

Empire Chapter – Soil and Water Conservation Society

Meeting Minutes

Annual Meeting

8 – 8:45 AM

November 21, 2014

- 1) Welcome – Brad called the meeting to order at 8:12 am.
Brad Schwab, Jessica Sargis, Elaine Dalrymple, Ray Mueller, Pat Barry, Lisa Miller, Dana Chapman, Larry Geohring, Peter Wright, Jason Schenck, John McKenna, Edmond Feyh, Dain Zimmer were in attendance.
- 2) 2015 Council Elections – Brad reported that none of the nominees for the position openings are being contested and all members of the society can vote, not just Council members.
 - a. President Elect – Brad said we are desperately looking for someone to fill this position as it is an important one. It is a three year term.
 - b. Vice President – also needs a nomination; it is a one year term.
 - c. Secretary – Elaine was nominated for another 1 year term; no one was opposed to this.
 - d. Region 1 Representative – Heath was nominated for another 2 year term and no one opposed this nomination.
 - e. Region 2 Representative – Needs a nomination for a 1 year term.
 - f. Region 3 Representative – Needs a nomination for a 2 year term.
 - g. Brad will become past president and Jessica was the President Elect in 2014 and becomes president immediately. She took over the meeting from Brad.
- 3) Review the minutes from the 10/15 meeting – Elaine highlighted portions of the minutes from the October meeting. Brad made a motion to accept the minutes as written with a second from Ray. All were in favor.
- 4) Review the Treasurer's Report – Ray and Lisa reviewed the report from Jan 1, 2014 to November 16, 2014. Ray said there has been [REDACTED] in income to date in 2014 and [REDACTED] in expenses for a net income of [REDACTED] which includes [REDACTED] in other income (sales tax vendor credit). The Vanguard Fletcher account has [REDACTED] in it and the Vanguard Endowment account has [REDACTED]. There has been a total of [REDACTED] of stormwater book sales since October. Elaine made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Pat seconded and all were in favor. Ray asked about next year's budget and it will be discussed at the next Council meeting. He also asked about when information has to be sent to the auditor and Lisa said at the end of January.
- 5) Lisa's MOU for 2015 - Jessica explained that Lisa is the Executive Office Manager of the Empire Chapter and every year we sign a Memorandum of Understanding with her for work she does for the Council which includes handling all the book sales. The 2015 MOU is the same as 2014 ([REDACTED] per hour and [REDACTED] for

each publication sold). Brad moved we sign the 2015 MOU with Lisa, Ray seconded and all were in favor.

- 6) Website migration follow-up – Pat explained where things sit at present. Carol, his wife, is working on the issue and she wants to make sure that the present website is adequate in terms of content and set up and she also wants to know what other site we may want to move to ie Survey Monkey, etc. Ancient Wisdom of Ithaca will no longer help maintain our website beginning Jan 1 without a hefty fee as they are primarily a marketing group. Jessica said she finds our present website easy to use and she likes our format. Carol is willing to migrate the website. Lisa suggested we have Carol use the system she feels most comfortable with. Carol will put together the costs for creating a similar website and propose them to the Board. Carol needs to find out who owns the images on the website. Ray said that some of the links on the website are dead end. Presently, we have the minutes, photos, a membership form and book sales form on the site. We will not hold Carol responsible for problems that may arise.
- 7) 2015 Council meeting dates/times- They will be every other month starting in January and held on the 3rd Wednesday at 1 pm.
- 8) Other - Pat asked about a summer tour and suggested we look at weather stations that have been funded and installed on farms and that automatically download data into a computerized system maintained by the IPM program at the Geneva Ag. Experiment Station. He suggested we involve Abby Seamon of the IPM program who can talk about the impacts of climate change. Ray suggested including irrigation management as a topic as well.
- 9) Adjourn – Pat made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 am and Ray seconded. All were in favor.

Minutes taken by Elaine Dalrymple, Secretary