ARAFS Fall 2018 EXCOM Meeting Minutes
9 November 2018
Arlington Hotel, Hot Springs, Arkansas

**Attendees:** Mike Eggleton (President), Matt Schroeder (President-Elect), Eric Brinkman (Past President), Casey Cox (Treasurer), Dustin Lynch (Secretary), Forrest Payne (Environmental Affairs Committee), JJ Gladden (Educational Liaison Committee)

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION – Mike Eggleton**

**SECRETARY’S REPORT – Dustin Lynch**

- 2018 Spring ExCom Meeting minutes and Business Meeting minutes were made available with the Spring 2018 edition of the Lateral Line.

**TREASURER’S REPORT – Casey Cox**

- Beginning Balance $18,050.37
- Total Debits $1,872.73
  - Whole Hog Café (6/11/2018) $75.73
  - Wild Apricot (6/11/2018) $972.00
  - Taxes (6/11/2018) $75.00
  - AFS Cert. Reimbursement (7/16/2018) $50.00
  - White River Waterkeeper Donation (8/31/2018) $500.00
  - AFS Cert. Reimbursement (9/26/2018) $50.00
  - AFS Insurance (10/19/2018) $150.00
- Deposit (6/8/2018) $25.00
- Interest Deposits (various dates) $10.50
- Ending Balance $16,213.14
- Wild Apricot subscription fee used to be $700.00 annually but has gone up to $972.00 – the committee discussed at what point this would become cost prohibitive and whether they might be willing to negotiate a lower cost
- **MOTION to approve – Matt; Second – Eric. All in favor, motion passed.**
APPOINTED OFFICER REPORTS

- NEWSLETTER - Christy Graham
  - Christy was not in attendance.
  - Student subunits had not responded lately with submissions.
  - AGFC print shop will print the program for the meeting free of cost.
  - Mike will send out emails about calls for papers and Ben will set up website to accept submissions.
  - Matt suggested sending out an email ASAP saying to start thinking about presentations for the meeting.
  - Casey will not be in attendance at the February chapter meeting so Matt will handle treasury business.
    - Casey stressed that payments should be handled directly through the checking account rather than through PayPal to avoid incurring fees.

- WEBMASTER - Ben Thesing
  - Ben was not in attendance.
  - Ben will get the web portal set up soon that will be working by the time the newsletter comes out.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- NOMINATING AND AWARDS COMMITTEE - Eric Brinkman
  - Award Nominations
    - A request for award nominations will be included in the Spring Lateral Line.
    - Amanda Brogdon, a school administrator at Heber Springs School, was suggested for the Joe Hogan Award for Individual Achievement.
      - She runs “Heber Springs Fish Camp” that teaches kids about fish, ecology, and fishing.
    - Either the Army Corps of Engineers at Greers Ferry (Little Rock District) or at Lake Greeson (Vicksburg District) were suggested for the Robert M. Jenkins Award for Outstanding Conservation Achievement.
  - Officer Nominations
    - Matt Horton or Jonathan Spurgeon were suggested for Treasurer.
    - John Stein suggested for President.

- ACTIVITIES AND RAFFLE COMMITTEE - Eli Powers
  - Eli was not in attendance but submitted a report largely focused on preparations for the 2020 Southern Division meeting here.
  - Eli plans to attend the Southern Division meeting in Galveston and shadow the Texas Chapter’s raffle committee to get a feel for their process.
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - Forrest Payne
- Forrest has been tracking issues involving nutrient criteria in correspondence with Jessie Green, ADEQ’s permit denial of C&H Hog Farm, and the Buffalo River’s 303d status
- Forrest is working to get Fourche Creek re-listed as an impaired water body by ADEQ after it was removed.
  - Issues in Fourche Creek involve trash as well as DO and pH, but there is not yet enough data to assess.
  - Audubon Arkansas would like to eventually make Fourche Creek into a recreation area with boardwalks, a water trail, etc.
- Our chapter’s previous letters to Senator John Boozman and Representative Bruce Westerman were used by AFS as models for how to write letters of support.
- RAWA has passed the House and is now in the Senate.

EDUCATION LIAISON COMMITTEE - JJ Gladden
- JJ is soliciting nominations for the Outstanding Student Award.
- JJ expressed desire to find a replacement in his position – someone who is closer to recent college graduate stage trying to get their foot in the door.
- Matt would like JJ to be involved in the Sunfish Fishing Tournament.

2019 ARAFS PROGRAM COMMITTEE - Matt Schroeder
- First call for papers for the 2019 meeting will be in November, with a second call in December and third in January.
  - Matt will send out an email ASAP telling people to start thinking about submissions.
- Because the meeting isn’t until late February this year, we could probably extend time for submissions up to late January.
- JJ and Matt met to discuss beverages for the meeting, which will come from a combination of donations of local Arkansas and Hot Springs products.
  - They may talk to Kyle Swallow, who has just left AGFC to become a brewmaster, about providing locally produced beverages.
- Matt gave us a catering budget with all possible meals and would like us to provide feedback about appropriate meals.
  - We need to set the menu ASAP to lock in the current 2018 listed prices since the prices will likely go up when the menu is revised soon.
- We estimated attendance at 100-120 people for this meeting, pending weather conditions and other factors affecting travel.
- The welcome meal at the first social will be pizza (made in-house at the hotel), at a cost of $9.00 a pizza that will come to around $338.00.
- We discussed the breaks schedule – morning breaks with new food would not be needed, just replenish the food provided that morning – coffee, juice, danishes, etc.
- Need to ask attendees about dietary requirements, such as vegetarian, gluten-free, etc. to accommodate them.
- Four hours was deemed sufficient time to pay for having a bartender on duty, as people can relocate elsewhere to drink at a certain point in the evening.
- The Past Presidents’ luncheon is estimated to have around 20 attendees and can be done in either the same dining hall that we had this lunch meeting or at Superior Bathhouse Brewery.
- We need to figure out the exact parking situation – the parking deck may not be ideal for large AGFC trucks, but they can fit.
  - It is our understanding that parking at the hotel will be free with free in/out privileges.
- Need to enquire about free Wi-Fi at the hotel.
- The Arlington Hotel’s contract does have an “Acts of God” clause in case something like inclement weather prevents us from having enough attendees to fill the contract.
- On the 19th, Matt will come early to help set things up. Dustin will come early to set up workshop.
  - Dustin will send a list of needed items for the workshop to Matt – things like scopes, dissecting kits, etc.
  - Forrest suggested contacting him at UALR for supplies.
  - A suggestion was made to possibly contact the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts in Hot Springs about providing equipment for the workshop, potentially some deal in which students at the school could attend the meeting.
  - Workshop will be capped at 40 attendees.
- Matt will work on developing the official artwork for the meeting ASAP – we should incorporate Alligator Gar and/or Yellowcheek Darter, as those are proposed new State Fish.

- **2020 SDAFS MEETING PLANNING COMMITTEE - Ben Batten**
  - Ben was not in attendance so Mike reported on his behalf.
  - A contract has been signed with the Marriott in Little Rock.
  - The 2020 Southern Division meeting will run back-to-back with the Catfish Symposium.
  - A small group from this chapter will be sent to Galveston at the 2019 Southern Division Meeting to promote the 2020 meeting.

**AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **ARKANSAS STREAM HERITAGE PARTNERSHIP - Tate Wentz**
  - Tate was not in attendance but submitted a written report.
  - Partnership formed during a two-day workshop at the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission.
- Goal is removal of stream barriers.
  - Partnership’s most recent meeting was in northwest Arkansas at the Beaver Watershed Alliance symposium.
  - Partnership participants continue training on adding stream barriers to SARP’s database – next steps will be training and promotion of field personnel to inventory barriers and prioritize removal projects.

- **STATE FISH - Justin Homan**
  - This committee’s task has been completed and is now dissolved.

**STUDENT SUBUNIT REPORTS**

- No reports were submitted by any student subunits. Students need to be prompted to get a student article into the newsletter.
- UALR has no active subunit and currently no aquatic program or courses whatsoever.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Survey topics for future workshops were discussed.
- Jessica Feltz may give a human dimensions workshop this summer.
- Potential locations to do a GIS workshop were discussed – need a dedicated GIS lab for that.
- Proposed amendment to the chapter by-laws about donations and sponsorships – votes were 32 to 3 in favor of passing.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Statewide Sunfish Fishing Tournament.
  - Matt would like to get student subunits involved as much as possible and would like JJ to be involved in coordinating that effort. Matt is going to start working on the planning for the tournament soon.
- Texas Chapter requested money that was going to be donated be used instead to send representatives to Galveston to promote the next Division Meeting (2020).
  - Eric noted that we have already given the Texas chapter a donation at the last meeting – we have donated to both Texas and Puerto Rico in recent years, have already hit our donation cap.
  - By-laws would pay for President or President-Elect to attend, we could fund any of the Executive Committee who wanted to to attend.

**MOTION** to adjourn – Matt; second – Casey. All in favor, motion passed.