



NAI Region Four National Workshop Minutes
November 12, 2008

Call to Order: 3:30pm

Ice Breaker/Meet & Greet

➤ **Director's Report (Julie Champion)**

- Welcome & Introduction of board members present
- Regional 2009
 - Ontario, February 23rd-27th (E-mail will be coming soon)
 - 2 busses @ \$125/person round-trip
 - 1 leaving from Pokagon & 1 leaving from Cleveland
 - Registration booklet will arrive shortly
- National News
 - Enos Mills Fund is the new national fundraising campaign (unrestricted funds). (LTF was restricted fund for mortgage of new building)
 - Business plans and other documents are on the national website
 - New initiatives – Lisa Brochu is working on a standards & practices project. The idea is to look at different standards and working with the committee to develop best practices in those areas.
 - International program – Greece in May 2009.
 - National office is tightening up on the belt – cut 1 position from marketing
- Check out Region 4 website through the national website www.interpnet.org

➤ **Secretary's Report (Jenn Wright)**

➤ **Treasurer's Report (Marvin McNew)**

- \$60,978.98 in Region 4 account as of September 30th
- 2008 Regional Workshop did very well
- CD's are all held in the national office and they give us the going rate on those CD's. Previous year was 3.45% but this year it may drop in the next year due to the struggling economy.
- Committee chair 2009 budgets (3 chairs have submitted). November 15th is deadline for budget submissions.
- Newsletter mailing changes on the national level
 - Currently the national office gives rebates to the sections for all newsletters sent out. The current rate is \$1.50/mailed piece & \$.75/e-mail version. In 2009 that will change to be \$1/piece (no matter the format). This will encourage regions and sections offer more electronic versions and for members to sign-up for online correspondence.
- Reminder that NAI is tax exempt. If you are purchasing supplies for NAI you can download the tax exempt forms from the national website.

➤ **Deputy Director's Report (Tim Krynak)**

➤ **Committee Reports**

○ **Archives (Haley Samuelson-Couchman)**

- Region 4 is archiving our history at Ball State University. Check our website for link to archive. Members have access and can request copies.

○ **Awards (Pete Stobie)**

- Committee will need 3 new members (Michigan, Indiana, Ohio) for Dec. 2010. Regional awards were due on October 31st
- Congratulate national award to Dr. Jean Kinnear, Dan Best, David Gates, Susan Boggs & Christian Nelson

○ **Interpretive Project Grants (Rich Niccum)**

- This year we are giving out \$3,000 for IPG. Those were awarded in November 2008. We had eight applications this year.

- Grants were awarded to the following applicants: Cincinnati History Museum, Kalamazoo Nature Center, Lake Metroparks and the Licking Park District. Thanks to all who applied.
- **Membership (Leslie Witkowski)**
 - As of October 21, Region four was 684 members strong!
 - Region Four was able to provide 19 complimentary memberships in 2008 as part of a membership drive.
 - The National office provides our region with 2 complimentary memberships each year and we have given one of these memberships away.
 - If you know of someone who is in need of the 2nd complimentary membership, please contact Leslie Witkowski no later than December 1.
 - The Pincentive program will be retiring on December 31, 2008. If you would like to receive a pin before the program is retired, go to Region Four's website and download a pincentive form and mail to Leslie Witkowski to receive your pin.
 - Membership is looking for committee members. They need someone from OH, IN and MI to serve on the committee.
- **Nominating (Ginger Murphy)**
 - Nominations are being sought for the next cycle of elections.
- **Publications (Ken Rosenthal)**
 - Ken is leaving for Colorado so we are looking for a new editor. Deb Nofzinger will help with the transition of the new person. Ken will continue to help edit Winter Interp. Booklet
 - If you want newsletter by e-mail contact Ken and he'll add your name to the list.
 - Interpretive Booklets – These are sold by Acorn Naturalist and are a great source of income.
 - Next one is themed "Winter" – send all submissions/ideas to Carly Martin by
- **Scholarships and Grants (Andrea Haslage)**
 - Committee has sent out all of the scholarship applications to colleges and universities
 - Non-NAI workshop grants – There is one \$500 grant for the Non-NAI workshop available. Apps are due 11/21, so after the new-year the committee will go through the apps we received and select a winner.
 - Committee has given away the following dollars this year:
 - 2 - \$1000 Academic Scholarships (Heidi Mathiott from John Carroll University and Amanda Simmons from Indiana University)
 - 3 - RIW grants for 2008 (Justin Smith, Laura Seals & Jules Erwin)
 - 2 - \$800 NIW grants available for 2008 (Amy Roell & Jenn Wright)
 - 1 Certification grant (Karen Kramer-Wilson)
- **Strategic Planning (Ginger Murphy)**
 - Strategic Planning for Region 4 will happen January 14-16 at Pokagon State Park.
- **Student Involvement Committee (Wil Reding)**
 - Committee is 5 members strong and will be looking for 2 new members at the end of 2010.
 - Student presentations will occur at regional (we've now add this to the bi-laws)
 - 1/3 of our membership is students!
 - Looking for 2 more students to present in Ontario (we have currently have 2)
- **Training and Membership Services (Robin Dungan)**
 - Several trainings offered in 2008. Geology Workshop in September had 18 participants
 - Regional input – CIT session in March 16-20th Pokagon S.P.
- **Ways and Means (Teresa Rody)**
 - Herps/Wetlands Wonders & Rocks and Soils have been re-printed.
 - Currently looking for a digital copy of Bugs & Preschoolers
 - Acorn Naturalist continues to sell our interpretive booklets. This fall sales to Acorn Naturalist and other members exceeded \$900.
 - Please don't forget to submit ideas and text for our next interpretive booklet: Winter
 - Don't forget to visit our booth in the exhibit hall for ink pens, mugs, DVD of History of Interpretation, Amelia Hanson note cards, and interpretive booklets.
 - Committee members are parting in focus groups to:
 - Work on a lightweight and very portable display
 - Organize the next bird-a-thon

- Develop new merchandise ideas such as calligraphy definition of Interpretation, cell phone carrier, clay pins, mouse pads or region 4 shirt design.
- **Website (Rich Niccum)**
 - Continue to send items that you'd like to see posted on the website to Rich Niccum.
- **Other Items**
 - Canada update- Interpretation in a Changing Climate
 - Dorsett Ontario (3 hours north of Toronto)
 - Glen Dent donors please sign card at NAI Store
 - Glow-stick bracelets available for Region 4 to wear at the banquet

Adjourn: 4:25pm