

## **2008 Tidewater Chapter Mid-Year EXCOM Meeting Minutes**

### **Call to Order**

**Jack Musick** called the meeting to order at around **10:00 am on 11/4/2008**.

### **Attendance**

Jack Musick, Fred Scharf, Dewayne Fox, Bob Murphy, Stephanie McInerny, Paul Rudershausen, James Morris, Chip Collier (UNCW), Ken Riley (ECU), Ryan Spidel (ECU), Ed Farrell (Duke), Sara Mirabilio, Johnny Moore (Delaware)

### **2009 Annual Meeting**

**Fred Scharf** updated the EXCOM with information about the 2009 Tidewater Chapter Annual meeting in Wilmington, NC from 3/12/09 to 3/14/09. The meeting will start on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> with a poster social in the Mess Hall of the USS NC. Friday will consist of oral presentations and a dinner social on the fantail of the USS NC. The hotel (Hilton Wilmington Riverside) is located across the river from the battleship and transportation via water taxi and trolley will be provided for each social.

Several businesses and labs have agreed to sponsorships (\$2500) towards the annual meeting. This will be used to help offset hotel costs for the meeting. Hotel rates for the Hilton are \$139/night but after the sponsorships will be only \$109/night.

The oral presentations will be given on the Cape Fear Community College campus and the room use is free of charge because the college will be on spring break.

**Jack Musick** interjected that there were 100 registered people at the 2008 meeting in Virginia and a profit from the meeting of ~\$3400. There was discussion among the EXCOM that maybe some of this extra money could be used to lower student costs at the meeting.

**Fred Scharf** continued that the hotel has a shuttle from the airport and that everything for the meeting is either within walking distance or has provided transportation. He also mentioned that he is trying to keep registration costs for the meeting at around \$65/students and \$85/professionals.

**Dewayne Fox** commented that Duke Power may be a potential sponsorship source.

### **Treasurer's Report**

**Stephanie McInerny** reported that the current checking account balance for the Tidewater Chapter was \$7502.95 as of 11/4/2008. This balance included a \$550 deposit sent to the battleship for the 2009 annual meeting. The checking account balance after the 2008 annual meeting was \$8025.95. The account balance before the annual meeting was \$4628.35.

**Stephanie** also reported that work was still being done to receive reimbursement for the sales/use tax spent at the 2006 annual meeting (\$424.81). A call was made on 10/14/2008 that reported that the refund should be coming soon. The first contact to the NC Dept of Revenue on this issue was 10/16/2007.

The Tidewater Chapter Mutual fund value was reported at \$652.80 which was a 36% decrease from the original investment of \$1025 made on March 27, 2006 and a 52% decrease from 6 months ago. The economy and stock market are not doing well at the moment and it was agreed upon by the EXCOM that the money should not be pulled out of the stock market while we are at a loss.

It was also suggested that the money in the Tidewater checking account be put into a money market account where the interest gained annually would be around 3.5% as opposed to 0.5% from the regular Bank of America checking account.

**Stephanie** agreed to put together a presentation on money market accounts to present at the 2009 Annual EXCOM meeting.

**Stephanie** discussed donations to be made to the Northeast Division of AFS and the Equal Opportunity Section of AFS. A pledge to the EOS was made in 2007 and due to budget constraints could not be met. The EXCOM discussed these donations and made the following decisions:

- **Decision 1: \$250 donation to NDAFS to help with publication costs of book on Diadromous Fishes in which 3 Tidewater members are co-editors.**
- **Decision 2: \$300 donation to EOS to fulfill our previous pledge.**

### **Nominating/Membership Committee**

**Dewayne Fox** (chair) reported that Michael Louisi from Maryland has agreed to be the 2010 President-Elect.

**Dewayne** also commented on the membership committee and suggested trying to get previous members to renew.

### **Newsletter**

**Sara Mirabilio** reported that the newsletter will go out after the first of the year and will have a more structured format than previous newsletters including word counts. The submission deadline for the newsletter will be in early Dec.

### **Scholarship and Awards Committee**

**Stephanie McInerny** reported on Awards via an email from **Ron Klauda** who could not be present at the meeting. **Ron** commented that he would be willing to put together a Request for Nominations for Chapter awards at the 2009 annual meeting if the EXCOM

was interested. He also mentioned that the Eileen Setzler-Hamilton Memorial Scholarship Award of \$250 has not been presented in a few years and wanted to know if the EXCOM would be interested in advertising for this scholarship. **Ron** provided a description of all awards available for nomination.

The EXCOM discussed the awards and made the following decisions:

- **Decision 1: Nominations will go out for the Meritorious Service Award, the Excellence in Fisheries Education Award, and the Conservation Award.**
- **Decision 2: The Eileen Setzler-Hamilton Memorial Scholarship Award will be advertised this year and awarded to the most worthy applicant.**

### Website

**James Morris** reported that the website needs a full overhaul and that he has been in touch with Chad Smith about making changes to the website to bring it up to date and fix broken links. He mentioned that it will take a lot of work to overhaul the website.

**Dewayne Fox** suggested that maybe a graduate student could be paid hourly to help with the website.

It was suggested that the website overhaul be made a primary agenda item for the next EXCOM meeting. Framework needed for the website revamp and how much it would cost should be presented.

### New Business

No new business was reported.

### Other Comments

**Jack Musick** requested that the EXCOM list and contact information be finalized and sent out to the EXCOM.

It was discussed that contact information for **Ron Klauda** should be put into the newsletter with the rest of the EXCOM.

It was also discussed that the EXCOM should consider a possible student travel award be provided by the Chapter to the 2009 Annual meeting or use some of the extra money in the checking account to cut student registration costs for the meeting.

### Adjournment

**Jack Musick** adjourned the meeting at ~ **12:00 pm**.

Minutes submitted by: Stephanie McNerny