



**Call to Order:** 11:30am

**In Attendance:**

Officers: Julie Champion (Regional Director), Tim Krynak (Deputy Director), Marvin McNew (Treasurer), Jenn Wright (Secretary), Ginger Murphy (Nomination Committee), Teresa Rody (Ways & Means Chair), Pete Stobie (Awards Chair), Haley Samuelson-Couchman (Archives Chair), Andrea Haslage (Scholarships and Grants), Wil Reding (Student Committee Representative), Rich Niccum (IPG Committee Chair & Webmaster),

**Director's Report –Julie Champion**

- National Update
  - Voted on new fund to donated to send someone (can allocate for specific regional representative member) to an international conference. Next board meeting can decide if we should allocate money and how we should initiate that.
  - Conversation – Region and section workshops – wanted to work on extending non-members (6month) want to add on to make a 1 year. Concerns on expense. Talked about reducing that first year to \$25. Probably won't come into play till RIW 2011.
  - Finances/operational dollars – Enos Mills program discussions
- Electronic Mailing System –How is it working?
  - Now have a NAI Region 4 e-mail address that we can use for e-blasts. Jamie gets it, sends to Tim and Julie and then it gets posted.
- National Workshop Rotation concern
  - Julie was going to talk to Region 1 and 5 about the concern of not having National workshops offered in our Regions. Pete and Tim were going to coordinate writing a letter about our concerns
  - Ginger questioned whether there had been a board vote on the proposal-Julie thinks that we are operating on that proposal without a vote. –Murphy suggests that RLC needs to address that issue.
  - Deb Tewell from the National office said she would have Lisa Brochu contact Julie to explain the background on this.

[Action Item: Julie will discuss the background with Lisa to clarify the issue and then bring back to Region 4 board to see if the issue should be brought to the new RLC director about possibly addressing the issue.](#)

- Action plans/Strategic plan –how are we doing?
  - Everyone needs to send reports to Murphy by August 15<sup>th</sup>
- Business meeting at National
  - Standard way of reporting out (meet & greet, icebreaker)
- 2010 RIW-Leadership forum and business meeting
  - Need to decide how to handle and needs to have its OWN time.

**Secretary's Report – Jenn Wright**

- Volunteer list update

**Treasurer's Report – Marvin McNew**

- Marv's projections May – June: \$707.06 revenue, \$3,241.91 Expenditures
- Total at the end of June (using Marvin's calculations of May – June) = \$66,751.62
- National has not provided balance sheet for June
- Interest on our balance is 1.35%.
- Enos Mills contributions can be made (\$500 for 3 years)

**Deputy Director's Report – Tim Krynak**

- RIW 2009 final report?
  - Still waiting on the final report from RIW 2009.
- RIW 2010

- March 29 – April 3 in Midland, MI - Planning is moving along and is in good shape. We should start seeing more advertising shortly. They looking for ideas for potential motivating speakers, especially directed to sustainability or green topics.
- RIW 2011
  - RIW 2011 will be March 20 – 24 at the French Lick Resort, in French Lick, IN. The contract has been signed and the committee is finalizing a theme.
- RIW 2012
  - I am still looking for potential location in Ohio for 2012.
- Procedures Manual
  - If you have updates send to Tim. It is online so take a look at it.

#### **Archives – Haley Samuelson-Couchman**

- Slow and steady. Working on archiving all of the digital media. Still getting donations and looking for more.
- Committee Needs – Need MI representative, set for OH and IN. New member from Ontario Brenna Bartley.

#### **Awards – Pete Stobie**

- Report from RIW 2009
  - Last meetings notes.
  - Spring FourThought did not get update for awards and will be in summer FT along with application for next year. Check out photos.
- Update for 2010
  - 2010 Nomination form is coming out and is on website.
- Looking for chair replacement for 2010 – Nora Sindelar is a potential candidate

#### **Interpretive Project Grants – Rich Niccum**

- Updates
  - Deadline is September 1<sup>st</sup> for next round. Application is on website.
  - 2009 recipients should start seeing reports and Four Thought articles
- Need new chair for coming year , committee transitions
  - Set through 2011 with committee members. Will need to replace chair position in 2010.

#### **Membership – Leslie Witkowski**

- The following action item from the Strategic Plan was completed in February of 2009.
  - May 2010 - Post a checklist of ways to get involved in Regional activities on the web site (based on old Pincentive list) - Julie Champion, Director, Leslie Witkowski, Membership Chair; Rich Niccum, web master.
- Region 4 currently has 595 members
- The deadline for the 2 Complimentary Memberships the National office is giving away is August 1st. So far I have received no applications. The form has been posted on the website and a reminder was just submitted for the last NAI NOW and on website.
- I will be stepping down as committee chair at the end of the year, if you know of anyone who might like to take on the task of chair of this committee, please pass their name along to me.
- Still looking for committee members from IN, OH, MI and Ontario. Again, if you know of anyone who would like to get involved, please let me know.

#### **Nominating – Ginger Murphy**

- Slate of officers is due by Mid-September according to chair of elections committee. Julie and Ginger, Foster Brown, Vicki Basman and Maria Daley will be talking and deciding on names.

#### **Publications - Jamie Krupka**

- Summer FourThought will be out this week
  - 70 non-mailing R4 members will receive it in the mail remaining will be sent via Constant Contact.
  - Photos from the newsletter must be posted on the R4 web-site and links through the Constant Contact message will direct a person to those related photos

- Need to get photos to Rich to load onto the web-site where the hopefully can be posted within their own "FourThought" tab
- Next Interp Booklet
  - Summer interp ideas and activities
  - Call for submissions goes out in the summer 2009 newsletter

### **Scholarships and Grants –Andrea Haslage**

- Andrea is rotating off after the 2010 workshop and Jamie will also be leaving also. Carol Ward will stay on for 3 more years, and Amanda Simmons will also stay on. Idea is to use the winners of scholarships and membership and approach them to serve as new chairs.
- Gave away 2 - \$800 grants (Sheila Weibe & Ray Novotony)
- Who should be responsible to be sure there is a certification program at each RIW?
  - Should this be a role of the RIW program chair?
  - Grants and Scholarship chair – delegate to the committee members to conduct/organize someone the presentation. This would be a marketing opportunity for the committee.
  - Andrea will do or find someone to do the 2010/2011 workshop and then we'll assess after that.
- Non-NAI Grant status
  - Try to offer 1 and got 1 application but candidate was denied her proposal and now have \$500 back into account. What to do next? Decided to hang onto money and use for students scholarship/regional workshop coverage.
  - Will offer again in 2010 with first come, first serve basis.

### **Strategic Planning – Ginger Murphy**

- Progress
  - Send any updates to Ginger by August 15<sup>th</sup>!
- Look over final plan for 2009/2010

### **Student Involvement Committee – Wil Reding**

- Status of 2 free student memberships campaign?
  - This will be covered by Amy Grey. No applicants yet – did not advertise well because of confusion as to who would handle – strategic plan list student involvement committee as the head of this project.
- Committee members transition – Wil is rotating off committee and Dorothy McLeer and Amy Grey will be the new co-chairs.

### **Training and Membership Services – Robin Dungan**

- Mini-workshop updates – getting new member info sent to treasurer and membership chair?
  - Talking about offering an Interpretive Planning workshop (Kari Scott - Mio, MI, U.S. Forest Service) – they would get an Interpretive Plan out of the workshop. They have some money delegated to the project.
- Committee member transitions?
  - Robin will be rotating off and will be looking for a chair.

### **Ways and Means – Teresa Rody**

- Working on reprinting Interpretive Booklets: Tips and Tricks for the Trail, Naturally Selective, Scat, Tracks and Other Signs, and Playing with Preschoolers
- Currently looking for a digital copy/original of Preschoolers
- Acorn Naturalist continues to sell our interpretive booklets. Spring and Summer sales to them \$700
- Looking forward to receiving digital original for “Winter” booklet
- Mary Warren handled the Birdathon for the committee. She has sent emails and cards to collect pledges, Teresa Rody sent reminder emails and these pledges are due August 1.
- Amy Roell is working on the new display retractable banner. She is searching for the horizontal banner option and she and Sharon Hosko are asking for image and design input from Region 4 members. Ginger Murphy has offered to assist them with design work.
- The committee is seeking individuals who are interested in sustainable products and practices research to join the committee and help with these parts of implementing our strategic plan.
- We are gearing up for the national workshop and looking for volunteers to staff the booth at the workshop.

**Website – Rich Niccum**

- Send Rich updates for websites. There is a section on the website specifically for volunteer opportunities and Rich can post these openings.
- We are on Facebook (thanks to Haley). Check it out and feel free to post info!

**Next Conference Call (Fall/October? 2009)**

- October 19<sup>th</sup> 11:30am is next conference call

**Adjourn 12:37pm**