

ANREP Board conference call
May 15, 2007

Participants: Mike Reichenbach, Will Sheftall, Susan Donaldson, Viviane Simon-Brown with cameo appearances by David Drake and Jonathan Kays.

Topics

Policy handbook: Jonathan (chair of the Bylaws and Policy committee) mentioned that several ANREP members got together at the recent PILD meeting, and talked about the feasibility/need for an ANREP policy manual. He asked the Board if we felt it would be useful, and worth his investment of time and energy. We identified several policy issues the Board has recently addressed – student scholarships, awards, advocacy position. It seemed clear that it was a good idea for us to have a framework for developing and maintaining policies.

ACTION: Jonathan will do some preliminary exploration. He'll contact Bill Hubbard and go through the online minutes to extract policies that have been made. He'll report his findings to the Board at the September Board meeting.

2008 Conference: David updated us on the logistics planning for our conference. The contracts with the university conferencing office, Monona Terrace and the 2 hotels are signed. There are significant cost savings if we increase our attendee numbers. Addressing the 'green' aspect, he noted that it's a walkable conference, with field trips within biking, boating and walking distances. The site incorporates green practices. His committee will be working with Mindy Habacker on field trips.

For our conference planning meeting, Oct 1-3 (noon to noon), he suggested options of flying in to Madison, Milwaukee or Chicago. He'll send more info later about shuttle services, hotel reservations and other details.

ACTION: David will look into the green practices of the 2 hotels. He'll contact Bill Hubbard to work out money matters for the October meeting.

Committee chair vacancies: Both the newsletter and the membership committee chair positions are vacant. No real leads on the membership committee. Viviane asked Almehia Brown to consider being nominated as newsletter chair; she's checking with her Dean.

Invitation to collaborate: Susan received an email from Mark Renz of the invasive plants association of Wisconsin (IPAW), asking if ANREP would be interested in meshing our conferences. We talked about the pros and cons of the ideas – ie, + bigger conference therefore less expensive, more opportunities for interaction, and – bigger isn't always better, size limits for venue, enough overlap on topics. We agreed it's an intriguing idea to explore.

ACTION: Susan will talk with Mark to learn more about topics, numbers; and then with David Drake to find out if we could accommodate the larger number. Then, she'll report back to the Board.

Chapter presidents: Viviane suggested that the Board form closer linkages with the state chapters. After chapters are formed, there seems to be little contact between national ANREP and local ANREP. Chapters can be conduits for committee chairs and potential Board members. We talked about having the regional reps participate in the state meetings when possible, and having the national ANREP president participate in the state conferences. It was assumed that Larry “Moneybags” Biles has enough funds in the ANREP treasury to cover travel expenses.

ACTION: Viviane will invite the state chapter presidents to join us on the July conference call. We think a deeper connection is good; vsb will find out if the local chapter presidents think the same way.

Next Agenda items

Chapter updates by state presidents

Discuss invitation to collaborate with WI invasive plants assn

The number of beers Andy Londo owes Viviane for taking notes – again

Next Board Meetings

No meeting in June

Tuesday, July 10, 12 noon Pacific Time

Tuesday, August 14, 12 noon Pacific Time

Tuesday, September 11, 12 noon PT

Monday-Wednesday
Noon to noon
October 1-3
Madison, WI