

Arkansas Chapter AFS Executive Committee meeting

October 27, 2011

Witt Stephens, Jr. Central Arkansas Nature Center, Little Rock, AR

Present at meeting:

Jimmy Barnett (Activities and Raffle Chair), Ben Batten (Secretary), Colton Dennis (President), Lindsey Lewis (President Elect) and Bill Shinn (Education Liaison Chair).

Absent from meeting:

Ginny Adams (Past President) and Christy Kitterman (Treasurer).

Colton Dennis called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM

1. Newsletter

-Dennis reminded everyone that we have some upcoming November deadlines for the Winter Newsletter.

-Lewis would like to get it out during the month of November (traditionally, it has been the first or second week of October), because schools get into finals and things get crazy after the 1st of December.

-Dennis decided that the deadline to get information to newsletter editor Jeff Quinn would be by Thursday, November 10th. Hopefully, then Jeff can get the newsletter out by Wednesday November 23rd.

2. 2012 Meeting Logistics

-Lewis and the committee finalized that the meeting would be in Conway, February 8-10th, 2012. The entire meeting will be held at the USFWS headquarters in Conway at 110 South Amity Drive.

-General Itinerary would be as follows:

Wednesday – 1-5PM Technical Session

Social will be US pizza and drinks

Thursday – AM Technical session

PM 2013 Meeting Update and Discussion followed by Break and/or Technical Session

Social will be Whole Hog BBQ and drinks

Friday – AM – Technical Session followed by Business Meeting

PM – AFS 2013 Steering Committee Meeting

A. Item procurement and responsibility

-Booze – Ginny has a relationship with the proprietors of Lake Liquor in Conway and will check on kegs and boxes of wine.

-Breaks – Lewis will check on bakery for cookies and donuts in Conway.

-Coffee – We need to find coffee containers. Lewis will check in Conway, and Colton will check with AGFC.

- Cold drinks and ice chests – Lewis will purchase water and drinks from Sam's or Wal-Mart.
- Presentations – Lewis will check into the setup for the main room. It was suggested to do a podium with laptop style like last year. We will also have a setup or practice room.
- We will also encourage members to bring instruments for a possible jam session during the two socials.

B. Hotels

-We will not be doing a block of rooms at any hotel. The closest two (0.9 miles) which agreed to honor government room rates are:

-Hampton Inn, 810 Museum Road (501) 329-8999

-Days Inn, 1002 East Oak Street (501) 450-7575

Nearby hotels that will do a reduced rate (suitable for government employees if shared between two people):

-Country Inn and Suites, 750 Amity Road, (501) 932-0500

-Hilton Garden Inn, 805 Amity Road, (501) 329-1444

-Comfort Suites, 705 Museum Road, (501) 329-8548

C. Registration Form

- Registration pricing structure will remain the same as last year.
- Student registration is \$5, and that option needs to be added to the form.
- Return address on the form needs to be changed to Kitterman.
- UAPB and ATU need to get a list with names and e-mails of each dues paying member.
- Let Kitterman know that Betty Crump is paid through 2013 (dues).
- Dennis will e-mail Kitterman about these last two items.

3. Other Committees

A. Education Liaison

-It was discussed and all agreed that beginning in 2012, Regional science fair winner will get framed certificate rather than a wooden plaque. We also agreed to continue presenting overall state winner a plaque and \$100.

-Dennis will work with Shinn on this.

B. Nomination and Awards

-We are currently searching for a new chair. Dennis will offer the position to Ron Moore and/or Rich Standage who have been serving on the committee.

-If neither is interested, he has suggested that the standing President handle the responsibilities since it is well known that they are generally not overwhelmed with duties during that year of service.

-Call for submissions for the Robert Jenkins Memorial and the Joe Hogan awards, and will write a quick clarification of what these awards are.

-We also need to solicit nominations for President Elect and Secretary in the newsletter. If this does not bring any new ideas, we will approach some members who were previously nominated.

4. 2013 Steering Committee Meeting Information

-Dennis has a 2013 Donor and Committee volunteer spreadsheet that he will modify and get to Batten so that Beverly Birdsong can put it on the Chapter's webpage.

-Dennis would like to see a 2013 suggestion box on the webpage for general suggestions.

-Dennis would also like to see a ARAFS cookbook developed as a fundraiser item for the 2013 meeting. Batten will find a recipe submitting template to put on the Chapter website for submittal of recipes.

5. New Business

-It was suggested that Batten purchase several external storage devices and place copies of all the secretary's and president's documents on them to make it easier to transition to the next officers.

-Batten will also work with our Webmaster to update current ARAFS website.

-The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.