

# **NFC Envirothon Operating Committee**

## **December 11, 2019 Conference Call Minutes**

**NCF Envirothon Operating Committee Members:** Sid Lowrance (AR), Millie Langley (NC), Wendee Dodds (OH), Lorelle Steach (PA), Jeanne Dryburgh (NE), Jeff Folger (CT), Becky Geneau (NB), Shonny Nordlund (MT), Andrea McKeown (MO), Kerin Hume (DE)

**NCF Members:** Debbie Waycott (NS), Peggy Lemons (NCF), Jennifer Brooks (NACD), Stephanie Tolar (NACD)

**Absent:** Barry Burch (MD), Jacqueline Monteith (MAN)

Steach opened the meeting at 11:02 AM EST.

Roll Call by Folger

**Minutes:** The minutes of the September 25th meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept as amended by Lowrance, second by Langley: vote unanimous.

### **NACD Updates: Dremmel**

- Preparing for the annual meeting.
- Completing the pollinator project grades 1-8.
- The Conservation Education Hub is being finished for a January release.
- She introduced Stephanie Tolar, the new Education Coordinator for NACD. She participated in the N. Carolina Envirothon in High School and attended the North American competition in 2008 and 2009.
- The fall fundraising campaign is ongoing.

### **NCF Updates: Brooks**

- Monthly host call with Nebraska started in October
- The 2023 host bid package has been released.
- She has been doing outreach activities on the road.
- She had a booth at the Outdoor Educators conference in Kentucky, and the FFA convention in Indiana.
- She visited New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to attend the PEI event and met with Geneau and Waycott.
- Membership dues and Intent to Participate forms have been sent out.
- The registration invoice will be released in January
- The Diversity Grant proposal for 2020 is being developed and will be open until the end of January.
- She attended the Virginia Assoc. of Cons Dist. annual meeting.
- She met with Smithfield to continue the funding grant.
- She is working to contact alumni through LinkedIn.

## **Education Coordinator Update: Tolar**

- She is working on tests and the oral scenario for Nebraska

## **Public Relations Updates: Waycott.**

**2020 Envirothon Season** - Prince Edward Island and Arkansas have had their provincial/state competitions.

Jennifer and I attended the PEI Envirothon.

Jennifer B was in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and PEI in late October to go over files, meeting with Becky (NB) and attend the PEI Envirothon. She was in three provinces and 2 states in one day!

## **Website updates:** On going updates/tweaking

- 2020 State/Provincial Competition listings
- 2020 Diversity Grant Applications – Coming Soon
- Media – 2019 NC Highlights
- 2019 Resource Material/Learning Objectives
- NCFOP Minutes - UN: NCFOC PW: NCFOC

## **Social Media** – Ongoing posts

**Intent to Participate** - TOD: 31 states/provinces have responded YES along with sending in changes to the state/provincial contacts for updating.

**Membership Dues – 2020** Invoices/Letter sent. TOD: 19 responded 6/paid by PP 13/check is in the mail.

- Invoices have been sent to State/Provinces that require an invoice with their name on it. i.e. Texas Envirothon.

**2020 Test Reviews** - Tests were sent for review and back. Stephanie has been busy compiling the comments to discuss with the Nebraska Host (Jennifer Swanson). Comment: Test reviews can be difficult simply because the writer is typically a trained resource person that sometimes takes things for granted that the reader can fill in the blanks. i.e. working with a colleague ... but audience of the test are high school students who are used a different style of writing.

**Files** – Cleaning up files before December 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **Events:**

### **2020 Event – Nebraska: Dryburgh**

- Committees on task.
- Arranging meeting spaces and negotiating fees.

**2021 Event - New Brunswick: Geneau - .**

- Subcommittees are formed and meeting.
- Met with Brooks and milestones are set.
- Study guides are being developed.
- Current Issue is being developed.
- She met with the Town of Sackville. They were very supporting in 2011 and she expects the same for 2021.
- Fund raising has started including grant writing.

**2022 Event: - Ohio: Dodds –**

- Subcommittees are forming.
- The RFP to Universities have been developed and are out. They hope to choose a site by the Annual meeting in February.
- The Current Issue topic will be selected based on the venue location.
- NRCS is eager to assist.

**2023 Event:**

- A proposal was submitted by New York. This would diverge from the regional rotation (US West's turn).

**Committee Reports:****Education Committee: Folger –**

- He will contact Tolar to determine the direction to take to provide internet links to study materials.

**CAT: Dodds**

- Dryburgh requested the # of personnel attending from New Brunswick and Ohio to coordinate tasks.

**Scoring: No Report****Rules: Steach – No Report.****OLD/New Business:**

- Competition resource guides for the host continue to be reviewed.
- Steach read off the list of Operation Committee members who's terms are expiring. She requested a response from those members concerning their wish to continue service.
- Lowrance (AK) stated that he will not be returning for another term. The Committee thanked him for his many years of dedicated service.
- Steach asked the members to submit agenda items for the winter meeting in Las Vegas.
- The members congratulated Debbie Waycott for her service as Administrative Aid to the Envirothon program. Her unwavering dedication to the program, especially during the transition period from Canon to the NCF support was key to the program continuing to operate during those times. We wish her good fortune on her well-earned retirement.

Next meeting – Feb 8 and 9 at Ballys hotel in Las Vegas.

**Adjourn – 11:50 AM**