



NHANRS

New Hampshire Association of Natural Resource Scientists

Board of Directors

MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting – August 21, 2023

Via Zoom

Call to Order 4:08 PM:

Present: President: Collis Adams (CA); Vice President: Deidra Benjamin (DB); Treasurer: Luke Powell (LP); Membership Chair: Sarah Large (SL); Communications Chair: Elizabeth Olliver (EO); Education Chair: Randall Shuey (RS); Administrative Assistant: Brian Matott (BM)

Guest: Sarah Barnum (SB)

Absent: Secretary: Noah Buckner (NB); Legislative Chair: Kimberly Peace (KP)

Approval of Minutes:

RS made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. EO seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report – Treasurer:

LP reported that NHANRS is currently \$2,300 over budget for the year, mainly due to the additional expense incurred by the contract amendment with Bernstein, Shur for lobbying. This additional recurring expense through the end of the year may be abated by additional workshop income. LP inquired about the contract amendment and the consensus was that NHANRS could revert back to the original contract terms at the end of the year.

Committee Reports:

Membership:

SL reported that we received Spencer Tate's Active – Regular membership renewal at the Summer Meeting. This was the only membership activity for the month.

Communications:

EO reported that she had received some concern over current NHANRS members who do not appear on the Member Directory. EO proposed updating the information in the Directory. There was a consensus that the Annual Conference would be a good platform to get members to provide their contact information for the Directory. EO requested a list of any upcoming workshops to keep the Event List on the website populated.

Legislative:

Education:

SB stated that she has put together a Tracking Evaluation Workshop that had been done previously in 2018. The workshop is hosted in partnership with the North American subsidiary of Cybertracker. NHANRS will be working with Bear Camp Trackers on this two-day event. The workshop will be capped at 11 participants, so this will be more expensive for those attending than our typical events. The per person cost will be \$275 and SB suggested that the event be offered to NHANRS members at cost. EO made the motion to move forward with this event. SL seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

RS and CA reported that the Summer Meeting went well. There was positive feedback for Tidewater Catering, which has now supplied food for the past 3 Summer Meetings.

The Fall Quarterly Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20th, from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at Blasty Bough Brewing Co. in Epsom. Darlene Forst will be on hand to discuss the newly proposed wetlands rules changes. The facility cost is \$500 and food will need to be catered. DB suggested that, given the facility cost, that the quarterly meetings go back to the Common Man. The Board decided the registration fees for this meeting should be \$40 for members and \$60 for non-members, even if this does not completely cover expenses. DB stated that the announcement needs to be completed as soon as possible so it can be reviewed and posted to the membership.

Administrative Assistant Report:

BM stated that there is nothing to discuss this month.

Old Business:**New Business:****Committee Vice/Co-Chairs****Strategic Plan**

2024 Annual Conference

CA proposed the concept of a theme for the Conference, and suggested climate change. RS added that topics to be considered for inclusion in the Conference are the need for additional education in NH and the NEPA Process. DB suggested that the NH-DOT Environmental Managers are well versed in the NEPA process. LP stated that the NH Geologic Survey would like to present at one of our meetings. DB inquired about ethics and RS suggested having Jason Reimers return to present on that topic. **CA will work to get Jason booked for the Conference.** SL proposed the topic of expounding on the MARSH Mentoring Program.

DB offered to arrange for the book table and to collect raffle items. SL will attempt to contact educators to line up poster submissions. SL made the motion to accept the new poster session awards of \$1,500, \$800, and \$500. LP seconded. The motion passed unanimously. DB suggested that the bottom tier remain on the sponsor form for smaller companies that could use the exposure. BM spoke with Jodi Attridge on the booked space at Grappone Conference Center. The current space can accommodate 176, but the state room for lunch can only accommodate 160. BM reminded the Board of the level of financial commitment for any anticipated headcount and inquired if the Board wanted to consider booking more space. The Board agreed that capping the event at 160 participants was reasonable so no additional space would be required.

For the Good of the Association:

Adjournment:

SL made the motion to adjourn. RS seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 PM

Minutes submitted by: Brian Matott