



**NHANRS**

**New Hampshire Association of Natural Resource Scientists**

Board of Directors

**MEETING MINUTES**

Regular Meeting – September 16, 2024

Via Zoom

**Call to Order 4:04 PM:**

**Present:** Vice President: Deidra Benjamin (DB); Treasurer: Spencer Tate (ST); Membership Chair: Sarah Large (SL); Communications Chair: Elizabeth Olliver (EO); Interim Education Chair: Randall Shuey (RS); Administrative Assistant: Brian Matott (BM)

**Absent:** President: Collis Adams (CA); Secretary: Noah Buckner (NB); Legislative Chair: Kimberly Peace (KP)

**Approval of Minutes:**

SL requested that the August meeting minutes be amended to clarify that no updates were provided for any of the Committee Reports. ST made the motion to approve the minutes as amended. SL seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Report – Treasurer:**

ST reported that there was a profit of approximately \$844 for the Summer Meeting despite having paid for two venues. BM noted that this amount will decrease to \$700 as two refunds were processed at the beginning of September. ST stated that BM is being reimbursed for paying the Zoom subscription fee, and that the Dropbox subscription fee will be coming due. ST inquired about the status on the discussion of providing the Administrative Assistant with a credit card. BM stated that the Board had already approved this suggestion. **ST will bring to the Board the best credit card option.**

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership:**

SL reported that the Membership total was now at 131, after the addition of 2 Student and 1 Affiliate Public Sector applications. This total is an increase over the 126 total members for 2023.

**Communications:**

EO stated that there were no updates for Communications. BM asked for confirmation that the email he sent providing instructions on how members can add our email address to their safe senders list was received. BM noted that there were numerous bounce backs from that email, which suggests that those stale email addresses should be removed from our contacts lists. BM suggested that when promoting the events of other organizations, that we provide a disclaimer directing questions to that specific organization. EO will add such a disclaimer going forward.

**Legislative:****Education:**

RS stated that the topic for the Fall Quarterly Meeting will be on Ksat values. DB suggested that, since the meeting is currently only one month away, the announcement draft should be started to give EO as much information on the event as soon as possible to expedite the communication. RS is continuing to struggle with coordinating a Stormwater Workshop. The issue has been contacting a possible presenter from the EPA. RS reported that the Winter Botany Workshop is scheduled for December 6<sup>th</sup>. RS stated that some potential workshops for 2025 are: Matt Tarr providing another Wildlife Habitat Tour, Tracy Tarr presenting a Vernal Pool Workshop, and a one-day Summer Tracking Workshop.

**Administrative Assistant Report:****Old Business:****2025 Board of Directors**

EO and KP have already expressed interest in remaining on the Board in their respective positions, while CA and SL have reached the three-year limit at their positions. DB stated that finding our next Education Committee Chair was our highest priority. EO inquired if there was a list of regular contacts as possible partners for organizing events, RS stated that one could be created. BM stated that the next Education Committee meeting will be on October 7<sup>th</sup>. EO would like to sit in on this meeting and BM will add her to the invite list.

SL has drafted language for the proposed change to the bylaws to include an incentive for Board participation. The Board amended this language to clarify that this language is specific to 'current' Board members.

"In recognition of their service, all current Board members shall have their workshop fees waived or covered for the Annual Conference and Summer Meeting held each year, where their participation is required. This policy ensures that Board members can participate in essential workshops and meetings by supporting and recognizing their ongoing contributions to the Board's mission and activities."

EO made the motion to approve the proposed change to the bylaws. ST seconded. The motion passed unanimously. EO will send out this proposal to the Membership requesting that they review it and be prepared to comment and vote on this at the Annual Conference.

**2025 Annual Conference**

RS stated that NH Geological Survey has agreed to present at the Conference. NHDES will also take time to explain some rule changes. RS has Mary Ann Tilton and Emma Berger to come and expound on their presentations made at the Summer Meeting. Gillian Davies will also reprise her topic from this year's Conference, providing information on practical applications. RS will contact Jason Reimers about possibly providing an ethics topic.

**New Business:****For the Good of the Association:****Adjournment:**

ST made the motion to adjourn. EO seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 PM

The next BOD Meeting will take place at 4:00 PM, Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup> via Zoom

Minutes submitted by: Brian Matott