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## **MINUTES 4 MAY 1990 PORTLAND, MAINE**

President Giblin called the meeting to order at 1542.

President Giblin thanked the local organizing committee (Dave Townsend and Peter Larsen, and Marshall Pregnall in the later stages) for their efforts on the meeting. General applause was given.

The Secretary's report was accepted as read.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

President Giblin discussed several financial issues with the membership. She reported that the Executive Board had decided to provide banquet tickets for all students eligible for the Ketchum and Rankin Awards, since eligible students, including Award winners, had often missed the banquet at previous meetings, perhaps owing to the price of admission. A generous contribution from Hydrolab Corporation had been allocated to banquet tickets for such students at this meeting. The membership was queried as to whether or not such a practice should continue at future meetings, and what means should be used to provide funds to support the practice. Options include a slight increase to meeting registration fees, tapping into additional contributions to the Student Award fund, allocating special contributions from sponsors or exhibitors as had been done at this meeting, or taking advantage of the healthy status of the Student Award fund,

which is now self sufficient for both prizes at two meetings per year. The membership approved of providing banquet tickets to students eligible for the Rankin and Ketchum Prizes.

President Giblin also presented the idea of NEERS sending or helping to send a student to the biennial ERF meetings, and if so, how? AERS currently assists a student to attend the ERF meetings. If we do want to assist a NEERS student in attending ERF, how should we choose one: by having a lottery for travel funds or a committee that screens applicants? Who would be eligible to apply: any student or only students presenting papers? Should we restrict ourselves to support for ERF meetings only; what about any other meeting? After discussion among the membership, a motion was proposed to help assist students attend ERF meetings only, and that the student should give a paper at ERF. The motion passed. The President will explore the possibility of matching funds from ERF at the next ERF Governing Board meeting.

President Giblin announced that the next meeting will be held in Newport, Rhode Island from October 25-27, 1990. There will be a special Thursday symposium on estuarine eutrophication to cover information acquired since the similar symposium in Narragansett, RI 6 years ago. The meeting organizers are Veronica Berounsky and Walter Berry, and Jonathan Garber will help organize the eutrophication symposium.

President Giblin announced that we will be considering a change in the NEERS Constitution at the fall meeting in Newport that would add language about not lobbying, which is required by the IRS to become a 501-C3 entity in order to acquire tax-exempt status. Should we send the IRS a letter indicating our intention to adopt the statement? General discussion followed after which a motion to express our intent to adopt the statement was passed.

President Giblin reminded those present that membership in NEERS does not automatically include membership in ERF, and that ERF is having a membership drive. ERF "propaganda" is available at the registration desk.

President Giblin reminded those present that this was the 20th anniversary meeting of NEERS, and that Historian Jay Moore would be giving a recitation of the highlights of NEERS' history at the banquet.

A head count was taken of those interested in the tours of the Great Bay and Wells National Estuarine Research Reserves, which will follow the close of the meetings on Saturday.

President Giblin opened the floor of the meeting to items of general interest. It was asked if the affiliate societies, such as NEERS, pay a fee to ERF. The answer is "no", we do not. One member of NEERS serves as an ERF Governing Board member and receives half travel support from ERF to the ERF Governing Board meetings. It was asked why there is not more support from the affiliates. A general discussion of the recent history of the relationship between ERF and the affiliate societies ensued, followed by the consensus that the relationship is pretty good the way it is now.

Past-President Ted Loder asked about NEERS meetings beyond the fall meeting in Newport. Alternatives for the Spring 1991 meeting were discussed; the possibilities include a joint meeting with AERS, a meeting focusing on Long Island Sound or the Hudson River, and a reprise of the First Fall Fun-Filled Fundy Ferry Forum from the fall of '85. After general discussion, the consensus was that a Second Spring Semi-Silly Shipboard Scotian Symposium should be organized.

Past-President Ted Loder called for nominations for the two positions to be voted on at the fall meeting in Newport, namely Secretary-Treasurer and President-Elect.

President Giblin adjourned the meeting at 1629.

Addendum to the minutes: At the banquet Friday evening, the first Stubby Rankin Prize was awarded to Michelle Babione of Hampshire College for her paper, "Land use change in the watershed of Waquoit Bay, Massachusetts," and Veronica Berounsky was awarded the Buck Ketchum Prize for her paper, "Rates of nitrification and their importance to the nitrogen cycle of a coastal marine ecosystem."

Respectfully submitted,

Marshall Pregnell  
Secretary-Treasurer

SECRETARY'S REPORT  
4 MAY 1990  
PORTLAND, MAINE

1. Read minutes from June 1989 meeting.

2. Membership report:

Approximately 420 members in data base, ≈130 unpaid dues for 2 or more years, ≈290 active  
About 40 new members in past year.

3. Meeting report:

92 registered thus far: 63 preregistered, 30 walkins, 1 cancellation.  
63 Regular NEERS members, 24 Student members, 5 nonmembers  
4 Ketchum papers (some cancellations)  
5 Rankin papers

Total income for this meeting is about \$3500, including \$80 contributed to the Ketchum Fund, \$66 to the Rankin Fund, and a \$200 contribution from Hydrolab Corporation, which was used to pay for banquet tickets for those students eligible for the two student prizes.