

Kentucky Section AIPG Business Meeting

Thursday, February 24, 2022

Zoom Remote Access Meeting

Attendees: **Bill Brab, Megan Cleinmark, Tim Crumbie, Ben Currens, Frank Ettensohn, Faith Fiene, Donald Lumm, Donny Prater, Richard Smath,**

Welcome and Call to Order

President Donny Prater called the meeting to order at 3:08 pm.

President's Report

Donny stated that he did not have much to report at this time. He added that Bill Brab will briefly join the meeting later because he is away from the office.

President Elect's Report

Donnie Lumm indicated that he has been working with Frank Ettensohn and Richard Smath to finalize the advertisement for the Bahamas Short Course. The trip announcement has been sent to AIPG National to be posted on their Events web page and Richard has already posted it on the KY-AIPG website. Bill Brab is expected to give an update on the number of registrations that have been received to date during his report. Donnie added that he has also finalized both the short and long versions of the registration form and information packet. He added that he contacted eight (8) different professional organizations requesting donations for the Darwin Lecture that was held on February 10, 2022, and received donations/sponsorships from five (5) of them. Donnie closed his report by indicating that he will have more comments to add later in the meeting.

Vice President's Report

Ben Currens reported that he has been talking with Richard Smath about ways to automate the membership list in hopes of making it more user friendly. He also been talking with a few people at the state about meeting with KY-AIPG student chapters and potential employment opportunities.

Secretary's Report

Tim Crumbie reported that he emailed a copy of the past due members list to the Executive Committee January 20, 2022. The information had been provided by National AIPG. He added that the draft minutes from the January 13, 2022 KY-AIPG Meeting to the Executive Committee on February 22, 2022. The minutes were approved on February 23, 2022 following minor revisions.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Brab shared the Treasurer's Report for the period ending January 31, 2022. The report is summarized below:

Total Operating Funds as of December 31, 2022	\$23,439.23
Checking Account Balance as of January 31, 2022	\$23,440.23
PayPal Account Balance as of January 31, 2021	\$0.00
Total Operating Funds as of January 31, 2022	\$23,440.23
Net Change from December 31, 2021 report	\$1.00

Donnie made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report updated January 31, 2022, Megan seconded. The motion passed.

Communications Coordinator's Report

Richard Smath reported that the website is up to date.

Past President's Report

Megan Cleinmark reported that National AIPG sent out an email about their mentor/mentee program going live and that she had signed up to participate as a mentor. She added that she has already been contacted by someone wanting to connect with her. Megan stated that she is one (1) of only two (2) women on the list. She wants to make everyone aware of the program and encouraged others to participate because there aren't very many names listed as potential mentors. She feels that this is a good opportunity for outreach and to provide service to the profession. She added that a form must be completed to serve as a mentor. Donny indicated that he had seen the email and has filled out an application as well.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Kentucky State Science Fair

The Kentucky State Science Fair will be held virtually on Saturday, March 26, 2022. Faith Fiene requested that KY-AIPG consider sponsoring the High School and Junior High awards again this year. Faith reported that she will be a judge for the event and added that apparently there are several geology projects that may be worth considering for the awards. If approved, the awards for each category will consist of a check for \$50, a book entitled 'Earth' by the Smithsonian Institute and a certificate. Donnie made a motion to approve sponsoring the award as has been given in the past and Megan seconded. The motion passed. Donny suggested that the Executive Committee consider increasing the amount of the award to \$100.00.

2023 National Conference Update/Discussion

Donnie reported that the venue for the upcoming Annual Conference has been established as the Covington Convention Center and the event, which will be held in October of 2023, is scheduled to last four (4) days. Donnie will help organize the field trips and Bill will assist with organizing the technical sessions. Donnie added that plans are progressing quickly and he will keep everyone up to date on the developments.

Bahamas Trip (May 2022)

Bill reported that no registrations have been received for the trip via the KY-AIPG mail box. The established deadline for receiving pre-registration forms and a \$200.00 trip deposit is February 28, 2022. Frank Ettensohn added that he has been contacted by several people who eventually decided not to attend and as such, it doesn't appear that the trip will materialize this year. COVID has played a big role in this. Donnie added that planning another trip in the future should be easier because significant progress has been made in preparation for this type of event. Donnie thanked Frank and Richard for their efforts in organizing the event.

Student Outreach

Donny reported that he hasn't heard back from anyone he has reached out to regarding scheduling outreach meetings. He added that if COVID restrictions continue to loosen, maybe KY-AIPG would be able to host an in-person job fair type of program similar to what Megan had mentioned in earlier meetings. Donnie said he will contact Western Kentucky University (WKU) next week to set up a ZOOM meeting and added that Bill and Megan have helped at other colleges. He encouraged everyone to make their contacts within the next couple of weeks because the semester is going fast. Donny offered that he will reach out to Morehead State University again and Ben said he would contact a couple of his co-workers who are alumni of WKU and the University of Kentucky (UK) to see if they will connect with their respective colleges.

February DEI Speaker

No Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) speaker is scheduled for February of 2022. All agreed to start planning for the March 28th, 2022 meeting via email.

Website Update

Megan reported that in consideration of the demands currently on Edward Lo's time, she approached a co-worker who designed their company website. Her co-worker has agreed to develop a new KY-AIPG web page for around \$1,000. Megan wanted to present this as an option and to open the topic for discussion because she feels that Edward has a lot going on right now.

Kentucky Board of Professional Registration Update

Bill shared a screenshot of his KY-BPG Board Update notes that he had prepared. He reported that the last meeting was held on February 14, 2022 and it was fairly busy. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 11, 2022. Bill shared a link from the American Geosciences Institute (AGI) that provides details about state licensure updates. He said it has valuable information about state licensure programs and is a good resource for those interested. He added that the main topic that he wanted to revisit is that the Board is experiencing a budget shortfall and a special session is tentatively scheduled for some time in March to discuss the best way to address this issue. The PG Board would like to have an approved course of action by the date of the next meeting. The shortfall, which is the apparent result of increased DPL fees and falling registration rates, may result in an increase in professional registration fees. The current licensure fees have not increased since 2007. Bill added that there is an obvious concern about remaining solvent for the pending fiscal year. The next ASBOG exam is scheduled for March 18, 2022 and several people have already registered to take the test at this time.

ASBOG has signed the contract with Prometric to transition to computer-based testing (CBT) and the Board held a phone call to discuss the development on February 17, 2022. The next step is to set up a customized candidate portal to allow registration once the process is approved by the state member boards. A follow-up teleconference is scheduled for mid-year (2022) to demonstrate how the registration and administrative portals will work. Another conference call is scheduled for the third quarter of 2022 in preparation for initiating CBT in the spring of 2023. Next steps will include the member boards reviewing what changes in statute/regulation will be required to allow the transition to occur, reviewing any existing contracts with third-party testing vendors, reaching a determination on the release of candidate personal information (ADA requests have to be addressed depending on the laws of each individual state), and determining the most appropriate method for the distribution of test results (electronically, hard copy or both).

Tim mentioned that it's about time to send out the letters to colleges and universities requesting nominations for the annual student awards sponsored by KY-AIPG. He added that he will plan on sending those out before the next meeting. General discussion was held about what deadline should be used for the submittal of nominations. Donnie suggested using March 31st, 2022 as the deadline, which can be shifted if needed.

Donnie asked how many people participated in the online Darwin Lecture that was held on February 10, 2022. Megan and Frank agreed that the attendance was in the mid to upper 30s. Tim volunteered to send a link to a video of the meeting which has been posted on YouTube. Richard added that a link to the recording is also available on the KY-AIPG website.

Megan asked how the Executive Committee feels about holding an in-person meeting soon given that COVID numbers are dropping and restrictions are being lifted. She reminded everyone that the option of holding hybrid meetings had also been discussed previously. The topic was generally accepted well and will be added to the next agenda for discussion.

Next Meeting

The next KY-AIPG Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 3:00 pm and will be held remotely (online). Tim made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Ben seconded. The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.