

AEOE Northern Council Phone Conference Minutes

September 13, 2010

Attending: Kim Taylor, Pamela Wade, Jym Scooby Meier, Cathy Harkness, Reed Schneider, Rachel Loud, Helen de la Maza, Casey Passmore, Big Brown Bat, and Kestrel O'hern

Agenda

State Board Meeting: The AEOE Board met at Walden West last weekend and accomplished a lot. Scooby spoke to Hoppy's letter sent to the Board so that we all had a better idea of what had prompted it. Hoppy inquired to find out more about one of the issues discussed at the spring Board meeting. He is very passionate about AEOE and was seeking clarification. His concern came from an idea that was posed in April about transforming AEOE into an umbrella organization that would encourage other environmental/outdoor education organizations to come on board, in hope of expanding our diversity and including environmental educators in venues other than just outdoor schools. COSA discussed the idea, but there was no movement made by the AEOE Board. For something like this to happen, input from members would be required, much research would need to be done, and a lot of time would need to be invested. AEOE is not ready to pursue this idea at this time, but *is* hoping to expand its diversity and reach. Some members have expressed concern that the founding traditions and functions of AEOE might be lost in the process of creating such an umbrella organization. The hope would be to preserve the traditional audience and functions as one of the branches if such a motion were taken.

Fall Conference: November 5-7, 2010 Walden West Outdoor School

Scooby would have liked to have found a different site this year, but no others were willing to lower the price to a feasible rate. This year's Fall Conference will cost \$55 for early registration (October 30th deadline) and \$70 for walk-in. The Board voted to use the money left over in the Scholarship fund from the Spring Conference to assist members this fall. Approximately 13 scholarships will be available.

Workshops: The application for workshop presenters is available online. Presenters get 50% off. The deadline for applications will be October 16th. **This date needs to be posted on the front page of the website.**

Recreation ideas: Last year's "Meet a Date" was well attended and feedback was mixed. Cathy asked how the council felt about trying it again in a modified format, based on the feedback from last year. Cathy is willing to do some research to make it happen. Reed suggested it be faster, like speed dating. The council decided to give it a go. Scooby will talk to a friend at San Jose State who might lead a Sacred Play workshop, offering games and activities from around the world. He needs to talk to her about the number of people who might be able to attend. Hikes could be offered during recreation time as well. "No Impact Man" is a movie that could be viewed at that time or as an alternative to a jam session that night. If you have other ideas, let Scooby know.

Spring Conference April 29-May 1, 2011 Westminster Woods

Keynote and entertainment committees have been working and will meet after this meeting for further discussion. Casey, Rachel, and Pam are perusing 3 bands in hopes of finding one that will work. They need more information about their budget. The Keynote committee has been researching options as well. Steve Van Mater is very interested and is willing to do it for \$1,000. All the other individuals considered were asking for more. Big Brown Bat has been trying to get a hold of a few folks as has Jeanine. AEOE has paid between \$1,000 and \$3,000 for the Keynote speaker at past Spring Conferences. When we have had to pay closer to \$3,000 we have asked them to offer a workshop as well. We've charged a fee for the workshop and kept a percentage of it so as to balance the cost.

Outreach: We have been talking about reaching out to other organizations to invite them to participate in AEOE. Scooby is looking for help in reaching other Northern California EE groups. **Please let him know if you are interested in helping research, sending out email, creating a flier for teachers, universities etc.** Reed is interested in helping.

Rachel Loud has not been receiving the minutes. Ryan, **please add her to the Northern Council group list.** Thanks!

The next phone meeting will be Monday, October 4th at 7 p.m.

Minutes taken by Kim Taylor

