

## **ANREP Executive Committee Meeting Wednesday, September 20, 2023**

**3:00 PM – 5:00 PM EDT**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Bill Warren (President), Dean Solomon (Executive Secretary), Holly Abeels (Secretary), Erika Lyon (President-Elect), Danielle Rhea (Northeast Region), Beth Clawson (Past-President), Georgia Peterson (North Central Region), Amy Scaroni (Southern Region), Dan Stark (Western Region), Chad Cook (Treasurer)

**Guests in Attendance:** Eric Norland (USDA NIFA)

#### **1. Roll Call/Introductions/Guests**

#### **2. Additions to agenda?**

- Items added under Reports from Committees and New Business

#### **3. Assignment of Minute Proofreaders – Danielle Rhea and Erika Lyon**

#### **4. Update Reports from outside groups and initiatives**

- USDA NIFA – Eric
  - On committee to prep for COP 23 Meeting in Dubai
  - President announcing and launching an [American Climate Corps](#) (employing young people in projects engaged in climate mitigation and adaptation). Will forward the announcement (sent out from NECI) to Dean to send to the group.
- NREEF – Beth & Dean
  - Focusing on marketing and fundraising. Recently had a retreat to strategize. Also having conversations about boosting membership.
  - Discussed ANREP and NREEF's non-use of social media. The trustees group discussed the need for an ANREP Facebook presence. Maybe best for the communications committee to move this forward and create content. Bill and Dean will reach out to the communications committee chair to discuss further.
  - Don Hanley passed away (long-time ANREP member) and his family chose NREEF as the charity to receive donations in his memory. Has received \$500 so far in donations.
  - Sandy Smith is going to rejoin the trustees group in January.

#### **5. Approve Minutes**

- Beth moved to approve the minutes from the August meeting. Amy seconded. Motion passes.

#### **6. Presidents Report – Bill**

- Board meeting prep
- Routine correspondence
- Soliciting candidates for President-Elect and Western Region Representative

#### **7. Treasurer's Report – Chad**

- ANREP Balances as of 8/31/23
    - Checking (7411) \$ 108,764.72
    - Conference Checking (5982) \$ 34,767.05
    - Escrow Savings (5995) \$ 25,839.15
    - CD (2150) \$ 20,090.70
    - TOTAL ASSETS \$ 189,461.62
    - Previous total \$ 192,076.46
  - Balance Activity:
    - Withdrawals: Payment Google Workspace, Vieth Consulting, JCEP Travel-Clawson, Exec. Sec. Q2, Dues to States (GA+SC)
    - Deposits: Dues, DEIJ Workshop Registration
    - Lots of activity in PayPal this past month
    - Has been talking with SC about their issue on not being able to open a checking account. Looks like they have a work around and will be a learning experience for future chapters.
    - Creating a budget for our review next meeting.
8. Executive Secretary's Report – Dean
- Worked with Beth and Bill to secure candidates for the 2024 election. The missing piece is the West region representative. Last week sent an urgent email to members in that region soliciting volunteers to run for that office. As soon as we have a complete slate, will put together the ballot.
  - Registrations for this fall's JEDI training continue to come in, with 18 of 20 slots filled. 80 members have registered for the Sept 20 ANREP professional development webinar.
  - Membership renewals trickled in over the past month. As of September 15, 343 members have renewed or joined for 2023 (42 new members to date). Our total membership is 490, including life members. Sent the final dues reminder to unpaid members on September 15, so might see a small bump. As a reminder, unpaid members will be dropped from the rolls on December 15, when we send 2024 invoices. In January, will send a "we want you back" email to the ones dropped.
9. Regional Rep Updates:
- Northeast – Danielle
    - Had planned to do another regional meet-up but tabling for now.
  - Northcentral – Georgia
    - Nothing right now
  - Southern – Amy
    - Rescheduling zoom meet-up. Challenges involved in getting SC chapter up and dues not being able to be deposited. There's a potential work around, registering as a non-profit club entity to get an EIN number. Hoping to resolve sooner to keep momentum going.
  - Western – Dan
    - Left meeting before giving update
10. Reports from Committees:

- Professional Development Committee – Georgia
  - Webinar was earlier today. 35 people attended the webinar. Recording will be distributed.
  - Committee would like to maintain a quarterly webinar with the next one in December – reaching new and underserved audiences will be the topic. Date TBA.

#### 11. Old Business:

- ANREP elections
  - Have a full slate except for West Regional Rep. Dean sent a message to west region members and have zero response. Dan said he would fill the position for the next two years.
  - Dean can get the ballot together, have Beth review it, and then conduct the election in October.

#### 12. New business:

- Non-profit organization requesting access to membership list – Erika
  - Research Triangle Institute contracted through the Dept of Labor. In charge of updating O\*NET Online, and wanted to update the park naturalist position description. Asked if we wanted to be involved in updating the description.
  - There is no “Extension” or “Natural Resources Educators” job description on the website.
  - Asked for access to the ANREP membership list. Dean says we don’t give out our membership list but can send out information from other organizations (third parties) to the members subject to Board approval. Is the information relevant enough to our membership is one of the big questions.
  - Beth suggested talking with her about an Extension or Natural Resources Educator job description but not the park naturalist position description.
  - Erika will contact her to discuss further.
- Conference Planning Committee
  - Abstract proposals due at the end of October.
  - Also need people to judge abstract proposals.
- Scholarships for Conferences
  - Have given out 5 or 6, could probably give out 3 or 4 more.
  - Some proposals ask to attend conferences that Extension folk wouldn’t normally attend, so scholarships are helping with costs.

#### 13. Adjournment at 3:46 PM ET