

NFC Envirothon Operating Committee

January 27, 2018 Winter Meeting Minutes, Nashville TN

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

Staff: NACD: Debbie Waycott; Melisa Augusto; Carly Burton

Absent: ; Tim Reich,

NCF: Peggy Lemons;

Guests: Linda Dee; Betty Holley; Gene Schmidt; Kerry Christiansen; Leigh Love; Cali Johnson, John Redding; Steve Robinson; Dave Vogel

Langley opened the meeting at 9:30 AM EST.

Roll Call by Folger

Minutes: The minutes of the November conf. call were reviewed
Motion to accept by Steach, second by Lowrance: vote unanimous.

Expiring Terms: Dryburgh's term is up in 2018. She indicated that she was willing to extend for another term.

Langley announced that Jessica Kaknevious has accepted another position and will no longer be on the Ops Comm. She stated that the Committee will be looking for new Canadian representative to replace her. *Pohrebniuk motioned to designate that the replacing representative's term be extended for three years to offset the current two Canadian representative's terms which expire in 2019. Seconded by Hume. Vote unanimous.*

Waycott will post all of the Rep's term dates on the website.

NCF Updates: Burton reported:

- She travelled to Pocatello to meet and assist the Idaho planning committee. She has started a host committee monthly conference call.
- She will have weekly calls with the Idaho folks.
- The Facebook page will be expanded.

Public Relations Update: Waycott reported:

Minutes Operating Committee - Website www.envirothon.org/contact-envirothon/operating-committee

Password protected NCFOC

Membership Dues – Currently 38 states/provinces have paid. Seven states have paid \$550.00. FYI: Canadian provinces paid the extra. 14 pending, plus China.

Intent to Participate – Official 43 submitted forms March- 2, April – 23, May- 26, June -3, PEI-October = 55 Teams . Possible 56 teams if 2 teams come from China

State/Provincial Competitions: March 2, April-23, May-26, June – 3 = 54 competitions

Diversity Grants - 7- US Applications, 2-\$4K (Montana, SD) , 1-3K (Arizona) 4-\$2K (Texas, Ohio, Virginia, Massachusetts) 2-Canadian 2-\$2-K (Ontario, NB) Review/Evaluation of applications is set for Feb6/2018 and successful candidates will be announce Feb 15,2018.

USFS will continue to support this program for 2018. The interim and final reports were sent to Sue Cummings. Challenge is to get the people who receive the grants to submit their reports to our office and turn them around into the format that the USFS wants to receive the information. Each state/province that receives a grant is required to sign a "Letter of Acceptance" which clearly states when they must submit their reports.

Idaho Tests - Soils Test reviews are back. No Forestry test Wildlife test was sent back for adjusting/revision before first edits to be done. Soils tests time spent with the reviewers on the questions.

Idaho Logo - Official Logo

Registration – Questions

Forms - Revised - Certification, Team/Advisor, Medical, Guest, Travel Itinerary

Messages sent after submitting form i.e. Certification - Melisa Registration - Debbie Early
Arrival cost?

Deadline for registration: Recommend - June 15, 2018

Deadline for Refunds: Recommend – July 6, 2018

Live – Recommend March 5, 2018

Registration –

Website

State/Provincial Contacts and Sponsoring Agencies

<https://www.envirothon.org/media-center/local-programs-2017-18> - Updated with items that have been happening in various states/provinces. i.e. Mississippi Brochure – 2017 Diversity Grant (partial funding), PEI – Provincial Award \$5K award - Outdoor Classroom)

Media - Idaho Block, Past Competitions have a block/picture. Inside listing of events during the competition. ie. Maryland - Farm Video is posted there.

Current Competition – Draft Schedule, Campus Map (re-typing, formatting etc.)

Hall of Fame: Plaque now hanging at NACD DC

Future Host Hand Guide (2016) - ?

Social Media

Facebook – Muddy Monday, Wild Wednesday, Throwback Thursday. Traffic has increased somewhat. List-serve – Reminders for people to follow up on Social Media.

John Hopkins Center for Talented Youth - Request: 2010 a story was done by a Rhode Island Envirothon student. Waycott was contacted by Amy Entwisle, Editor asking permission to use some of the photographs. Rachel Hughs from Pennsylvania is doing a story this year on Envirothon. The photos they wanted were photos that Waycott had taken so I gave permission.

The article is scheduled to be done for the march/April issues to go along with Earth Day. Once the layout is finalized she will send me a copy for our use website, social media etc. it will get great coverage.

Importance of Effective Communication - To effectively communicate, we must realize that we are all different in the way we perceive the world and use this understanding as a guide to our communication with others.

2018 Event: Idaho: Chris Banks on conference call

- Financials – SW-Pacific region of the NRCS pledged \$15K from each state office for \$195K total support. There is \$240K in the bank plus registrations.
- Possible NRCS in the future.
- Discussion on creating more "official" support from government agencies.
- Two testing site have been identified and a third as a backup.
- Orals – top three final presentations.
- Scenario has been completed. The 54 sequester rooms have been a challenge to acquire.
- Judges – working on it.
- Advisor activities – working on a packet of destinations where they can go have been added to the event guide.
- Fun Day – Farm tours, soda spring geyser picture, Chesterfield ghost town and reenactment settlement. Shoshone tribal dancers, Dutch oven barbeque by Smithfield, and square dance lessons.
- Fly In destinations are Salt Lake (2-hr) and Idaho Falls (40 min).
- Training day on Monday. Teams will get notebooks at the study sites. The notebooks will be collected at the end of the day and the advisors will be brought over to join their teams at the study sites. Meals will be on their own on Tuesday.
- Shirts. Shirts for the testing day will be the Idaho issued shirts. Presentation day shirts will be provided by the NCF.
- Early arrivals will be charged \$20 per person.
- Swipe cards for entry keys. \$50 for lost cards. No linen exchange.

Maryland Update: Burch

- All bills have been paid – Leave 4-5 months after the event to clean up bills.
- Maryland realized a surplus.
- Burch thanked the Ops Comm for their support.
- It cost \$2300.00 per team for housing and meals.
- TShirt costs were \$12K
- Rural organization were big supporters. Also the Ag community.
- China teams were at a disadvantage due to language.
- Security was a big priority.

Dave Vogel: Tribal Outreach Group:

- Mr. Vogel represents the Tribal Resource Policy Group (RPG).
- He is focused on environmental education for tribal youth.
- He would like to investigate opportunities with Ethon and tribal youth.

Future Competitions:

2019: North Carolina – Langley reported:

- They have the support of the Districts and the district employees.
- Committees are in place.
- Testing and training sites have yet to be chosen.

- Dates: July 28 to August 2, 2019

2020: Nebraska – Dryburg reported

- \$193K in pledges so far.
- She displayed a draft logo. There was a discussion on logo continuity.
- Location: Univ. of Nebraska at Lincoln.
- Date: July 26 to July 31, 2020
- Airports at Lincoln and Omaha.

2021: No Report

2022: ????

NCF Report: Augusto; Robinson; Redding

- NCF Financial Report: Redding gave an oral report:
- \$104K in the bank not including the Idaho registration\$\$.
- \$23.5K belongs to Canon for unused scholarships.
- \$35K from Smithfield for student prizes.
- Website expenses are \$500 per month.
- Waycott's salary and expenses are included.
- Discussed the protocol for funding requests. Go through the Foundation's funding committee and gain approval before approaching a potential sponsor.
- Reading highlighted challenges to fund raising in the past and present.
- Comments on the need to partner with like-minded organizations to further connections.

Committee Reports:

- ED Committee: Hellstern:
Discussed possible removal of the sequestration day by creating a project, based on the current issue to be completed prior to the NA event. Come with a video to be judged.
Stronger ties to STEM
Discussed a challenge based project based on a Federal agency priority such as pollinators, or riparian buffers, etc. Concerns are: part of the oral presentation, or not; reward, or not; voluntary, or not.
Need a proposal to present at the summer meeting.
- CAT: Pohrebniuk reported:
Request for involvement in the host team conference calls between now and July. CAT team will be an agenda item on those calls.
- Scoring: Hume: No report.
- Rules and Regs.: Steach
Updates have been done.
Discussion on housing advisors/chaperones in proximity with students.
Limitations of rooms in Idaho will not allow the flexibility for individual circumstances.
- Review of Update Host Guide: Steach
On the NCF Exec board agenda for Monday to review.
The approved guide will be posted on the website.

New Business:

- Burch has requested to step down as vice-chair.
- Steach indicated that she would be available to fill the vice-chair.
- Discussion on changing the State/Province representative meeting this summer from Tuesday to Thursday to avoid conflicts with CAT team members.
- Check all of your regional reps to make sure all of the names are correct.

Adjourn – 4:23PM**Re-convene Sunday, January 28, 2018. At 9:30 am**

John Redding gave a more detailed financial report:

- \$104912.70 in the bank.
- Dues to date; 34 @ \$350 equals \$11900.
- Canon \$\$ equal \$23454 of unclaimed scholarships. Canon wants the \$\$ to be used for cash awards.
- \$6500 for the web site; \$516 for storage rental; \$572 for Quickbooks; \$16800 due to Canada; \$5000 for travel; \$700 Liability Insurance; *So approx. \$32000 unspent or uncommitted.*
- The endowment equals \$311K and they can only use the interest.
- Long term plans are to grow the endowment after building the Ethon program.
- Discussion on including local branding on outreach materials to aid in local fundraising.
- No written report will be submitted.
- Discussion on how to attract alumni for donations and support? Linkedin, Amazon Smiles, Facebook, Go Fund Me,

The Operations Committee guidelines were reviewed.

Adjourn: 10:36am