

Kentucky Section AIPG Business Meeting

Thursday, January 18, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom Application

Attendees: **Tim Crumbie**, Ben Currens, **Austin Dilla**, Daniel Draper, Frank Ettensohn, Edward Lo, **Donnie Lumm**, John Popp, **Richard Smath**, Shishir Sarker.

Welcome and Call to Order

President Austin Dilla called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm. Austin introduced himself, wished everyone a Happy New Year. He also congratulated Ben Currens and Daniel Draper on being elected to serve on the Executive Committee.

President's Report

Austin deferred his comments until later in the meeting.

President Elect's Report

Ben Currens reported that he was invited to speak at an undergraduate seminar at UK that will be held in March of 2024. He will talk about the Kentucky Division of Water and AIPG. He asked for anyone who has materials that may be applicable or would like to participate, to contact him.

Vice President's Report

Daniel thanked everyone for electing him to the Vice President position and he has more information to share later in the meeting. He provided some background information about himself to further his introduction.

Secretary's Report

Tim Crumbie welcomed more members to the meeting before presenting the Treasurer's report. Tim indicated that the draft minutes from the December 18, 2023 meeting were emailed to the Executive Committee for review on January 17, 2023. The minutes were approved electronically by majority vote on January 18, 2024. Copies of the final version of the minutes were emailed to the Executive Committee following approval.

Treasurer's Reports

Bill Brab emailed a copy of the Treasurer's Report from the month ending December 31, 2023 as he was unable to attend the meeting. Austin shared the report on his screen and summarized it as follows:

Total Operating Funds as of November 30, 2023	\$23,425.96
Checking Account Credits as of December 31, 2023	\$5,510.68
Checking Account Debits as of December 31, 2023	\$0.00
Checking Account Balance as of December 31, 2023	\$23,425.96
Total Operating Funds as of December 31, 2023	\$28,936.64
Net Change from previous report	+\$5,510.68

A credit of \$5,510.00 was added to the checking account from the AIPG Annual Meeting. Donnie Lumm added that the proceeds from the National AIPG meeting were split with the Ohio and the Indiana-Illinois Sections of AIPG. Donnie Lumm made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Richard Smath seconded. The motion passed.

Austin reported that he presented at the AIPG Annual Meeting and thought it was a great event. He enjoyed the communication and feedback from other attendees and participants.

Communications Coordinator's Report

Richard reported that the website is up to date with the new officers and the minutes are up to date. Tim reported that he has already notified National AIPG of the new Executive Committee for KY-AIPG.

Past President's Report

Donnie Lumm reported that he prepared a newsletter at the end of 2023 which has been posted to the section website. Austin thanked Donnie for working with him last year and the leadership he has provided to the KY-AIPG.

New/Ongoing Business

Student Outreach

Austin stated that now is the time to start working on student outreach activities. Starting early will prevent running into conflicts around exam time. He added that he has developed a list of suggested student outreach teams for each geology program in the state as follows:

Northern Kentucky University (NKU): Lumm, Currens
Eastern Kentucky University (EKU): Brab, Dilla
Western Kentucky University (WKU): Lumm
University of Kentucky (UK): Brab, Dilla, Currens
Murray State University: Lumm, Draper
Morehead State University: Lumm

Austin mentioned he believes Marie Musial is near NKU and may be available to assist with reaching out to them. Donnie reported that he has reached out to Dr. Nilesh Dixit, Geology Program Director at NKU, but he has not yet received a response. Donnie said he will reach out to him again, this time by phone. General discussion was held about the status of each department and what types of outreach activities could be used. Donnie added that he will also follow up with Dr. Jen O'Keefe at Morehead because she has invited him to their campus to speak.

John Popp suggested that it may also be an appropriate time to reach out to the departments for recommendations for the student awards. Ben Currens reported that he has been asked to speak at an underground seminar at UK in March. He will specifically talk about the Kentucky Division of Water and AIPG. He asked if anyone had any materials that they feel should be included in the talk to let him know.

Other Discussion Topics

Collaboration with GSK in 2024

Austin asked for feedback on how Geologic Society of Kentucky (GSK) should be approached about collaborating on future efforts and events. Donnie reported that the matter was already mentioned during the GSK annual meeting in November of 2023. He deferred to Frank Ettensohn and Richard about options. Frank indicated that some interest has been shown about hosting a carbonate workshop and field trip similar to the event that KY-AIPG hosted a couple of years ago. Boyd Gray is the current President of GSK. Austin asked Richard or Frank to provide him with Boyd's contact information so he can initiate the discussion.

Darwin Lecture

Donnie sent an invitation to Dr. Carol Johnson with the University of Indiana in Bloomington. She is a full professor with about 35 years' experience as an evolutionary biologist. He added that her biography is online and is quite impressive. She has completed work on the build-up of carbonate organisms in the Caribbean that sounds fascinating. Donnie reported that he emailed her a couple of days ago but has not yet heard back. If she doesn't respond by tomorrow, Donnie will reach out to another potential speaker, Dr. Loren Babcock, a professor with the Ohio State University and Director of the Orton Geological Museum. He has extensive experience in Evolutionary Biology. Donnie added that he has potential options such as someone with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History he can reach out to but will wait a short while before doing so. He has offered a \$500.00 stipend to the Dr. Johnson, as KY-AIPG has done in the past. He would prefer that the event be hosted in February to coincide with the birthdate of event's namesake. Hosting these events online seems to work well and may minimize logistical issues that arise when hosting them in person. Austin added that if these options don't pan out, he can look at some researchers he knows from Penn State University. John added that one of the last in-person speakers we had was Dr. Stephen Wallace from Tennessee, who gave a really interesting presentation on an ongoing excavation project that he was working at the Gray Fossil site. John suggested that if the other options do not pan out, there might be an option to invite him back to provide an update on his work. Richard mentioned that he had seen a previous Darwin Lecture speaker, Dr. James Kirkland, Paleontologist from Utah, on an episode of Dirty Jobs. Austin volunteered to create a flyer for the event once a speaker is obtained. Donnie suggested obtaining a copy of the template that has been used to introduce previous speakers during the Darwin Lecture speakers. Donnie emphasized that the speaker should be a 'heavy hitter', someone with a long career in evolutionary biology.

2024 AIPG Members Social Event

Austin requested recommendations on how to host an informal social event at a local brewery or similar venue, where existing and potential members can meet the Executive Committee and start to network. He suggested hosting the event at Mirror Twin Brewing because it has plenty of areas to hold conversation, the food is good and the music is not too loud. He also asked if KY-AIPG has a pamphlet that could be attached to an invitation to the event. The invitations could be sent to the universities and the AIPG mailing list. Figuring out the best day of the week to do it will be important. Austin does not think the turnout would be good on Thursday or Friday nights because college students often have other plans. Ben agreed it is a good idea but should probably be piggy-backed with another event so more people would attend. Austin suggested that a ticket for a drink (or something) could be given to each member that attends. Donnie reminded everyone that KY-AIPG has done something similar to this in the past, pizza has worked in the past. If tickets for alcoholic drinks are given out, the attendee's age must be verified before doing so. John agreed it is a good idea and recommended hosting more than one of these types of events in different

locations. Edward Lo volunteered that graduate group in the Earth and Environmental Science Department at UK is active and usually looking to organize these types of events and he thinks contacting them would be willing participants. Daniel suggested that the event could be held in association with a presentation or training class of some sort, like geophysics, environmental, things along those lines. Donnie reminded everyone about the event that was being planned by AST prior to COVID. Several people agreed that an event like this would be good. General discussion was held about options along these lines. Edward provided a link to UK's seminar series (<https://ees.as.uky.edu/seminar-schedule>).

Daniel suggested that KY-AIPG start making content for Linked-In because it would be a good way to get information out. Donnie added that KY-AIPG has a Facebook account but the person that ran it is not currently active. Someone could build on this framework since it already exists. Edward said he still has access to the Facebook page and added that KY-AIPG even has a YouTube channel. Austin agreed that social media is a great option and that it will appeal to younger professionals. He suggested that we start with Facebook and build from there. He volunteered that he could lead this effort. Donnie suggested that in the short term, additions to the page at least initially could be simply introducing the current Executive Committee. Austin asked someone to provide access to the Facebook page so he could get started.

Board of Registration Update

Austin was not able to attend the last meeting (on December 11, 2023) and he said that Bill Brab told him that it was a short meeting with not much new information. The biggest thing was getting geologists to renew their registrations. As of the date of the meeting, about one third of the Geologists registered in Kentucky had not renewed their registration.

Shisir Sarker introduced himself as a PhD candidate in the Environmental Science Department at UK. He added that he joined AIPG last year and attended the annual meeting. He added that his a hydrogeologist and he is looking for a job.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 13, 2023 at 5:00 pm via Zoom. Donnie made a motion to close the meeting, Ben seconded. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:01 pm.