

Kentucky Section AIPG Business Meeting

Monday, January 20, 2025

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams Web Application

Attendees: **Bill Brab**, Tim Blackburn, **Tim Crumbie**, Ben Currens, **Austin Dilla**, **Daniel Draper**, Frank Ettensohn, Faith Fiene, John Popp, **Richard Smath**.

Welcome and Call to Order

Ben Currens called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

President's Report

Ben reported that he has nothing to add at this point and will defer comments until later in the meeting.

President Elect's Report

Daniel Draper opted to defer his comments until later in the meeting.

Vice President's Report

Tim Blackburn reported that he is familiarizing himself with the processes, how AIPG operates, and developing plans for outreach opportunities.

Secretary's Report

Tim Crumbie reported that he emailed the draft version of the minutes from the December 30, 2024 KY AIPG meeting to the Executive Committee on January 17, 2025. The minutes were approved by majority vote later that day. The final version of the minutes was distributed to the Executive Committee on January 20th, 2025.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Brab shared the Treasurer's Report for the period ending December 31, 2024. A summary of the report is provided below:

Total Operating Funds as of November 30, 2024	\$26,580.32
Checking Account Balance as of December 31, 2024	\$26,596.60
Total Operating Funds as of December 31, 2024	\$26,596.60
Net Change from previous report	\$16.82

Richard Smath made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and Ben seconded. The motion carried.

Communications Coordinator's Report

Richard reported that he has updated the website and is working on submitting Kevin Carey's name to the Governor's office, to fill the 'At Large' vacancy on the PG Board. He will need some help trying to figure out to whom the recommendation letter should be addressed. A general discussion was held to clarify *which* position is being filled.

Past President's Report

Austin Dilla wished everyone well and deferred his comments until later in the meeting.

NEW OR ONGOING BUSINESS

2025 Bahamas Short Course

Frank Ettensohn asked Bill how many attendees have sent money for the short course so far. Bill indicated that he has payment or deposits from at least five (5) people and has checked the mailbox but did not have any registrations. It currently appears that about eight people are currently planning to go and Frank indicated that he had really hoped to have at least ten (10) because this number ensures free use of the research center vehicles. Ten participants is also the number of attendees needed to break even on cost. After a brief discussion, it was decided that there are currently 10 to 11 potential attendees. Ben made a motion to extend the registration deadline until February 1, 2025, Austin Dilla seconded. The motion passed. The final payment is due on February 15, 2025.

Ben recommended that if anyone knows someone who may be interested in attending, to contact them so the trip can move forward.

2025 Darwin Lecture

Ben said that the Darwin Lecture is rapidly approaching and that he and Bill need to work on gaining access to the MMRB for the event. He also asked if parking arrangements have been finalized, and Bill responded that he has confirmed it with Rebekah Frazier at KGS. He will reach out to her again for final confirmation. Ben will reach out to Dr. Loren Babcock again about obtaining permission to stream the event or post it on the internet.

Campus Outreach

Daniel suggested identifying where the gaps are when it comes to campus visits. Ben volunteered to visit the University of Kentucky (UK) and Eastern Kentucky University (EKU). John Popp added that he has reached out to Jen O'Keefe at Morehead and will contact her again. Ben asked if hosting the outreach events online would offer any benefit. John responded that he has noticed impressive student attendance at some of the virtual events. Daniel and Bill suggested saving the remote meetings for the longer trips like Murray State University, and to try to arrange for in-person trips to closer universities when possible. Tim Blackburn indicated that he may be able to make the trip to Morehead, especially because he's an alum. Ben added that meeting with students in-person may be very valuable to them because some may not interact with professionals outside of events like this. Ben suggested that moving the discussion about resume' preparation and interviewing online because more we may be able to reach more people at one time.

Bill reminded Ben that he has the authority to establish committees such as outreach, and website updates, where additional work can be completed outside of the normal meetings. Austin will take the lead on the outreach side and Bill will start on the website.

Website Revisions

Ben reported that he is having second thoughts about whether he is satisfied with the draft version of the website but showed several examples of the progress that he has made so far. He has retained some of the characteristics of the current website because there is so much information on it. Bill suggested that KY AIPG consider how the website will be accessed, whether by desktop or by mobile devices. It also needs to accurately display on most common browsers. Ben reported that it should work with browsers except for Safari. John thanked Ben for his work and said he has taken a big step to bringing the website more current. Ben hopes to have the website finished within the next month. Tim C. asked if the website can be shared so we can experience it to offer suggestions. Ben said that it's not ready yet, but he may be able to get it work.

Other Discussion Topics

Board of Registration Update

Bill reported that he met with William (Drew) Andrews who retired from KGS on January 5, 2025, and reported that he and they discussed reviving the Geology Review Course that some take to prepare for the ASBOG. Drew asked if KY AIPG could host the event. The current cost is \$150, and he would require \$75 of this amount, and the rest would go to snacks and drinks. Bill has volunteered to host the event at his office which would be free of charge. The first review is scheduled for Saturday February 15th, 2025 at AST's office in Midway, Kentucky. Bill said the only expense would be any snacks and transferring his portion of the fee to him. Bill reported that he already has a website set up as well as a Paypal account. He's also working on a flyer for the course.

Ben expressed his support for this service and added that it is a very good way to help geologists who are pursuing professional licensure. Bill cautioned everyone that this is a geology review course and that it can't be referred to as an ASBOG study course because they have their own review course. This course is more general in nature but should help those taking the test. John said that the timing is about right to have the course. Ben recommended supporting this effort and made a motion to support the Geology Exam Review, where Drew will receive a stipend of \$75 per person, Bill seconded. The motion passed.

Bill added that they are still trying to fill the vacancy on the Board of Registration, and they now have one applicant for the position. The next Board meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2025 at 1:00 pm and is open to the public. The next ASBOG exam will be on March 20 & 21, 2025.

Open Floor Discussion

Faith Feine reported that the State Science Fair will be held on March 28-29, 2025 and added that she is scheduled to judge the event. She reminded everyone that KY-AIPG usually gives \$50 to the winner in each of two categories, High School and Jr. High School, as well as the Smithsonian Book entitled Earth. Bill made a motion to support the KY State Science Fair with \$50 per award winner, the book and the certificates; Tim seconded, the motion carried. Ben will try to assist Faith in judging.

Next Meeting

Ben suggested skipping a February meeting and having the next meeting on March 20, 2025 at 4:00pm. Ben made a motion and Bill seconded. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:02pm. Daniel will send out an email requesting participants to visit college campuses.