

2010 Tidewater Chapter EXCOM Midyear Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order around 1:00 pm on 8/05/2010.

Attendance

Fred Scharf, Leonard Machut, Jacob Boyd, Sara Mirabilio, Michael Luisi, Stephanie McInerny, Ron Klauda, and Kevin Spanik

Introductions

Leonard Machut has accepted the nomination of President-Elect for 2011. The 2011 meeting will be in Virginia.

Treasurer's Report

Stephanie McInerny reported that the current checking account balance for the Tidewater Chapter was \$11,119.99 after all expenses from the 2010 annual meeting were paid. This balance included a \$3000.00 student travel/expense grant from Maryland Sea Grant and a membership rebate check from the Parent Society for \$63.84.

Stephanie also reported that the Tidewater Chapter Mutual fund was valued at \$987.57 as of August 2010.

Stephanie asked the EXCOM whether the Tidewater Chapter should consider raising its operating budget since meetings have been consistently costing around \$7,000. **Fred** talked about budgeting for the 2011 meeting and that you should count a little low on attendance so you don't end up going over the budget. **Mike** mentioned that the cost of the Maryland 2010 meeting was around \$8,000 plus a \$3,000 donation. Trying to break even from a meeting is the goal. **Leonard** stated he is referring to the 2008 meeting at VIMS and mentioned that sponsorship may or may not be available. **Stephanie** and **Mike** will work together to rectify the 2010 budget and complete the report required by Maryland Sea Grant upon completion of the grant (funding requirement). The report is due to Sea Grant by 10/14/10.

2011 Annual Meeting

Leonard briefly introduced himself and stated that potential dates for the 2011 meeting in Virginia would be March 10-12. The Freight Shed would be used again for the Friday night social. The VIMS auditorium has been booked during the week of their spring break. **Leonard** mentioned talking to **Jack Musick** and others that helped with the 2008 meeting at VIMS to springboard the 2011 meeting. He also talked with someone about setting up an monetary account with VIMS to be used for the meeting. **Stephanie** mentioned that she can send a check if any deposits are required.

Mike mentioned he wanted to get a timeline down for the newsletters and volunteered with **Fred** to help **Leonard** with anything meeting related.

Newsletter/Website

Sara informed **Leonard** that **Chad Smith** has a placeholder on the Tidewater Chapter website for the 2011 meeting and he can contact **Chad** to update the website with any meeting information. She also mentioned that **Chad** is very prompt about updating the site. **Mike** suggested using the website for meeting information. **Leonard** stated he has talked to some people at VIMS about setting up a website with meeting info and VIMS has someone available to do this. This site could then be cross listed on the Tidewater website. **Kevin** suggested putting a list of presentations on the website. The EXCOM agreed this would be a good idea. **Sara** mentioned that the Current News section of the website is not currently being used and that it could be used as a blog that the Members at Large could update with anything newsworthy.

Timeline for Newsletter

Newsletter items are due to **Sara** by September 7, 2010. The newsletter also needs to solicit for 2011 officers in the summer issue and the Chapter needs a 2012 president-elect. Award nominations also need to be solicited in this edition. Sara asked if the Chapter should solicit for the Eileen Setzler-Hamilton Scholarship and asked if we are keeping the student awards at the higher amount of \$200/\$100/\$50? **The EXCOM thought these awards should stay higher so the students can profit.** The EXCOM also discussed simplifying the application for the Eileen Setzler-Hamilton Scholarship so more students would apply. Simplification would include stuff like possibly deleting the sections and putting in word limits and font designations. **Fred** agreed to review and edit the application and to send it to the EXCOM for comments. **Mike** agreed to help with this task. **The EXCOM agreed to double the Eileen Scholarship if we had enough money and this would be decided at the 2011 EXCOM meeting in VA.** **Ron** asked about the other Chapter awards and the EXCOM wanted to continue to offer them.

Other Business

The AFS Southern Division has been soliciting for donations from the Chapters within the Division to help support the Division meeting in Tampa, FL from January 13-16, 2011. A \$250 contribution is typical. **The EXCOM agreed to a \$250 contribution.**

Ron gave **Sara** information on the awards from 2010 and **Sara** sent them in May to the Southern Division newsletter editor (Dan Stitch) and to Fisheries magazine (Beth Beard) so keep your eyes out for these articles.

The issue of Chapter dues from the student subunits has not been resolved. **Mike** volunteered to query the subunits for dues and membership information and will send it to the EXCOM. **Jacob** mentioned that he can talk to the ECU subunit. **Sara** explained

the dues confusion across subunits comes from some students are paying twice, once to the subunit and then once to the Chapter, and some aren't paying at all. Not all subunits within the Chapter currently collect dues. **Stephanie** mentioned that Duke has never been to a meeting however, they do send in subunit news to the newsletter and it was questioned "What do we really want out of our subunits?" **Mike** agreed to follow up with them. **Jacob** suggested putting in a minimum requirement for being a Chapter sponsored subunit. **Stephanie** volunteered to look through the bylaws and Parent Society bylaws for more information on this.

Adjournment

Minutes submitted by: Stephanie McInerny