

NEERS Business Meeting
May 6th, 2011
Port Jefferson, NY

Secretary's Report (Sara Grady)

- Elections Fall 2010
 - Cindy Delpapa was elected treasurer
 - John Brawley was elected president
 - Sara Grady was elected secretary
- Awards Fall 2010
 - Ketchum (Graduate Oral) to Alyssa Novak, UNH
 - Dean (Graduate Poster) to Diana Barrett, UMass Dartmouth
 - Rankin (Undergraduate Oral) to Amanda Vielard, BU
 - WHOI Sea Grant Travel
 - Carrie Byron, URI
 - Lindsey Fields, URI/GSO
 - Niering Travel
 - Leanna Heffner (URI/GSO)
 - Elise Heiss (BU)
 - Erin Rempala (UMass Boston)

Treasurer's Report (Cindy Delpapa)

- 101 attendees, 63 pre-registered (62%)
- Current financial statement
 - Checking - \$17,168
 - Student Savings – \$6,003
 - Student Endowment CD - \$28,877
 - NEERS Endowment CD - \$18,045
- Meeting cost ~\$10,000
- Income
 - Sponsors – NYSG, SoMAS
 - Patron – YSI
 - \$6,600 from registration
- Heads up on CERF Student Travel Awards
 - Two \$500 awards, chosen by lottery
 - Current student members
 - Notify Cindy by 6/1/11
 - Indicate if submitted and abstract (preference for presenters)
 - Secretary will send out announcement e-mail

Website Report (Jamie Vaudrey)

- Ready by Spring 2012
- Same functions, with cosmetic improvements
- Send photos!
- E-mail Jamie with website suggestions
- Question: Can we password protect portions of the membership database?

Database Committee Report (Tay Evans)

- Membership database is being updated
- An RFP is being issued for database contractors
 - Create online database
 - Create remotely accessible database for secretary and treasurer

Green Meeting Policy (Steve Hale) – Executive Committee voted to add guidelines to our Operations Manual

Finance Committee Report (Hilary Neckles)

- Now called the “Meeting Support Committee”
- Trying to spread the work of running a meeting and finding underwriting
- Creates an institutional knowledge
- \$ is tight
- Pam Neubert volunteered to be on it
- We have a list of potential sponsors from ERF07 (J. Latimer)

Plans for Next Meeting(s)

- Brainstorming
 - Perhaps special symposium should be eliminated, unless someone wants to do it
 - Hard to find local committees
 - Hold 1 meeting/year (note: we have no problem finding talks to fill 2 mtgs/yr)
 - Have a standard venue for some meetings
 - Hold simpler, more informal meetings (for 1 meeting, or 1 day)
 - “Phyco speed dating”
 - Slide discussions sessions like at Benthic Ecology Meeting
- Block Island Fall 2012?
- Spring 2012 location needed (Addendum – to be held in Plymouth, MA)
 - Hold joint meeting again (recent one was 60% ACCESS, 40% NEERS)
 - Poughkeepsie, NY – Marshall Pregnall, centrally located, joint meeting with AERS

Announcements and Thank You's

- Kathy and Ed Rhodes met 30 years ago in Kittery, ME (Fall 1981 meeting)
- Thank you to Darcy Lonsdale and SoMAS

Addendum (Spring 2011 awards)

- Student Presentation Awards
 - Ketchum Award – Lauren Kras, Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of New Hampshire. “The status of five state-listed tidal plant species in New Hampshire with emphasis on potential impacts of sea level rise”
 - Dean Award – Elizabeth Suter, School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, Stony Brook University. “Evidence of changing nutrient regimes in Long Island Sound”
 - No Rankin or Warren Award given
- Student Travel Awards

- o Niering Awards
 - Annesia Lamb, Aquatic Research and Environmental Assessment Center, Brooklyn College
 - David Brown, Dept. of Biology and Environmental Science, Univ. of New Haven
 - Owen Nichols, School for Marine Science and Technology, UMass Dartmouth
- o WHOI Sea Grant Awards
 - Lauren Kras, Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of New Hampshire
 - Camilo Salazar, New York Suffolk County/School of Marine Sciences, Stony Brook University
- Stickleback Award given to Lauren Kras (a triple crown winner – the first ever?)

NEERS Executive Committee Meeting
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Executive Committee Responsibilities (Steve Hale) – handed out 10 Basic Responsibilities (via Joy Bartholomew)

Website Revision (Jamie Vaudrey)

- Discussed going through site for edits Jamie missed
- Photos of Team NEERS?
- New site by next NEERS meeting

Finance Committee Proposal (Steve Hale)

- Pam Neubert (not chair)
- “Meeting Support Committee”
- Spread the burden of effort to support NEERS

Meeting Frequency and Format (Steve Hale)

- Ideally no change
- CERF is expensive, travel is tough for state employees
- Salem in spring 2012, Block Island in Fall 2012 – perhaps should “save” Salem for future meeting
- Hotels get expensive fast, people don’t want to attend banquet
- Sue Adamowicz wants to help “on the edge” (not organize) spring meeting
- Parker River for site?
- Coastal House in Wells?
- Plymouth, MA? (Addendum – chosen as site for Spring 2012)
- Joint meeting in Poughkeepsie with AERS?
- Joint meeting with American Fisheries Society?
- Hold special symposium on management issues to get managers to show up
- RARGOM, NEWIPCC, NEAEB

Green Meeting Document (Steve Hale)

- Ride board
- Carbon credit for taking Amtrak
- Make a little notification about the efforts done to make the meeting more ecologically friendly
- No plastic bottles, have big water jug with reusable cups
- Recycling availability

Integrated Meeting Announcement (Hilary Neckles, Jamie Vaudrey)

- Have one document for meeting announcements?
- Generate PDF of the website
- Single “Important Info” sheet
- Send meeting announcement to more people
- Sarah Watts – Society for Ecological Restoration
- Get potential recipients from local committee
- Membership – get people from CERF who are not members of NEERS

