

NCF Envirothon Operating Committee Minutes

November 18, 2020 11:00 a.m. EST

Via Zoom

Millie called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. EST. Andrea called roll. In attendance were; Jacqueline Monteith, Jeanne Dryburgh, Andrea McKeown, Lorelle Steach, Wendee Dodds, Millie Langley, Brooke Myres, Carrie Milligan, Debbie Waycott, and Mark Hedge.

August 19, 2020 minutes were reviewed. Jacqueline moved to approve the minutes as presented. Lorelle 2nd, motion passed.

Millie discussed the Operating Committee Officer nominations. Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary will be elected. We will elect officers at the winter meeting now being held via zoom.

NCF Update – Jennifer Brooks

- Jennifer shared the updated NCF logo – the rebranded logo is well received.
- Fall Campaign – Jennifer let the committee know that Bill Gill, Smithfield Foods & Envirothon Supporter will retire in December 2020. We will still have Alyssa Hammel, Smithfield Foods as a contact. The committee members were encouraged to send Bill a card.
- Fall Meeting (10/22) update – Information Only
- 2021 NACD Winter Meeting – February 1st – 10th, 2021 now via zoom. The operating committee will meet via zoom on February 2nd and 3rd 11:00 a.m. EDT both days.

NCF Envirothon Update – Jennifer Brooks

- Regional Envirothon Rep virtual meetings update – Jennifer shared that the regional meetings went well, were well attended, and some good discussion.
- China MOU – The memorandum of understanding has been signed with China.
- Membership Dues – To date, 10 states have paid dues.
- Communications/PR – Jennifer asked the committee to let her or Stephanie know what updates are needed to the website. If there are any broken links etc. Debbie recommended the Facebook posts needed to include photos of students. They are what the program is about and donors like seeing the students in the field.

Educational Updates – Stephanie

- iNaturalist Project – Stephanie went over the project. The intention is to let the students continue with hands on learning. She let the committee know how they could participate.
- Distance Education Webinar (hosted by Jacqueline) Stephanie discussed this. The webinar discussed how to engage teams over a distance. The webinar had over 100 participants.

Upcoming Competitions –

2021 – Nebraska update – Jeanne

Nebraska is forging ahead with competition. There was much discussion on a virtual or hybrid NCF Envirothon if the climate continues with COVID-19. How would a virtual program look on the NCF level? They are holding a meeting December 3rd, 2020 to discuss further.

2022 – Ohio update – Wendee

Ohio competition will be held at Miami University in Southwest part of Ohio. The university is one hour from airports. They are working on the current issue topic.

2023 – New Brunswick – No Update

2024 – New York – The MOU has been signed. New York is really eager and would like to get the university approved soon.

Jacqueline talked about having a training on how to hold a virtual competition. Much discussion on when to hold the training. State Reps would prefer meeting during the day. They will try to get the training out by December 18th, 2020.

Education Committee Update – Debbie and Stephanie - The education committee met on October 7th, 2020. The committee went over the learning objectives and the changes made. Lorelle moved to approve the learning objectives as presented and present to the NCF board. Debbie 2nd, motion carried.

Rules/Program Policies Committee – Lorelle and Jennifer

Program Policy Update – Lorelle and Jennifer talked about rules review each year.

Competition Advisory Team (CAT) Committee – Wendee and Stephanie – Nothing to report.

Scoring Committee – Kerin – Nothing to report.

Diversity Grant – Jennifer

New Business –

Mission Statement Update – Tabled from last meeting – The committee tabled until the next meeting. Please look over the mission statement.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted, Andrea McKeown