



Meeting Minutes
of the
Coalition for Conservation
and
Environmental Education

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Friday, November 20, 2009
Heritage Center, Bismarck, ND

Members Present: Glenda Fauske – ND Forest Service, Dr. Christina Hargiss - NDSU, Bill Sharff – State Water Commission/Project Wet, Marilyn Snyder – State Historical Society, Craig Hansen – National Park Service, Scott Schaffnit – State Historical Society, Steve Tillotson – ND Department of Health, Sarah Tunge – ND Forest Service, Mike Hargiss – ND Department of Health, and Roxanne Johnson – NDSU; **By Teleconference:** Carol Peterson – NRCS RC&D, Diane Olson – Envirothon Coordinator, and Marty Egeland – ND Game and Fish.

President Glenda Fauske called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Roxanne Johnson moved the minutes of the previous meeting be approved. Bill Scharff seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed

Marilyn Snyder moved to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Diane Olson. The motion unanimously passed.

Unfinished Business:

Glenda Fauske discussed membership dues. They are currently being accepted and can be given or mailed to Glenda Fauske or Christina Hargiss. There was a discussion on possibly increasing dues as they have been at the same rate for 10 years. Money from dues goes to the C2E2 activities: purchasing ribbons for science fair; the Envirothon; and towards the cards that are made and sold by C2E2. There were no requests to raise dues so they will stay at the same rate.

Glenda Fauske discussed the soil cards that were made and sold this year. A survey went out this spring to see how many soil cards were needed. Three thousand soil cards were made, a total of 2,402 have been sold so far. Glenda turned into Christina Hargiss an invoice for the shipping costs associated with the cards. The soil cards cost \$2640.00 to print. So far we have received \$2866.15 from soil card sales. The total shipping charges thus far are \$123.28. Therefore, currently we have a net profit of \$102.87 from the sale of soil cards.

Glenda Fauske brought up discussion of supporting the Science Olympiad as we do the Science Fair. Glenda did some research on how much it would cost to purchase picture frames to be used as a traveling trophies for the best environmental project in the 12 regional Science Olympiad competitions and 1 state Science Olympiad competition. The three price quotes were: \$240, \$260, and \$385. The cheapest would equal about \$18.50/frame. Roxanne Johnson moved to accept the lowest bid. The motion was seconded by Diane Olson. The motion unanimously passed. Glenda will follow up to make sure the frames get ordered.

Diane Olson reported on the 2009 Canon Envirothon Competition. The students had a great time and did a great job. Four of the students will be back this year and are excited to get back to working on Envirothon. The Canon Envirothon Committee is working on a draft curriculum that can be tailored to each state. Diane will share the information when the final copy is available. The Canon company is cutting back on funding to the Canon Envirothon so there is discussion at the national level to see how funding will work in the future. The national Envirothon is not in jeopardy, but the title may change as Canon may not be the main sponsor.

New Business:

Diane Olson discussed the 2010 Canon Envirothon. It will be in California, but they are unsure of the exact location at this time. At the national level they are exploring the option of reducing the length of the Envirothon due to funding and other issues. The 2010 ND Envirothon competition is on track. The current issue question is on track and Diane has communicated all needed information to the advisors. There is a possibility of 2 new schools taking part in the Envirothon. There are around 50 schools in the state that Diane is working with, but not all of them are participating in the Envirothon competition. Diane mentioned that using teleconference may be a good option to have meetings for the State Envirothon Committee (SEC). The 2010 ND Envirothon will be at Cooperstown Bible Camp.

Glenda Fauske discussed concerns brought up at the 2009 ND Envirothon. One of the concerns was the length of the competition. Another concern was how to keep students at the competition to the very end. Glenda made a motion that the SEC be brought a proposal to conduct a survey soliciting recommendations for improvement to the Envirothon from all persons that take part and help with the Envirothon (camps, volunteers, students, coaches). Christina Hargiss seconded the motion. The C2E2 group would like the survey to be made by SEC members and carried out by the Envirothon Coordinator. They also request that the survey be open ended. The motion unanimously passed.

Another question that was discussed is how to reach out and get other teachers interested and involved in the Envirothon. There was discussion among the group on if a training day or online curriculum on Envirothon content knowledge for teachers would be useful. This would also be a good question to involve in the survey. Also, this topic may be something that the group wants to pursue to get environmental curriculum knowledge out to schools and hopefully getting some of the teachers involved in Envirothon. The group discussed the possibility of putting up environmental content knowledge information onto the C2E2 website. The topic will be discussed at the next SEC meeting.

Bill Scharff discussed earth day 2010 (40th anniversary). It will be at the National Guard Armory in Bismarck. There will be fun activities and games on Earth Day. They are still working finding speakers. The next meeting is on December 3rd at the Armory.

Steve Tillotson discussed America Recycles Day with the group. This year they have been putting out press releases and trying to get interest in the event. If you would like more information talk to Christy Smith at the ND Health Department. Mike Hargiss mentioned that River Keepers in Fargo is doing other activities in the eastern part of the state and they should collaborate any information that either group is learning to help to make these projects more cohesive statewide activities. Glenda also mentioned that the nursing program in Minot is working to reduce e-waste and is hoping to be involved in Earth Day. Bill mentioned that Keep North Dakota Clean has been doing some great new activities. They have a new logo, and are working to put up signage on snowmobile trails, scenic byways, and parks for "pack it in, pack it out" to help keep ND clean.

Glenda Fauske brought up discussion on the potential need for a C2E2 table top display. In the past C2E2 has borrowed the NRCS table top display. At this time Diane and the group felt it would not be beneficial to spend the money because what we are currently using is sufficient.

Glenda Fauske has again been asked to help choose the award winners for the National Youth Science Camp (NYSC). If you know of any good students (graduating in May of 2010) let them know that applications will be coming out soon. Glenda can be contacted if you want more information.

The nominations for secretary/treasurer were opened. Christina Hargiss nominated Sarah Tunge. Roxanne Johnson moved to cast a vote to elect Sarah Tunge. The motion was seconded by Christina Hargiss. Motion passed unanimously.

Future meetings were discussed. Bill brought up whether using teleconferencing was a good idea. It was decided that it is an option that we should utilize in the future either through teleconference or video conference. Christina asked if we will keep doing an educational activity after the meetings. The group consensus was that it was a good idea and we should continue to keep having activities after the meetings.

President Glenda Fauske adjourned the meeting at 11:10. Interested people took a tour of the new garden exhibit at the Heritage Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Hargiss, Secretary/Treasurer