Future Competitions:

2018 Event: Idaho: No Report

2019: North Carolina – Langley reported:

- Core committee members will be in Maryland.

2020: Nebraska – No Report

2021: No Report

Committee Reports:

- Scoring - Hume
Recruiting volunteers for scoring.
- ED Committee: Hellstern:
Hellstern submitted proposal comments on Current Issue community projects
- CAT – Pohrebniuk reported:
Members from NC and Neb will be on the team along with last years Ops Comm volunteers.
- Strategic Planning: Kaknevicus:
Further discussion at the summer event

Regional representatives need to reach out to State/Province constituency,
Langley asked to be sent suggestions for topics to be discussed at the meeting on Thursday with the
State/Prov Reps.

New Business:

- Revisions to the Rules and Regs are being drafted by Pohrebniuk prepare to discuss on the 22nd..

Adjourn – 3:03PM