

# Kentucky Section AIPG Business Meeting

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Remote Meeting Via Zoom Application

Attendees: **Bill Brab, Megan Cleinmark, Ben Currens, Frank Ettensohn, Donald Lumm, Chris Manning, Donny Prater, Richard Smath**

## **Welcome and Call to Order**

President Donny Prater welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

## President's Report

Donny reported that he has still not received a response from Morehead State University and indicated that he will attempt to contact them again.

## President Elect's Report

Donnie Lumm indicated that he has comments about the several topics but will defer them until later in the meeting.

## Vice President's Report

Ben Currens reported that he will defer his comments until the student outreach activities are addressed later in the meeting.

## Secretary's Report

In Tim Crumbie's absence, Donnie confirmed that the draft version of the minutes from the October 20, 2022 KY-AIPG meeting were emailed to the Executive Committee for review on November 15, 2022. The minutes were approved electronically by unanimous vote on November 17, 2022 following minor revisions.

In anticipation of his absence at the meeting, Tim emailed a summary of his report to the Executive Committee which indicated that he had requested a current membership roster from AIPG National on November 4, 2022 but never heard back from them. He added that the list was provided earlier today and copies were forwarded to the Executive Committee and John Popp. The report also mentioned that AIPG National can set up electronic ballots for officer elections and that he would try to find out more about the service and gauge the interest of the KY-AIPG Executive Committee.

## Treasurer's Reports

Bill Brab distributed the Treasurer's Report for the period ending October 31, 2022. The report is summarized on the following page:

<b>Total Operating Funds as of September 30, 2022</b>	<b>\$21,651.32</b>
Checking Account Credits as of October 31, 2022	\$0.91
Checking Account Debits as of October 31, 2022	\$166.00
Checking Account Balance as of October 31, 2022	\$21,486.23
<b>Total Operating Funds as of October 31, 2022</b>	<b>\$21,486.23</b>
Net Change from previous report	-\$165.09

Donnie made a motion to accept the treasurers report and Donny seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Communications Coordinator's Report

Richard Smath reported that he will upload the final version of the minutes from the October 20, 2022 meeting now that they have been approved.

#### Past President's Report

Megan Cleinmark indicated that she does not have much to report. She added that she will still be replacing John Popp as one of the speakers at the joint Northeast and Southeast Geological Society of America (GSA) meeting that will be held in March of 2023. She will be submitting her abstract about Careers in Geosciences soon. Donnie volunteered that he would be happy to assist her in preparing her abstract. Megan thanked Donnie and added that she is excited to be able to talk to students because she believes the regional GSA meetings provide excellent opportunities for student outreach.

#### **New Business**

##### 2023 KY AIPG Executive Committee Officer Elections

General discussion was held about how the KY-AIPG elections will be handled this year given that Tim had mentioned that AIPG National can prepare electronic ballots. The general consensus was if there were no objections, that KY-AIPG will continue to manage their own officer elections, including ballot preparation. There were no objections.

Donnie asked if anyone knows of a candidate that could serve as President Elect on the KY-AIPG Executive Committee. Donnie indicated that he would get with John Popp to see if he has any recommendations.

##### 2023 Darwin Lecture

Donnie reported that he contacted Dan Phelps on October 24, 2022 to see if he would serve as the speaker for the 2023 lecture. Dan responded that he did not feel qualified to give the lecture and added that he is recovering from an accident. He volunteered to assist in the search for someone qualified to serve as the speaker for the event. Donnie accepted Dan's offer and will contact with him regarding potential speakers.

#### **OTHER DISCUSSION TOPICS**

##### Student Outreach

Donnie reported that he traveled to Murray State University on Friday, November 11, 2022 and had a very good visit with students and faculty that lasted three and a half (3.5) to four (4.0) hours. He had an informal discussion with them during a luncheon that was catered by the university, during which they exchanged questions, many career related. They then moved to an auditorium where he gave a 45-minute talk about KY-AIPG, National AIPG and a project he had recently worked on assessing sand and gravel resources in

the Ohio River floodplain. He wrapped up his talk with information on career statistics from the American Geological Institute (AGI). He said that the attendees were very appreciative that he visited their campus and added that Murray State University has lost their Sedimentology and Stratigraphy instructor and they don't currently offer Mineralogy. Donnie went on to say that that he enjoyed his time there and reiterated that the students were very appreciative that he made the trip and would welcome future visits. He said that Murray State University currently has six (6) full-time faculty and one (1) part time faculty member and that he met with eighteen (18) or nineteen (19) students. He said that some of them are interested in the mentor program and added that that a couple are planning to attend graduate school, but many are uncertain about where to look for jobs.

Ben Currens reported that he talked to Alan Fryar, the Director of Undergraduate Studies at the University of Kentucky (UK), a couple of weeks ago. Kevin Yeager will assume that role in the near future. Ben added that he discussed how KY-AIPG can dovetail its activities with the universities' initiatives. He also learned that UK is having difficulty finding speakers for their seminar series. Ben recommended that they consider adding a (geology) professional to the series. He added that they also talked a little about AIPG National and how to promote student participation on that stage. He learned that UK now has a geology club for graduate students (in addition to the undergraduate geology club) but he hasn't had an opportunity to reach out them yet. Ben indicated that they discussed the undergraduate curriculum which is currently being revised, and the possibility of incorporating portions of the ASBOG exam. Based on his conversation, it does not appear that this will come to fruition largely due to the number of topics that are covered by the Fundamentals of Geology (FG) portion of the test relative to UK's curricula. Ben also verified that hosting the previously discussed career session/resume writing outreach event would not conflict with anything that UK has planned. Bill added that as he recalls, KY-AIPG is considering hosting the event in the spring of 2023. Ben added that the UK alum had a career panel on October 28, 2022 but the turnout was very low. They generally discussed adding things like holding mock interviews and having a hiring panel in hopes to improve attendance to these types of events.

Bill reported that ASBOG is currently utilizing the FG at various locations across the nation to evaluate the effectiveness of university programs in preparing students for the professional workplace. He added that he feels it is important that faculty members at least consider this approach as an option. He added that Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) has embraced this approach and that ASBOG has personnel with extensive connections with the universities that have accepted the approach. He feels it would be worthwhile for UK reconsider. Ben added that the idea could be pitched to Kevin next semester and that now would be an opportune time to revisit the issue given that their curricula is currently being re-evaluated. Frank Etensohn added that when UK first considered this option, the cost was so great that most students could not afford to take the exam and the university could not cover the expense for them. Another consideration was that after trying this program for two years, UK determined that the broad array of topics covered by the exam, many of which undergraduates had not been exposed to, discouraged students instead of encouraging them.

Bill reported that he spoke with Dr. Walter Borowski about meeting with the geology program at ECU and learned that there was an apparent break-down in communication with the President of the Geology Club. Bill was put into contact with the person who oversees the geology club and it appears that they may be open to resuming dialogue with KY-AIPG in the Spring of 2023. Bill added that he will follow-up and

work on setting up a discussion to establish a connection with the students there. He added that he has not heard back from Northern Kentucky University (NKU) and invited anyone on the KY-AIPG Executive Committee that may have connections there to try to make contact.

Bill added that he continues to work with the Education Committee in preparation for the National AIPG Meeting. He reported that they are nearing completion of the request for abstracts for technical presentations and posters and that they are going to try to distribute the request for abstracts in January of 2023. They are also talking with speakers and educational professionals to solicit presentations.

#### Kentucky Board of Registration Update

Bill reported that the Board meeting is scheduled for is December 12, 2022. He added that there were no major updates to report since the previous meeting, and briefly summarized some of the topics that discussed at that time.

#### 2023 AIPG National Conference

Donnie reported that seven (7) field trips are planned as part of the as part of the AIPG National Meeting; three (3) in Ohio that will be run by Ohio Geological Survey personnel, two (2) in Kentucky, one (1) of which will be led by Frank and Charlie Mason, and the other that will be led by Donnie. Donnie's trip will make stops at a rock quarry in Pendleton County and a sand quarry in Boone County. Donnie added that the field trip committee is working through some issues with the Indiana Geological Survey but they are still planning on seven (7) field trips.

#### Bahamas Short Course

Donnie reported that he has contacted Frank to discuss course dates, COVID protocol and the costs for the field camp. Frank indicated that he would like to consider having the course from May 13, 2023 through May 20, 2023. These dates do not include travel. Frank added that the basic cost per person is five hundred and eighty dollars (\$580.00). He suggested adding twenty dollars (\$20) to that to make the cost an even six hundred dollars (\$600.00). The extra money could be used to support staff or to address any exigencies that may arise. Frank added that he looked at the camp handbook and it does not reference COVID. Donnie stated that he will get together with Bill after Thanksgiving to edit the trip announcement documents that Richard had put together. After edits, they will be sent to Frank for comments with the intent of posting the announcement by Christmas. Frank added that he has already heard from a number of people who have expressed interest in attending the course and requested that another week be added to the registration deadline as a contingency. He reminded everyone that participants would have to pay for their own transportation and indicated that he has checked the price for flight to and from San Salvador (from Miami) and right now it would cost four hundred and forty-five dollars (\$445.00), but that price may change as the meeting date approaches. Frank suggested that the KY-AIPG plan for one staff person instead of two, which should make the cost to attend a little more appealing.

Donnie asked Frank if he knew of anyone interested in teaching Sedimentation and Stratigraphy at Murray State University given that they recently lost their course instructor. Frank will reach out to Donnie if anyone fitting the bill comes to mind.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2022 at 5:00 pm via Zoom. Donny made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Donnie seconded. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:57 pm