

## **2010 Annual Tidewater Chapter EXCOM Meeting Minutes**

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order around 5:00 pm on 3/18/2010.

### **Attendance**

Fred Scharf, Jack Musick, Michael Luisi, Bob Murphy, John Cooper, Stephanie McInerny, Cecilia Krahforst (ECU), Ron Klauda, Sara Mirabilio, Kevin Spanik, and Paul Rudershausen

### **Welcome/2010 Annual Meeting**

**Mike Luisi** welcomed everyone to the meeting and went over the expected 2010 annual meeting budget. **Mike** also mentioned that Maryland Sea Grant had agreed to provide the Chapter with a \$3000 mini grant to go towards student activities, travel, and awards. Since this money is supposed to be for students, it was discussed over email about doubling some of the student poster and presentation awards or doubling the number of recipients awarded for the Eileen Setzler-Hamilton Scholarship. With this grant, even if the student awards are doubled it should still leave the Chapter with \$1500-\$2000 left over.

### **Treasurer's Report**

**Stephanie McInerny** reported that the current checking account balance for the Tidewater Chapter was \$7,719.78 as of 3/15/2010. This balance included a \$500.00 withdrawal to cover the deposit for the poster social, a \$10.20 purchase of a cash box for the meeting, and a deposit of \$336.00 for dues paid from the Parent Society. Another check for the remaining dues will be coming to the Chapter later in the year.

**Stephanie** also reported that the Tidewater Chapter Mutual fund is currently valued at \$986.43 which is around the highest it has been since the market crashed.

**Stephanie** also reported that the 2009 taxes have been filed and that subunits do not have to file taxes because they are covered under the chapter.

### **Membership/Nominating Committee**

Currently, the position of president-elect is vacant. The nominee should be from Virginia. **Jack** mentioned that he approached Chris Bonzek at VIMS about the position but he didn't reply. **Fred** may try to ask Mary Fabrizio. **Stephanie** mentioned that Dewayne Fox may be up for having the meeting in Delaware again since we have made it through the cycle of tidewater states already. **Kevin** sent out emails to people at VIMS, ODU, and others but had no responses. **Bob Murphy** suggested asking Richard Krouse. Eric Hilton could be another candidate but he is currently taking over John Olney's

projects so may not have time. **John Cooper** suggested that if we go back to Delaware to be aware that the EXCOM from the Mid-Atlantic chapter may not be too happy about this. It was suggested again to try and convince Rich Krouse to serve as president-elect. Someone also suggested maybe Greg Garmin at Virginia Commonwealth.

### **Scholarship and Awards Committee**

**Ron Klauda** (chair) reported that he had received three candidates for non-student special awards; two for Conservation and one for Excellence in Fisheries Education. **Ron** mentioned that Karl Blankenship and Jim Uphoff would receive the Conservation Awards and that Ed Houde would receive the Excellence in Fisheries Education Award. All three candidates are worthy of these awards and fully supported by the EXCOM. It was discussed that news about awards should be sent to the Southern Division and the Parent Society so it can be sent to Fisheries Magazine. **Jack** suggested that any news about the Chapter should be sent directly to Fisheries Magazine.

**Ron** reported that he also received three candidates for the Eileen Setzler-Hamilton Award. All of these applicants are at different stages of their graduate program so it was hard to compare apples to oranges. All were qualified with very impressive applications. **Ron** also mentioned that the amount of work involved in the application process was a lot but many of the things requested are required in a job application along with letters of recommendation.

**Stephanie** suggested giving a smaller amount of money to an honorable mention and motioned for the top candidate to receive \$400 and the other two applicants to receive \$100 each. **Jack** seconded. **Motioned approved.**

**Fred** commented on changing the application requirements so they were a little more thinned out and to make them in PDF so the EXCOM could help rank the applicants. **Ron** asked for Cecilia's opinion of the application process since she had applied this year. **Fred** suggested that coursework and grades could be removed from the application. It was also suggested that a limit could be put on the number of pages to the application and **Sara** suggested something like a word maximum and font sizes to give the applicants more guidance. It was decided that Ron would appoint 2 or more people to the scholarship committee to help judge the Eileen applicants and that the EXCOM could break any ties. **Cecilia** mentioned that professors at ECU were encouraging them to apply so getting more reminders out to the students would help get more applicants.

Ron recruited 4 poster judges and 3 presentation judges for the 2010 annual meeting.

### **Dues**

Fred would discuss subunit dues at the Business meeting since there was only one subunit president present at the EXCOM meeting. Therefore, the EXCOM could get feedback from the students about having to pay overall subunit dues to the Chapter since students who belong to a subunit are not required to pay Chapter dues. Jack suggested that having

a fee structure based on the number of members or a percentage would be more appropriate than a set fee for all subunits.

### **Newsletter and Website**

**Sara** mentioned that she wants to get more information from general Chapter members about their research for the newsletter. **Fred** agreed that highlighting member research would be good. **Bob** mentioned that this needs to be done through the Members At Large so there would be a central person in each state to report to. **Cecilia** mentioned having a section to highlight student research as well. **Bob** suggested maybe creating a Facebook page and a link from the Tidewater website to the page. **Cecilia** agreed saying that the ECU subunit is moving away from a listserv focus to a Facebook page focus.

### **Other business**

Stephanie reported the procedural manual was updated to include the Awards Committee as it currently exists as well as created a Website section. The Newsletter description was also updated to align with the new schedule and format. Stephanie asked Ron if he could review the procedural manual edits and mentioned that she would send it out to the EXCOM for further revision.

### **Adjournment**

**Fred Scharf** motioned to adjourn the meeting at ~ **6:15 pm**. Seconded by **Jack Musick**.

Minutes submitted by: Stephanie McInerny