

EEAI Board Meeting Minutes
Saturday, September 8, 2018
Anita Purvis Nature Center
Urbana, Illinois



Board Meeting 10am

Board Meeting Attendees: Jennifer Day Tariq, Janet Beach Davis, Kirsten Hope Walker, Stacey Clementz, Jame Holt, Pam Evans, Stephanie Jaros, Bryanna Blackburn.

Committee Chairs and Liaisons: Abbie Endlund, Executive Director; Stacey Clementz, PR Chair, acting Membership Chair;

Guests:

Not Present: Teresa Vaughn, Mini Grants Chair; Kristi Morris, EPA Liaison; Jo Fessett, Illinois Audubon Liaison; Judy Miller, NAAEE Representative; Jennie Bunde, EEAI Nominations and Elections Co-Chair; RDs: Tina Dawson Scott, Susie Ingram, Ylanda Wilhite, Margaret Gazdacka, Jason Haupt, Kim Petzing, , Anna Marie Froeschle Meghan Bowe, Projects Coordinator; Richie Wolf, Awards Chair;

Quorum not needed.

voted on - yellow

Items requiring Action-Underlined

Items moved to Ad-Hoc- blue

- 1) Call to order meeting called to order at 10:13 by President Jennifer Day Tariq. Board introductions for all newer members.
- 2) Additions to Agenda (Review/Vote) Motion to approve agenda as submitted by Stacey Clementz, second by Kirsten Hope Walker; passed by voice vote, no abstention.
- 3) Review Minutes/ Secretary's Report (Review/Vote) Motion to approve meeting minutes as submitted by Jame Holt, second by Bryn Blackburn; passed by voice vote, no abstention.
- 4) Treasurer's Report (Review/Vote) Motion to approve Treasurers report as submitted by Jame Holt, second by Stephanie Jaros; passed by voice vote, no abstention.
 - i) Budget discussion- AdHoc
- 5) Committee/Chair Reports
 - a) Project's Report- Abbie Endlund for Meghan Bowe- we need to concentrate on the facilitators who are very active, giving them more support and PD. Meghan is looking into different programs we can offer to broaden our scope. Meghan is working on grants. JDT would like to discuss the possibility of EEAI taking over Project WILD.
 - b) Conferences
 - i) East Central 2019 [update]- Jennifer Day Tariq- Call for presenters is going up. Hotel can be booked now. Registration will be opening soon. Several grants are in the

works. Field trip are coming together. All the information for lodging and registration will be on the website soon, if it isn't already.

- ii) South 2020-A save the date will be ready for the conference.
 - iii) Other: Reflecting on Practice- Abbie- A non-formal conference to build skills and abilities for members. Meghan brought it to our attention. Chicago Zoological Society asked us to host this. Meghan and Abbie are working together to plan a workshop near Rockford on August 13-14, 2019.
 - iv) MEEC- Iowa is the next host. We are still in discussions about reformatting MEEC with different geographic regions.
 - v) Becoming and Outdoor Woman in southern next month. EEAI could become a partner for the 2020 conference.
- c) Nominations/Elections
- i) Jame Holt- Hitting term limit-NE
 - ii) Pam Evans- Hitting term limit-EC
 - iii) President
 - iv) Treasurer
 - v) WC position will be open
 - vi) Tina Scott-Hitting term limit-NW
 - vii) President Elect
- d) Memberships- at 171 members- Abbie has been highlighting the organization membership on the website.
- i) Strategic Plan: Survey of other states, IL Grantwatch membership, levels/fees/benefits- Abbie compared Illinois to other similar state organizations. Out of 46 states- student membership fee is right in the middle. Individual/professional fees are in the middle, and our organizational fees are just below the average. Sustainable membership fees are slightly above the average. Patron and Friend levels are not really used much or similar to others. Partnerships could be percentages off for businesses. The 5 states who offer all the projects are the ones with the most members, higher fees, more benefits, and are where we should be.
 - (a) Grantwatch membership- online Illinois specific grant listings- The board discussed if we should become a member or offer a membership as a member benefit. We can get 200 memberships for \$14,000 for three months. The board decided not to spend this much money for a limited benefit.
 - (2) Suggestions:
 - (a) Drop Patron and Friend- this can be done now
 - (b) Increases in Organizations fees to \$100-FY19-20
 - (c) Add organizational sustaining membership-FY19-20
 - (d) Increased facebook groups- phase in old regional pages into groups
 - (e) Monthly webinars- future
 - (f) Increased student connections-
- e) PR

- i) Social Media-
 - (1) Instagram- more photos and videos “What does EE look like?”
 - (2) Facebook- resource sharing
 - (3) Twitter- still working on this
- ii) New swag- pins and recycled plastic pens.
- iii) Website changes and members only area- Still under discussion
- iv) Regional events need to have the banners up, a brief EEAI speech and membership, and swag and brochures at every event.**
- f) Awards/Mini Grants- Jennifer asked everyone to look around the region to have competitive nominations, awards and minigrants.
- g) Fund Development -
 - i) ComEd: New Student Program- Abbie went over her proposal for a Student Ambassador/Internship program. Suggestions from the board include changes required to our By-Laws to allow the ability to vote at the meeting, and looking into credit for a student intern and compensation for a faculty advisor. The board suggested to do the Student Ambassador position first, then the Internship if it’s successful.
- 6) Regional Updates- CIG training coming in the Southern Region.
- 7) President’s Report
 - a) Regional Director job descriptions and activity-At the board meeting we started updating the RD job description. **Discussion moved to AdHoc**
- 8) New Business
 - a) Approved Provider Status – We are reapplying for Provider Status.
 - b) Earth Force partnership-Through NAAEE- Jennifer forwarded the information to Abbie, and this could be another program we could be the state host for. Meghan is willing to do this with additional funding. Abbie will move forward with researching and discussing this.
 - c) ED to EEAI Constitution- Amendments: Executive Director, Student ambassador: We will have to have this firmed up by the December Board meeting. Membership levels will also need a membership vote. These will need to be ready to go on the ballot in December.
- 9) Meeting dates
 - a) September 9, 2018 at Anita Purves Nature Center
 - b) December 7, 2018 at Anita Purves Nature Center
 - c) February 1, 2019 at Anita Purves Nature Center
 - d) March 21-23, 2019 during the 2019 Conference in Mattoon, IL (exact day and time TBD)
 - e) June TBD Board retreat
- 10) Adjourn **Motion to adjourn by Stephanie, second by Kirsten; passed by voice vote, no abstention.**
Meeting adjourned at 12:57pm