

Minutes of NACPRO Board Meeting

October 3, 2001

Denver, Colorado

National Association of County Park & Recreation Officials

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting

Adams Mark Hotel

Plaza Court 5

Denver, Colorado

I. Call to Order

President Bob Nickovich called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

II. No guests were introduced. Later in the meeting, J. Destry Jarvis, new NRPA Executive Director, was introduced.

III. Request for Amendments to Agenda

No items were modified or added to the Agenda.

IV. Roll Call

Members Present

Gene Andal, Executive Secretary

Sacramento County, California

Ron Benson

Douglas County, Colorado

John deBessonnet

Harris County, Texas

Bill Beckner

(Honorary Member)

Washington, D.C.

Tim Schreiner

Grand Traverse County, Michigan

Bob Nickovich

Lake County, Indiana

Jon Brady

Hamilton County, Ohio

Paul Frandsen

Riverside County, California

Steve Dice
Cleveland Metroparks, Ohio

John Weber
Baltimore County, Maryland

Bill Scalzo
Maricopa County, Arizona

Bill Palmer
East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana

John VonDeLinde
Anoka County, Minnesota

Bill Mitchell
Bucks County, Pennsylvania

Dave Noble
Lake Metroparks, Ohio

Don Hoch
Bibb County, Georgia

Absent (excused)

Paul Romero
Santa Clara County, California

Ralph Richard
Oakland County, Michigan

Dan Gooch
DuPage County Forest Preserve

Cindy Welsh
Loudon County, Virginia

Mike Pasteris
Will County, Illinois

Annette Wise
Asheville, North Carolina

Mickey Carter
Clark County, Nevada

Absent

Michael Amii
Honolulu County, Hawaii

Graham Skea
Orange County, New York

V. Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Jon Brady, seconded by John deBessonnet, the Board unanimously

approved the minutes of the July 13, 2001 meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

VI. Executive Secretary's Report

Gene Andal presented the previously adopted fee schedule for discussion.

Mr. Andal also presented the 1st Quarter financial report for discussion. He suggested that NACPRO seek a financial sponsor for the Annual Awards banquet.

Mr. Andal also reported on the progress of the credit card software which will be operational by the end of October.

VII. NACPRO/NACO Board Member Report – Dan Gooch

Bob Nickovich acknowledged Mr. Gooch's absence and reported for him. Mr. Gooch suggested that NACPRO develop an affiliate column for the NACO Newsletter.

He also encouraged more affiliate cooperation between NACO and NACPRO. He also recommended that NACPRO further investigate and make comments regarding the NACO current Legislative Platform.

VIII. Standing Committee Reports

A. Awards Committee – John deBessonet

Mr. deBessonet recommended that NACPRO remain with the same award categories as last year. He also recommended that we remain with the same style of awards.

Mr. deBessonet echoed Mr. Andal's comment regarding NACPRO funding a sponsor to underwrite the annual awards banquet.

Mr. deBessonet recommended that the same application be used for award submittals. He suggested that a \$25 application fee per award be assessed with the concept that a certificate of appreciation be given to each applicant.

President Nickovich asked for volunteers to serve on the awards committee with Mr. deBessonet. Dave Noble, John Vondelinde, and Tim Schreiner volunteered.

B. By-laws Committee – Ron Benson

Mr. Benson suggested that since he was elected as third vice-president that a new by-laws chairman be chosen. Paul Frandsen volunteered. Thanks Paul!

Bill Becker discussed the merits of policies vs. by-laws in relation to the future governance of NACPRO.

President Nickovich suggested that NACPRO should wait until the 501c3 status is approved before the board considers any new by-law changes.

C. Finance Committee – Tim Schreiner

Mr. Schreiner reported that the finance committee currently consists of himself, Paul Romero, and Executive Director Gene Andal.

Mr. Schreiner distributed the 1st Quarter financial report for the NACPRO fiscal year 2001-2002. (Period ending September 30, 2001)

Please refer to this report. (Attachment "A")

Mr. Schreiner also reported on future revenue generating possibilities.

D. Legislation Committee – Bill Scalzo

Due to the September 11 terrorist attack, little is being accomplished on Capitol Hill.

CARA "lite" (1.3 billion) legislation was moving fairly well until the terrorist attacks. Due to spending to aid the terrorist fallout, there may be very little financial aid next fiscal year to counties.

NACO is currently working on legislative language to locate funding for future open space acquisition.

Bill Beckner stated that his contacts tell him that CARA may be pulled off the table until next year with no new significant funding of the stateside portion.

John Weber questioned the possibility of future funding for juvenile justice. Bill Scalzo stated that NACO in general was not in favor of this funding because many counties are primarily rural.

President Nickovich discussed the status of House Bill 2375, which is a farm bill revolving around water quality and wildlife.

Bill Beckner reported that his White House contacts have informed him that HB 2375 will probably be taken off the table.

E. Membership Committee – Paul Romero

Gene Andal acknowledged Mr. Romero's absence and reported for him.

NACPRO'S goal for 2001 was 200 general memberships. Currently there are 175 general memberships.

Mr. Andal discussed his feelings as to the drop in agency memberships.

President Nickovich suggested that the current NACPRO agency mailing list be e-mailed to all former members suggesting that they renew their membership. He also suggested that each NACPRO member help solicit agency membership from all of the counties in their state.

President Nickovich reported that NACPRO affiliation will be considered and voted upon at the 2001 Congress by the NRPA Board of Trustees.

Dave Noble suggested that NACPRO membership solicitation might be combined

with the Special Park District Forum.

Bill Beckner suggested that Gene Andal and the membership committee might call all of the counties who have dropped their membership and ask them why.

Bill Mitchell suggested that an ad-hoc strategic plan committee be formed for one year to define not only the issues regarding agency memberships, but to discuss all future trends, actions, etc. of NACPRO.

President Nickovich reminded the board that Mike Pasteris is the current chairman of the futures committee and he will contact him regarding the thoughts brought forward during the membership discussion.

John Weber mentioned that he would like to review the current structure of NACPRO board meetings to possibly include more open discussion.

F. Nominating Committee – Cindy Welsh

No report

G. Professional NRPA/NACO Education Committee – Glen Trowbridge, Director of Clark County, Nevada has retired.

John Weber asked if NRPA accepts NACPRO as an affiliate would NACPRO be allowed to develop programs at the Annual NRPA Congress.

Bill Beckner volunteered to chair the NRPA program committee. John Weber volunteered to serve with Bill.

Tim Schreiner stated that the 2002 NRPA Congress program deadline will be December 14, 2001.

Dave Noble commented that through his previous NRPA Congress program experience that the committee is really looking for 'cutting edge' issues.

IX. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

A. Commission on Agency Accreditation – Bill Mitchell

Bill reported that one County has been approved for accreditation. He also stated that a second County is currently under consideration.

Bill is looking for a representative to assist him with accreditation.

B. Historian – Bill Scalzo

No report

C. Internet Communications – John deBessonet

John reported that the NACPRO website now has a survey feature which has the ability to receive input. The feature is called form mail. This feature can ask questions as part of each survey.

John also reviewed the corporate membership promotion feature which directs corporations to the website.

John reported that there were 200 hits on the web page in October and 190 hits in November.

John recommended for discussion that the current corporate membership's annual renewal fee drop from \$150 to \$100. He further suggested that the NACPRO board consider a five-year renewal fee per agency of \$100 per year for a total of \$500.

John reported that the NACPRO website has had 16,284 hits in the 20 months since this feature was initiated.

D. Newsletter – Carolyn Andal

Gene Andal reported for Carolyn and informed the board that the first edition with her as editor was completed in September.

E. Organizational Future – Mike Pasteris

President Nickovich reported for Mr. Pasteris. He stated that incorporation papers have been filed with the Secretary of State of Illinois. The application looks good for passage.

F. NRPA Relations – Cindy Welsh

President Nickovich reported for Ms. Welsh. NACPRO'S application for NRPA affiliation has been placed on the NRPA's Board of Trustees agenda at their meeting during the 2001 NRPA Congress in Denver.

G. Scholarship – Tim Schreiner

Tim reported that the new members of his committee will be Steve Dice and Don Hoch.

X. New Business

Ron Benson gave a brief overview of Thursday's tour of County facilities, which includes lunch. Twenty-eight people have signed up for the tour.

President Nickovich introduced J. Destry Jarvis, the new executive director of NRPA.

Mr. Jarvis gave an overview of the current status of NRPA. He wants to increase memberships through federal agencies, state agencies, natural resources, etc.

Mr. Jarvis reported that he will soon interview and hire a new communications director and a citizen advocate director.

A question and answer period followed. Mr. Jarvis explained that several of his priorities including the conversion of regional offices to help them become "mini" national offices. He also wants to expand the program of background checks for all volunteers.

XI. Future Meetings

2002

*NACO Mid-Year Legislative – Washington D.C., February 26 – March 2

*NACO Annual Conference – Orleans Parish, Louisiana, July 12 – 16

*NRPA Annual Congress – Tampa, Florida, October 16-19

2003

*NACO Mid-Year Legislative – Washington, D.C, February 25 – March 1

*NACO Annual Conference – Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 11-15

*NRPA Annual Congress – St. Louis, Missouri, October 22-25

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. on motion by Bill Palmer, seconded by Tim Schreiner and unanimously approved by the Board of Directors.