

# Kentucky Section AIPG Business Meeting

Saturday October 24, 2020

Zoom Remote Access Meeting

Attendees: **Bill Brab, Megan Cleinmark, Tim Crumbie, Frank Ettensohn, Faith Fiene, Donnie Lumm, Edward Lo, John Popp, Richard Smath.**

## Welcome and Call to Order

President Edward Lo called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

## President's Report

Edward reported that he is focusing on getting AIPG to the end of the year, so he has no major developments to report. New items of discussion were discussed under the "new business" section. The University of Kentucky Geology Club has not yet elected officers to his knowledge but the undergraduates have met to start planning weekend trips. He is unaware of what other AIPG student chapters are doing.

## President Elect

Megan Cleinmark reported that she was asked to present/speak at the STEAM Academy in Lexington for her nephew's class. She indicated that it will be a virtual presentation and will keep KY-AIPG informed on the progress. Megan also reported that she is serving on the BCTCS Environmental Science and Technology Advisory Board. They meet two times each year to discuss the program and steps to both better the content and increase enrollment. The fall meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2020.

## Vice President

John Popp reported that he had watched a YouTube video entitled "Picture A Scientist", produced in 2020, about the mis-treatment of women in science. It focused on a geologist but included other female scientists. John thought the program was very good and worth watching.

John also reported that he judged the University of Kentucky's Earth and Environmental Sciences Research Symposium for Earth and Environmental Sciences (UK's EES ReSEES) symposium on October 2, 2020. The program was composed of research paper presentations made by mostly graduate students and one undergraduate. John thought the presentations were very good but the time allotted to present was tight.

John indicated that he continues to work on developing opportunities for KY-AIPG supported education outreach. Some of his recent efforts include reaching out to local, County Superintendents to discuss their needs; considering developing an annual Earth Science Teacher award and organizing an earth science teachers summer fieldtrip or field camp (similar to the former Illinois State Geological Survey's Guidebook Series). He has/will seek input on these efforts from Kentucky Geological Survey (KGS) personnel, likely Steve Greb and Richard Smath.

Richard suggested that KY-AIPG could serve as an "umbrella" organization that could assist earth science teachers and other interested parties with finding information and materials relevant to their needs such as the Geological Society of Kentucky (KGS), the Kentucky Paleontological Society; the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration; American Geological Institute and others.

Secretary's Report

Tim Crumbie reported that the minutes from the September 17, 2020 meeting were emailed to the Executive Committee members for comment and review on October 20, 2020. The minutes were approved by electronic vote (majority approval) on October 22, 2020 following minor revisions.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Brab emailed the Treasurer's Report for the period ending September 30, 2020. A summary of the report is provided below:

Total Operating Funds as of August 31, 2020	\$24,109.75
Checking Balance as of September 30, 2020	\$24,004.73
PayPal Account Balance as of September 30, 2020	\$ 0.00
<b>Total Operating Funds as of September 30, 2020</b>	<b>\$24,004.73</b>
Net Change from previous report	-\$105.02

John moved to accept the Treasurer's report ending on September 30, 2020 as presented, Megan seconded, the motion passed.

Communication Coordinator's Report

Richard stated that the minutes are up to date on the website but he doesn't know how to use Facebook or Twitter so he doesn't update those accounts. Bill suggested that he send the information to Trent and ask him to update those accounts.

He added that he had difficulty sending out the latest Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) meeting announcement but came up with a work-around. Ed reported that the security protocol for his UK email account are stringent and may have caused the issue.

Past President's Report

No report

**NEW BUSINESS**

National Advisory Board Meeting

Bill and Donnie attended the Executive Board meeting on October 17, 2020 and Bill said he sat through the first Advisory Board meeting (current Board) and part of the second Advisory Board meeting which was held for the incoming Board meetings. He reported that the Executive Board meeting mainly addressed AIPG business and also dealt with DEI topics. He reported that Dawn Garcia, Golder Associates, spoke at length during the DEI portion of the meeting. The portion of this meeting that captured Bill's attention the most dealt with National AIPG's finances and how their long- and short-term trends. National indicated that they have a long-term investment account that provides income to support their activities in addition to funds provided by the sections. He said they historically see an annual decrease of 1-2% in their funding but because of declining memberships and the lack of new members, during the last couple of years they are seeing a 3-4% decrease annually. This is not directly attributable to COVID. AIPG National has however, increased their efficiency and managed to generate savings in that area. They are also considering decreasing their footprint to save costs. Bill added that several affiliate organizations such as the Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG) gave presentations. The Advisory Board meeting which revealed that most sections are carrying on business status quo with declining membership and fewer

meetings. He said the Florida report was interesting in Professional Geologists have been ‘stripped’ of their registration and they may no longer be able to sign off on reports that are geologically based.

Edward reported that National does not have a recording of the minutes from the meetings but they will have typed versions available. Ed reported that during the second half of the meeting, they listed to presentations from people vying for future seats on the Advisory Board. Edward said that to end the meeting, they emphasized that not only is AIPG trying to attract new members, but trying to cater to and retain the existing members. They asked that the Sections keep this in mind.

Megan asked if anything can be done to protect geologic licensure or gain more “power”. Bill responded that two of the conditions that allowed the Kentucky Professional Geologist Bill to be passed initially were that practicing geologists with so many years of experience would be grandfathered in and that Continuing Education Units (CEUs) would not be required. Adding a requirement for CEUs to maintain professional certification has been a topic that some geologists have tried to promote in the past but the idea is not widely accepted within the profession. There has also been discussion about making obtaining CEUs voluntary. John added that geologists will need to show that they are willing to continue doing what is required to promote and continue education to remain competitive with engineers. Frank added that the effort to require CEUs has been tried before but a lobbyist would be required to push it through the legislature. Money to pay for a lobbyist has also been a hinderance. Bill added that people within our profession will, and have fought against this effort and the time and money invested would be lost. Edward asked if there is a representative at the legislature that could be contacted regarding this matter. Charlie Mason and Trent Garrison may have political contacts with whom this effort could be discussed.

#### Star Chapter Services

Star Chapter is a third party that claims they are able to migrate the KY-AIPG website into a new format that is advertised to boost membership. Edward looked into this option and determined that it could be a good idea but is expensive endeavor and that they require payment to release your own data. You also have to pay for the initial setup and an ongoing monthly fee to manage the account. These are for basic services. If you want to add items, you get charged accordingly and price creep becomes an issue. It has potential but there appear to be quite a few caveats. Bill added that he had talked to someone from the Minnesota AIPG Chapter who had subscribed to their services and it seemed to help their section. He looked into it as an option and determined that it would be more appropriate for a larger organization with more financial resources. He added that this would be a significant endeavor and that in may not be worth the effort. Edward agreed. He has considered migrating the website to another web hosting service to update the existing webpage. National currently hosts the KY-AIPG web page, which is currently used as an archive. John posed the question about whether updating the website would be more effective or would our social media presence be more conducive to promoting membership. Richard indicated that he might be able to check with National to see if they can provide information on hits. He is concerned that moving over to Star Chapter leaves to question what would happen to the data that is currently archived on the website. Edward added that other web hosting platforms such as WordPress, Weebly and Wix, that would allow the section to experiment with other options if interested, in the future. He suggested that the current website be maintained and that maybe we can update the look of the landing page. Other updates can be provided via social media.

#### 2020 Executive Committee Officer Election

General discussion was held about the length of the terms of the officers and how the announcement should be made. Tim will find out what the terms for each position are. Richard said the nomination request could

be sent out allowing a couple of weeks to respond because it doesn't really help to give more time (people tend to lose or forget to make the nominations). Bill suggested sending out an initial notification, set a deadline, and on the date of the deadline, follow-up and extend the timeline. Bill suggested sending out the solicitation for nominations during the week of October 26, 2020 with an initial deadline set for November 20, 2020. A secondary deadline could subsequently be established for November 30, 2020. The candidates could be reviewed and the ballot created during the next meeting (assuming December 5, 2020) and the official ballot could be created. The ballot could be sent out on December 7, 2020 and voting could be ended on December 11, 2020. Everyone in attendance was in agreement with this proposed schedule. Edward asked everyone to think of someone that they could nominate to run for one of the open positions.

## **OTHER TOPICS OF DISCUSSION**

### KY-AIPG Bylaws Update for DEI Award

This topic was tabled until a later date due to time constraints.

### Board of Registration for Professional Geologists Update:

The October 12, 2020 meeting was canceled. The next meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2020. The ASBOG FG and PG were administered on October 2, 2020 at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Frankfort. Twenty-one people took the FG test and twelve took the PG portion. The additional assistance was provided to the attendee that needed it. Bill helped proctor the morning section associated with the FG and Mark Sweet assisted with proctoring the afternoon PG portion. Bill will check to see if Mark Sweet's term to serve on the PG Board is ending but he will need to verify that.

### Kentucky DEI Forum (October 26, 2020):

Edward reported that Rebecca Dzombak, (PhD student at the Univ. of Michigan) will be the speaker during the meeting on Monday and will be addressing inequities in field work. The meeting is scheduled to start at 5:30 pm.

Laleh Cote, STEAM Education PhD student in California, is scheduled to be the speaker during the November 30, 2020 meeting. No one has been selected to speak during the December meeting as yet but Edward solicited input from others but suggested considering having someone from the Kentucky Legislature or maybe someone from AWG.

The Pinnacle Hike scheduled for later today is going to be attended by Edward and possibly one other person.

KY-AIPG will be hosting a virtual social event on Zoom on November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 for those interested.

### Next Meeting

The next KY-AIPG Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am on Saturday, December 5, 2020 at 10 am. Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Megan seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:43 am.