

NACPRO Meeting Notes

George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston TX

October 8, 2013

7:30 am CST

Present:

Board Members: Randy Burkhardt, Scott Bangle, Maureen Snelgrove, Gary Barth, John Elholm, Greg Mack, Daniel Betts, Larry Blackstad, Andy Kimmel, Russ Guiney, Steve Madewell, and RJ Cardin.

Association Manager: Brenda Adams-Weyant.

Guests: Brandi Hune, Kyla Brown, Bill Beckner, Elizabeth Kessler, Bob Doyle, Dennis Johnston and Mike Howlett

Approval of Minutes

Andy Kimmel made a motion to approve the July and August minutes. Larry Blackstad seconded. Motion passed.

President's Report – (Randy Burkhardt)

We need for form a stronger bond with the Special Park District Forum since we have so many members and interests in common. How do we do this?

- Get attendee list from Vancouver/Victoria SPDF and add to our mailing list. Brenda will follow-up.
- Formalize relationship: Sponsorship, co-hosting, mutual agreement, etc
- SPDF likes their unstructured organization – fiercely independent. Their may be limited interest in NACPRO providing administrative assistance.
- Smaller SPDF hosting districts may welcome NACPRO administrative assistance.
- NACPRO needs to be visibility at all SPDF.
- Ask NACPRO special district members to share e-newsletter and legislative updates with colleagues in other special districts. Peer recommendations are good recruiting opportunities.
- Vancouver was not a good model for our first try at spreading the NACPRO word – out of country, too expensive, few US attendees.
- Many potential members need to be convinced that NACPRO membership is a good value for their money. We need to demonstrate that membership makes them smarter, saves them money, makes their lives easier.
- Bill Beckner will send some contacts with Brenda to add to the mailing list.

Randy asked the board if they had any comments about the new committee structure that Brenda proposed. Brenda noted that many committees had similar duties and were combined, and others have outlived their usefulness. Scott Bangle made the motion to approve. Gary Barth seconded. Motion passed.

We need a new liaison to NRPA. Larry Blackstad is no longer on the NRPA board and our last liaison, Bill Belote, has not been active in NACPRO for years. Bill Beckner offered to serve in this capacity until a NACPRO member steps forth to assume. Brenda will review the NRPA directors list to see if any are NACPRO members, and forward these to Randy.

Michael Meadors will be retiring soon and has resigned from his office as Vice President. Randy would like to appoint a replacement as soon as possible since the VP has some important

duties. Randy asked the board members if anyone had an interest in taking this on. Daniel Betts volunteered and was appointed.

Randy recognized Harris County Parks, Precinct 4 for hosting the county parks tour this week. Dennis Johnston and Mike Howlett were in attendance to accept the award.

President Elect's Report – (Scott Bangle)

Scott suggested we move back to our traditional meeting schedule of hosting the tour and awards at the NACo conference and working with NRPA on a county park tour as one of their OSI's.

Treasurer's Report – (Maureen Snelgrove)

Maureen Snelgrove referred to the report in the packet and mentioned that revenue is down from last year. Job advertisement and award nomination income is same or greater than last year, but all other categories (membership, sponsorship, tour attendance, banquet attendance) are down. Brenda noted that registration for our events was very low this year and came nowhere close to covering the expenses. She is hoping that some 2014 renewals and new sponsorships will help minimize the deficit we are facing.

Larry Blackstad suggested just sending invoices to agencies rather than asking them to join. Steve Madewell asked board members to lean on their contractors to be a sponsor for NACPRO. Brenda mentioned that we offer a new RFP advertising service for our sponsors and that member agencies should send their RFP's and bids to Brenda.

Association Managers Report – (Brenda Adams-Weyant)

Membership Count:

- 9 Corporate Sponsors
- 124 Individual Members
- 2 Retiree Members

There are a number of bounced emails on our contact list, likely from changes in email domains or new staff. Brenda will be working on updating these out-of-date contacts so that we can reach more prospective members.

Brenda mentioned that her association management contract is up for renewal (one year contract based on calendar year). She will work with Randy and Scott to update by the end of the calendar year. She noted that her time spent on NACPRO duties comes very close to what was estimated in the contract.

Brenda will prepare a budget for 2014 and review with board officers. It should be ready for board approval at the November meeting.

NACPRO will be putting together a survey to ask why more members did not attend the Harris County Park Tour and 2013 awards reception. It was suggested that Brenda get in touch with Dan Gooch to discuss what has worked in the past. Most agreed that some level of consistency from year to year is expected since many members are busy and may be planning their schedule around what we have done in the past.

Committee Reports

1. Legislation – Russ Guiney

A new legislative summary is included in the packet. There has been little change since the last update.

Bill Beckner asked about where LWCF acquisition records are kept for each state. If you have any information about your state, please email to bbeckner@nrpa.org.

2. Awards – Scott Bangle
2014 awards banquet will be held at the NACo conference July 11-14 in New Orleans, Louisiana.
3. Website – Brenda Adams-Weyant
Brenda has been updating the website and asked all board members to send her ideas on how we can make the website more useful. Are there pages that serve no useful purpose and are there ways we can improve the way our information is organized or presented. For instance, Margie Dahlof suggested combining all the sponsor pages (now divided by service type) to one page and including their logo, contact person and short description of their services. Steve Madewell suggested indexing the award recipients by their issue/challenge so that others can benefit from these excellent examples.
4. Nominations
The board will be discussing who will lead the nominations process in 2014 since Mark Denny is unable to.

Liaison/Affiliate Reports

1. NaCo
Larry Blackstad would like to step into this role. Andy Kimmel will provide advice and support. Mark Denny attended the last Legislative Forum and there were no new resolutions.
2. CAPRA – Scott Bangle
 - Scott report the high number of agencies (20) seeking accreditation. Scott commended Toledo Metroparks for their great comprehensive plan and successful accreditation. Riverside County Parks were also accredited.
 - CAPRA is looking at modifying the standards. All accredited agencies will get a chance to review.
 - 51 hearings are schedule for next year.
 - Scott reminded everyone of the opportunity to be a visitor for the accreditation process. An application and training is involved.
3. NRPA – Bill Beckner
A new version of PRORAGIS has been released. It corrects many errors, has more capacity and is cloud based.
4. SORP – Maureen Snelgrove
Maureen would like to resign her appointment as SORP liaison due to her time constraints. Brenda offered to fulfill that role since she is intimately involved in both NACPRO and SORP.

Brenda reported that SORP has recently released a call for conference presentations for the 2014 National Outdoor Recreation Conference which will be held in San Francisco from May 13-16. More information is available at www.RecPro.org.

Adjournment

Steve Madewell made the motion to adjourn. Scott Bangle seconded. Motion passed.