

Kentucky Section AIPG Business Meeting

Thursday, June 11, 2020

Zoom Remote Access Meeting

Attendees: **Bill Brab, Tim Crumbie**, Ben Currens, Frank Ettensohn, Faith Fiene, Trent Garrison, **Donnie Lumm, Edward Lo, John Popp, Richard Smath.**

Welcome and Call to Order

President Edward Lo called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

President's Report

Edward indicated that in light of recent events, he wants to address the topic of inclusion and diversity in the geosciences. He would like to develop some actionable items that can be addressed and built on as time progresses. He suggested having separate, recurring discussions (a forum) to address the topic and to make progress on the issue. Edward requested input from the Executive Committee on the topic. He added that he has received a call back from Aaron Johnson, Executive Director of AIPG, but has not been able to connect with him yet. Edward broached the subject of diversity with AIPG National to see if they have plans to address the issue and to discuss their plans. Donnie Lumm suggested that Edward compose an email message to AIPG National listing his concerns so he can have his questions in writing when he has the opportunity to speak with them. Edward reported that he has found several other professional organizations that have issued responses or position statements on the topic. John Popp offered clarification on the distinction between the Black Lives Matter movement and the lack of diversity within the geosciences. He questioned what KY-AIPG as an organization can do to increase diversity. His recommendation was to continue outreach to students, emphasizing inclusion and volunteered to help with the endeavor. Trent Garrison added that colleges and universities have been addressing this topic for years and may be able to provide guidance. Ben Currens added that mentorship and internships could be considered as ways to create a more inclusive environment.

Edward indicated that he thinks the first step toward addressing the problem would be to have a new diversity award and possibly have some Darwin lectures on diversity in the geosciences, or at least have different groups represented during the series. He thinks that this would be one way of showing inclusivity. Tim Crumbie added that there is a potential that a sufficient level of interest in the geosciences may not exist among diverse communities which could contribute to the lack of diversity. He added that the lack of diversity in the field may not be totally attributable to an 'atmosphere of exclusion'. It's possible that the certain groups of people are under-represented in the profession because the level of interest in the subject matter is low. Richard Smath agreed and gave an example of a discussion that Neil deGrasse Tyson gave about his experiences as a person of color.

Trent indicated that Amanda Fuller, Executive Director with the Kentucky Academy of Science (KAS), might be a good resource. Edward asked for feedback on when the first meeting to address this topic could be held. He added that that the American Geosciences Institute (AGI) has some good information on the topic and he would like to use that as initial guidance. Ben added that we could start by talking to minority students in the geosciences to get ideas of where this discussion needs to go and what needs to be done to address the topic. Edward thinks that experiences can be shared during the informal discussions and the path forward can be developed during those meetings. He recommended having the first meeting on June 25th at 5:30 and spreading the announcement on social media. The meeting venue would also have to be

decided. After short discussion, it was decided that hosting the meeting on ZOOM. Richard reminded everyone that in the past, women were not as numerous in the geosciences and suggested that we look into what was done to improve that condition.

Richard asked that if, during the COVID-19 pandemic, employers are conducting in-person or virtual interviews. He added that with the increasing likelihood that interviews will be conducted virtually, at least in the near future, candidates should know how to present and conduct themselves during the process. General discussion was held about this topic. John added that AGI and AIPG have both addressed how people should conduct virtual meetings and interviews. Edward said that the topic could be addressed in a future AIPG workshop. Bill suggested hosting an interviewing/resume writing workshop that could be structured to cover virtual interviews too. He has already developed a presentation on that can be modified to fit the current needs.

President Elect

No report.

Vice President

No report.

Secretary's Report

Tim Crumbie reported that the minutes from the May 14, 2020 meeting were emailed to the Executive Committee members on June 8, 2020. The minutes were approved by electronic vote (majority approval) on June 11, 2020 following minor revisions.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Brab distributed copies of the Treasurer's report for the April and May Treasurer reports via email. He also included a document entitled Fiscal Awareness that summarizes the expenditures of the section since 2000.

Total Operating Funds as of March 31, 2020	\$24,570.26
Checking Balance as of April 30, 2020	\$24,371.26
PayPal Account Balance as of April 30, 2020	\$ 0.00
Total Operating Funds as of April 30, 2020	\$24,371.26
Net Change from previous report	-\$199.00
Total Operating Funds as of April 30, 2020	\$24,371.26
Checking Balance as of May 31, 2020	\$25,289.80
PayPal Account Balance as of April 30, 2020	\$ 0.00
Total Operating Funds as of May 31, 2020	\$25,289.80
Net Change from previous report	+\$918.54

Donnie made a motion to accept the April 2020 Treasurer's report as presented and Tim seconded. The motion passed. Donnie made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report ending May 31, 2020, John seconded. The motion passed.

Bill presented a Fiscal Awareness Report presenting a comparative analysis of the spending habits of the KY-AIPG. He built his presentation on information that Gil Cumbee had previously compiled and

presented to KY-AIPG to bring attention to cash flow. Bill's report shows that the KY-AIPG's income has remained relatively consistent over time but expenses are rising. His profit and loss graph shows that KY-AIPG is losing money at a faster rate than it is being generated. The End of Year Cash Balance graph also shows decreasing funds (balances) over time. This graph was extrapolated to the year 2064 when, at the current spending rate, the balance of the cash reserves would be zero. Bill wants to make sure that everyone is aware of the spending trends so adjustments can be made if needed. Trent mentioned that he is a member of a different professional organization that reaches out to its membership for small cash donations. He said they generated \$6,000 in one day using this approach. General discussion was held about how additional revenue can be generated. Trent reminded everyone that AIPG National will provide financial support to sections for causes that promote geology if they think the cause is worthy.

Communication Coordinator's Report

Richard Smath reported that he is working through the details of migrating all of the files from the server on campus to his laptop. This is necessary so he can access the files he needs while working remotely.

Past President's Report

Donnie revisited his previous suggestion that the Annual KY-AIPG Section meeting be an informal gathering which could be discussed later. This would allow KY-AIPG an opportunity to present the annual awards to the winners.

New Business - AIPG Annual Awards Ceremony

Edward suggested that an informal awards presentation could be held at Mirror Twin Brewing if there is interest in pursuing this option. The final date and venue for the ceremony will depend on when the awards can be obtained and what venues are open.

The 2020 KY-AIPG Annual Award winners are as follows:

Lifetime Achievement: Mark Sweet

Geologist of the Year: Dan Phelps

Student Awards: Kim Kusler (NKU) and Tim 'Spencer' Dixon (UK)

Remote Career Development Workshops

See above discussion about interviews and resumes.

Board of Registration for Professional Geologists Update

The Board held their last meeting virtually via Zoom on June 8, 2020. At that time, they voted to cancel the administration of the ASBOG test that was scheduled for this spring. Bill reported that eight new applications were received for professional registration and that two complaints were settled or dismissed. He added that the Board will take care of all arrangements necessary to accommodate special considerations or needs that apply to those wanting to take the ASBOG test. The next meeting is scheduled for August 10, 2020.

Frank Ettensohn reported that the station that they have previously used for the Bahama's trip is currently closed but will re-open soon. He said that several people have shown interest in wanting to attend the short course next year but he has no commitments as yet. He said that KY-AIPG should decide by August if the trip will be hosted in 2021.

Edward reported that he still has not heard from Dr. Lacovara regarding his availability to speak at the Darwin Lecture Series so he is going to give up on that effort.

Next Meeting

Scheduling for the next meeting is pending. John made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Bill seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.