

NCF Envirothon Operating Committee Minutes
February 2 & 3, 2021 11:00 a.m. EST
Winter Meeting at NACD Virtual Annual Meeting
Via Zoom

Millie called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. EST. Andrea called roll. In attendance were, Jeanne Dryburgh, Andrea McKeown, Lorelle Steach, Wendee Dodds, Millie Langley, Shonny Nordlund, Carrie Milligan, Becky Geneau, Debbie Waycott, Kerin Hume, and Mark Hedge. Staff in attendance: Jennifer Brooks and Stephanie Tolar. Many guests joined the zoom meeting.

January 13, 2021 minutes were reviewed. Lorelle moved to approve as presented. Jeanne 2nd, motion carried.

Millie welcomed everyone including Brooke Wynn, Senior Director of Sustainability and Alyssa Hamill, Corporate Sustainability Specialist with Smithfield Foods Inc.

Election of Officers - Lorelle took the meeting for election of officers.

Current slate of officers – Millie Langley, Chair; Wendee Dodds, Vice Chair; Andrea McKeown, Recorder

Lorelle moved to approve the slate of officers by acclamation. Shonny 2nd motion carried.

NACD Updates – Jeremy Peters updated the committee on happenings

NCF Updates –

- John Redding thanked the committee for their dedication
- 2020 NCF Fall Campaign – approximately \$20,000 raised. Thank you to all who participated, gave and promoted
- 2021 NCF Live Auction – open for bids until Wed Feb 10, 1:30 PM EST. Please visit and bid to support the NCF and the NCF-Envirothon/NGLI
- NCF Board of Trustees winter meeting on Thursday, Feb 4th at 1pm EST

NCF Envirothon

- Program Updates – Jennifer updated the committee on items she is working on.
 - 2021 Membership Dues – 24 states/provinces paid to date \$8750 (\$8675.75 after PP fees)
 - 4 states gave additional \$200 donation (\$800 total)
 - Communications/PR – let me or Stephanie know what updates are needed to the website, broken links, state/provincial rep changes, etc.
 - Social Media – social media presence continues to grow. Please feel free to share NCFE posts or tag us in your posts so we can cross promote to our followers. We are on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn
 - 2021 State/Provincial Envirothon competitions – 24 reported that will be holding virtual competitions this spring and a small number have cancelled their 2021 competitions due to various circumstances. Please let us know your plans. Also, please reach out to us before cancelling your state/provincial event in case there are alternative ideas we can help you identify.
- Education Updates – Stephanie; Stephanie updated the committee on the learning objectives.
 - Learning objectives update – Native and Indigenous Statement to Tribal RPG
 - Webinars
 - iNaturalist Project
 - Working with upcoming Hosts

2021 Nebraska – Jeanne

Virtual Event Recommendation – Jeanne visited with the committee discussing the need to go virtual for the 2021 NCF Envirothon. The Nebraska committee would love to host in person and are disappointed that they have to look to virtual. If an in person competition is held, no teams from outside the US will be able to attend. The Nebraska committee would like everyone to have the opportunity to participate. It is their recommendation to hold a virtual NCF Envirothon July 2021. The Operating committee agreed to take the virtual recommendation to the NCF board for approval. 2021 Team Registration Fee deadline has been extended to May 15, 2021 (2021 registration fee amount and late fee have not been determined at this time)

2022 Ohio – Wendee Dodds

Location and Date – July 24th – 30th, 2022 Miami University, South West Ohio

Current Issue Topic – Waste to Resource; Waste generation, disposal, land revitalization, restoration.

There is lots of excitement with the Ohio Committee!

2023 New Brunswick – Becky Geneau

Location and Date – July 23rd – 28th, 2023 still deciding on location

Current Issue – Climate Change; impacts on natural resource dependent communities

2024 New York – Blanche Hurlbutt

Location and Date – July 28th – August 3rd, 2024 still deciding on location

Proposed Current Issue Topic – Alternative Renewable Energy

Committee Reports –

Diversity Grants – Jennifer; received 10 applications, 8 from US and 2 from Canada

Education Committee – Debbie; Education committee members include Jacqueline Monteith, Mark Hedge, Debbie Waycott, Shonny Nordlund, and Andrea McKeown. Debbie mentioned that Mark is a new committee member. With Mark's background/knowledge and experience with high school education and coaching, he is sure to be a great asset on the education committee. Jennifer and Stephanie have worked tirelessly over the past year developing new strategies and tools to help the program and they should be congratulated. Debbie encouraged the committee to read information sent out by Jennifer and Stephanie and give feedback in a timely fashion.

Scoring Committee – Kerin; Unknown at this time what 2021 scoring will look like.

Rules/Program Policies Committee – The question on everyone's mind is how will the virtual competition effect the rules and will changes be needed to cover the virtual event.

- Question raised: Would a team of students enrolled in the same online class program but from different schools (new distance learning classes) be eligible to compete at NCF-Envirothon? Do they fall under the “non-traditional” category of allowable teams?
 - Current Rules state: “Each team will consist of five students from the same school, non-traditional school, or youth organization. All teams must be sponsored and certified by a NCFE state/provincial representative.”
 - Decision - It is the responsibility of the State/Provincial/Partner Nation Envirothon program to determine what constitutes a ‘school, non-traditional school, or youth organization’. If the State/Provincial/Partner Nation Envirothon Program allow them to compete and certify them as a competitive team, then they may advance to the NCF-Envirothon international competition.

Old Business –

New Standardized Audio Training for Oral Presentation Judges – Stephanie updated the operating committee on the proposed audio judges training. They are great and it shows that Stephanie has worked hard to develop a helpful tool. Lorelle moved to proceed, Wendee seconded motion – motion approved

Mission Statement & Goals Discussion – will discuss further in the future

- Mission Statement Ad Hoc Committee: Millie, Mark, Shonny, Carrie and staff

New Business – taking the virtual recommendation to the NCF board.

Respectfully Submitted, Andrea McKeown