

PSCAND meeting minutes of October 4, 2007

Members present:

Kyle Thomson  
Mary Schuh  
Ray Finocchiaro  
Ron Luethe  
Paul Benedict  
Lance Duey  
Perry Sullivan  
Wade Bott  
Alan Gulsvig  
John Kempenich  
CJ Heidt  
Fred Aziz  
Earnie Jenson  
Larry Edland  
Dave Breker  
Keith Anderson

Meeting called to order by past-president Larry Edland at 4:36 pm.

The minutes of the last meeting were read. Motion by Fred Aziz and second by Keith Anderson to approve the minutes as read. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was read. Discussion about posting the report on the website for members to review. May be better to e-mail to members rather than posting for the public to view.

Discussion about the cost of dues, and members who have not paid. It was noted that the by-laws state a member is delinquent if the dues are 60 days late.

An error was noted in the report. There is a typo in the balance of the CD on page 2 of the report. Paul Benedict asked that this be corrected.

Motion by Ron Luethe and second by Perry Sullivan to approve the treasurer's report with correction. Motion carried.

Lewis & Clark wrap-up:

Larry reviewed the event at New Town. Several thousand people visited the event, we sold 2 t-shirts. Our display was staffed by Larry, Lance, CJ, Mike, Manuel, and Joe.

Soil and Water Science Summit:

Susan and Joe wrote a summary of the summit. This handout was distributed to the members present.

Committee Reports:

Finance – Cheryl made the books available to the committee for review; all is in order.

By-laws – no activity

Ethics – no activity

Membership – new members introduced themselves: Kyle Thomson, Mary Schuh, and Ray Finocchiaro. It was noted that Chris Perleberg received a student membership with his scholarship; his letter of thanks was read.

Nomination - members have been placed on the ballot for the office of president-elect and vice-president.

Registration – no activity. Discussion about some members planning to take the Fundamental exam.

Public Relations – no report

Event – review the organization's role in Carrington summit

Reclamation – no report

Motion made by Ron and seconded by Lance to approve committee reports. Motion carried.

Smithsonian exhibit:

Keith reported that we have reached out \$10,000 goal. Thanks go to Scott Hochhalter for making contact with us regarding the fundraising, and to Senator Ray Holmberg from District 17 in Grand Forks for making sure \$7800 made it through committee in the state legislature to support our monolith. It was proposed that the secretary draft a letter of appreciation to the senator, to be signed by the fundraising chairperson (Keith) and the president (Perry).

Photo library:

No one has reviewed the photos that Dave Hopkins has asked for help identifying. Any member who may be able to assist with this should request a CD. PSCAND will pay \$10/hr. for this task, with a maximum of \$1000 per person.

Outside Employment Restrictions:

The NRCS has released a draft of new ethical standards that appears will restrict outside employment of NRCS employees. This will affect what the Registered Soil Classifiers will be able to do while as a federal employee. A comment period was allowed until August 1, 2007. A decision will be made nationally regarding this, but each state may be able to interpret the rules. Discussion about the demand for the services of registered soil classifiers. The fear is that if there are not enough of us to do the jobs, someone may complain to the legislature, jeopardizing our law.

Board report – no report, no board members present

Web updates:

Ray mentioned that when the link to the photo library is clicked on, the resume of Larry Cihacek appears. Also, each member should check the site to ensure their contact information is correct. Changes should be sent to Cheryl, to be forwarded on to Nate at

NDSU. Discussion about the dates of membership. There is some confusion about the dues, and the calendar dates they apply to. It was suggested this be clarified on the website.

Election of officers:

Ron Luethe had been nominated for president-elect, and Fred Aziz for vice-president. No further nominations came from the floor. Alan moved the secretary cast the unanimous ballot, seconded by John. Motion carried. These new officers should be listed on the website as soon as possible.

Old business:

Where are the soil cards that Hal received money to create?

There are still t-shirts for sale. Motion by Wade and seconded by Fred to donate a t-shirt to the charity auction to occur that evening. Motion carried.

No new business.

Larry recognized Perry as the new president of the Soil Classifiers.

Motion to adjourn by Ron Luethe, seconded by Fred. Motion carried. Adjourned at 5:45 pm.