

Minutes of NEERS Business meeting
June 1, 2001
Salem State College, Salem, MA

Meeting called to order at 4:45 p.m.

Secretary's Report- was given by Pam Morgan (and accepted). The following member status information was presented:

State	No. of members
MA	146
CT	89
RI	84
ME	49
NY	37
NH	25
NJ	16
MD	6
NS (NOVA SCOTIA)	6
DE	2
PA	4
VT	2
VA	2
LA	2
OH	4
TX	2
SC	2
FL	1
MS	2
OR	3
CA	1
QUEBEC	4
OK	1
UNKNOWN	33

Treasurer's report- was given by David Burdick and was accepted. Alan Young noted that Salem State donated approximately \$900 for mailing and photocopying. The overall cost for this meeting was \$6300. The following registration information was presented:

	<i>Spring 2001 meeting</i>	<i>Fall 2000 meeting</i>
Preregistered Regular members	68	75
Preregistered Student members	17	53

On-site registration regular members	10	1
On-site registration student members	10	5
Nonmembers registered	10	16

Old Business

The Neiring family has agreed to the naming of the NEERS student travel awards after Bill Neiring.

New Business

Proposals for future NEERS meetings- Fall 2001 will be an ERF meeting in St. Petersburg, FL, so no NEERS meeting. Spring 2001 – Hilary Neckles volunteered to host a meeting in Maine. Fall 2001- Pat Kremer volunteered to have UConn at Avery Point host the meeting. A motion for these meeting locations was approved.

ERF Report from President Deegan given.

Attended meeting 6 weeks ago. Meeting focused on November ERF meeting in FL.

Check the web page for how to submit abstracts. Other societies (Physical oceanographers and Climate society) are meeting in Tampa at the same time and on Weds all three societies will exchange.

Dave Burdick brought up that the National Strategy for Restoration will fund \$30-50 million per year. ERF newsletter has a Web address for those who want to participate in web discussions about this.

Estuaries has a new web-based review process- should be faster.

ERF Student Travel Awards - the amount of these has not yet been determined, but it may be as much as \$2000/student for international travel.

Possible changes to NEERS Constitution

Linda asked people to think about these things- no need to vote now. NEERS President will attend ERF meetings. Duties of all Exec. Board members could be articulated in an Operations Manual that would be referred to in the Constitution. Discussion ensued, with general agreement that this is a good way to proceed.

Should Secretary and Treas. be allowed to serve more than two terms (the policy now)?

Consensus seemed to be that no change in the policy was necessary.

Do students have enough input in NEERS? Add student to Exec Board? Many points were raised - AERS has a student rep, this is a good experience for students. Pat Kremer thought we should have a student rep with an alternate with 1 year terms. Other questions raised and discussed: One year or two year terms? What about travel expenses? Grad or undergrad? Veronica said that she had appointed a student as a member-at-large in the past. Nothing prohibits a student from serving, as long as s/he is a NEERS member. Is Exec. Committee getting too big to function? Question raised by Robert Buchsbaum.

Because of lack of time to discuss this with ERF meeting next fall, members should comment via newsletter and listserv so the Exec. Bd. can hear all opinions.

Linda reviewed the options:

add a position to the Exec Bd for a student rep - term 1 year.

Specify that one of the members-at-large positions be a student, with a 1 yr term.

Leave alone but highlight that students are eligible for Exec. Bd. Positions.

Linda's plan is for changes to the Constitution and the Operations manual to be presented at the Spring 2002 meeting for approval.

Web Page

Ron Rozsa reported on the NEERS web page. The site has been updated to make changes easier. Please send comments to the Web Committee (Ron, Larry Spencer, Past-President (Scott Warren)). Discussion about possible additions to web page, such as an eelgrass bibliography, papers on geographic signatures of various estuarine systems (presented by affiliates at Providence or New Orleans ERF meeting).

Meeting adjourned.

Postscript:

Current Executive Committee Members:

Linda Deegan	President
R. Scott Warren	Past-President
Marshall Pregnall	President-Elect
Pamela Morgan	Secretary
David Burdick	Treasurer
Nancy O'Connor	Member-at Large
Robert Buchsbaum	Member-at-Large
Alan Young	Historian

Additional Posts:

Pat Kremer	Program Chair
Scott Warren	Web Committee
Larry Spencer	Web Committee Newsletter Editor
Ron Rozsa	Web Committee

Minutes compiled by Pam Morgan, Secretary, with assistance from Alison Bowden.

Note: the following students were awarded this year's prizes:

Ketchum prize: Ray Konisky

Konisky, R.A. and D.M. Burdick, JEL, University of New Hampshire, *A Simulation Model to Predict Plant Community Response to Hydrologic Restoration of Tidally-Restricted Salt Marshes.*

Rankin prize: Mark Miller

Miller, M.S. and J.K. Buttner, Biology Department, Salem State College, *The Symbiotic Relationship of Red Hake and Sea Scallops as a Possible Management Tool.*

Dean prize: Kristopher Light

Rawson, R.L., Jr., J.K. Light, S.M. Fairley, P.E. Fell and R.S. Warren, Connecticut College, *Is Fish Use of Brackish Tidal Marshes altered by the Invasion of Phragmites?*