

Shoreline Education for Awareness

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2019

Present: Mary Garrett, Steve Garrett, Robin McCreery, Dan Williams, Raini Williams, Loren Morris, Susan Ryan, Bill Stenberg, Arlene Esqueda

Visitors: JT, Bruce Williams, Nancy Bailey

Minutes Review: Arlene sent out December 6, 2018 Minutes electronically. No discussion. Steve moved to approve, Bill S. seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer Report:

Susan sent out the Treasurer Report electronically. No questions. She also sent out a list of questions to help guide us toward our 2019 budget. Susan creates the budget on averages and what she knows is coming up.

- 1) Brochure needs: Will we need to re-order the Tide pool brochures. We have a limited supply, but we can check with US Fish and Wildlife or Bandon Chamber of Commerce instead of designating money towards them.
- 2) Display Board: Does it need to be replaced at this time and should we pursue a grant for this. Mary commented it was a low priority. Arlene commented the current board is old, a bit tired and was damaged and she would like to have a new one for display at Farmers' Market/Special Events. Mary asked if we could get a volunteer to make it; Anna made the current one. Bill S. said we wanted this one to be more professional looking and one which we could up-date up easily. A new one would cost around \$500. Arlene volunteered to make one to get us through this year. Mary asked if Bob Ivey was still willing to take on grant writing for us. Bill S. reported he has not heard from him for some time, has tried calling, and will try again. Susan thought the Wild Rivers Trust would love to help us with this project. We just need a writer. Susan said she would not put it in the budget at this time.
- 3) Income needed: Susan reported we are low on funds and would like a discussion on charging for seminars, or a (strongly) suggested donation. We have not been receiving much in donations at seminars. She asked if we want to start up sign-in sheets again, and then have someone do a phone call follow-up. Bill S. suggested asking as people sign in if they are members and if not, handing a person a SEA brochure. Susan commented that our membership keeps going down every year and we are getting more active. Mary suggested we have two people in the front (where people sign in). Susan then suggested we get a better donation jar.
- 4) Raffle: If we participate in a Festival, do we want a raffle like the bike idea Loren had last year? She reported our raffle last year, although we had two great products, we didn't make any money. We didn't have enough visibility. Loren reported his contact who would have donated a bike will only donate half the cost. Our cost would be \$175 for a Beach Cruiser with our logo anywhere we want. He wasn't sure which model was available for that cost, regular or 3-speed. We may be able to put our logo on the chain guard, front and bar. Susan asked if we do it all year long. Yes, we need to have it at all seminars/events. She will budget for it. Loren will double check with his source. Dan interjected he had an idea. He said it means a lot when you have a personal contact with people, and with all we have available here at the coast, and a group that knows so much about it, what if we were to offer guided trips during the prime time and for a fee. Mary commented SEA used to do that, but it was way before our time and does not have information how it was done, or how successful it was. Liability is a concern. Susan commented our insurance covers us. However, the question came up if we take then somewhere as well as charge a fee, does that change the liability coverage. Bill S. said a bigger question than liability is WHO would be willing. Dan volunteered to explore the possibility and check with Bill B. as well as Harv Schubothe for more information.
- 5) Clothing: Will we be buying more clothing for re-sale? Susan said we do have \$850 in our account. Loren offered if we have \$2,000 in our account we could get started (logo start and items). Steve suggested we look into selling the Tufted Puffin stuffed animal. Mary will check the contact at Haystack Friends Group and Loren will also check his sources. Robin suggested selling SEA logo stainless steel water containers.
- 6) Donations to Organizations: None
- 7) Capital Equipment: Do we need a new computer? Steve said yes. This may be a grant situation, suggested amount \$1,000.

- 8) Special recognition costs: Besides volunteer certificates, will we have any need for parties for people. No, last year we had a “thank you goodbye” for Eric, and then a welcome for Kate.
- 9) Decent equipment or clothing: No. Susan reported we are receiving \$600 administrative fee from US Fish and Wildlife.

Action Items:

Arlene volunteered to make a new Display Board.
Bill S. will contact Bob Ivey about grant writing.
Susan will “revive” the Sign-in Sheets for Seminars.
Loren will check on the Beach Cruiser Bike with his contact and get specifics.
Dan will contact Bill B. and Harv Schubothe about paid tours by SEA.
Mary will check with the Haystack contact for Tufted Puffin stuffed animals.
Loren will check with his contact for Tufted Puffin stuffed animals and stainless steel water containers.

USFWS Report - NO report due to government shutdown.

New Business

- ***Marine Debris Workshop:*** Mary reported she and Arlene attended the Marine Debris Education workshop in Newport on January 14 and 15. Many groups have been involved in creating and executing an action plan for the state of Oregon. Some of the groups involved include NOAA, Oregon state agencies, Surfrider, Washed Ashore, South Slough, Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, Solve, and several more. The Marine Debris Action Plan includes 1) Prevention 2) Removal Strategies 3) Strategies to increase coordination 4) Research. Mary said she went into the meetings wanting hope and came away with a sense of hope. She reported on a few of the sessions – a research project on how to talk to people about plastic use and what motivated people, all the proactive work supporting legislation in Oregon, a research project on deep water plastics found along both the Pacific and Atlantic, as well as plastics found off Charleston ocean shelf and along the rivers and estuaries, and education programs along the coast. We also learned that SOLVE offers \$100 grants for volunteer supplies such as buckets, picker-uppers, vests and advertising. There is a “Rise Up Above Plastics and Rally” at the Capital. JT commented there are only two groups allowed to help with legislative actions because non-profits cannot be politically active. Mary reported meeting Dorothy Horn, our February seminar speaker who gave us a contact name at the elementary school here in Bandon. Mary also reported briefly on the campaigns groups do amongst themselves and on Facebook challenging each other to change and reduce their plastic usage. JT reported this meeting was focused on education and how we are doing messaging as well as coordinating our message about plastics. Groups should use consistent language. The meeting in March will be about the Marine Debris Action Plan and will cover what the different agencies are working on as well as further strategic planning.
- ***Accommodations for Seminar speaker Dorothy Horn on Feb. 16:*** Mary reported she reserved a room at the Sunset for \$116. Dorothy travels with her dog. Even if the Bunkhouse was open, Dorothy couldn’t stay there with her dog. She also said we will be careful to find out required needs of speakers for next year.
- ***Review/Discussion SEA Newsletter:*** Unfortunately, Bill B. was absent, so we could not discuss thoroughly. Mary told Bill B. to hold on sending out the SEA Newsletter due to lack of content. Several people did send in items for the Winter Newsletter. Mary reported Anna was willing to jump back in to do it if needed. Bill S. will contact Bill B. about ideas. We need to decide how to move on this. Susan said Lila could possibly help and volunteered to contact her.

Action Item:

Susan will contact Lila about possibly helping with the newsletter.
Bill S. will talk with Bill B.

Old Business

- ***Seminar Advertising:*** January 20 is covered. Bill S. is working on individual posters for the remaining seminars. Susan asked if Bill B. was doing any advertising. Bill S. will check.

Action Item:

Bill S. will contact Bill B. about Seminar advertising.

- ***SEA Adopt a mile 101:*** Mike Mueller was to coordinate, however, has been on vacation. Steve said he would choose a date and advertise for volunteers to join.

Ongoing Reports

Membership: Steve reported there are 14 paid members, two are lifetime. Dan was planning on calling but need more information to complete the task. Bill S. said we do need a strategy for recruitment. We need ideas for membership as well as volunteering. Steve said a lot of people have been members that pay every other year. He keeps them on the roll for two years, and then drops them if they don't sign up again. The Beach Clean-up project has pulled in a lot of volunteer participation. It is something that people are passionate about. Bruce reported the Beach Clean-ups have been very successful and the number of volunteers keep keeps rising. Winter is a typical time where we see a lot of debris and summer collections decrease in number of bags collected. JT reported Washed Ashore was organizing beach clean-ups also, concentrating on areas north and south of Bandon, as well as choosing areas without a lot of help. They have a running list of volunteers. Mary raised a concern about our liability when we sponsor beach clean-ups and asked if we need a waiver signed by volunteered. Bruce said he could get a copy of the waiver SOLVE uses. Bill S. said he would also check with South Coast Tours. Is there a difference between a paid tour and volunteering as far as liability? Susan said at seminars someone should take a few minutes to speak on our Volunteer Options. We also agreed it would be good to save items for a permanent display of debris collected including microplastics. Susan mentioned the Gorse Festival is coming up and they have offered non-profit groups a "no-host" booth where we may display informational items. She will get more information to us.

- ***Social Media:*** Robin reported she will post information on SEA Facebook page on the SEA Mission points and Beach Clean-ups.

Informational:

- Susan will get \$100 worth of stamps before they increase in price.
- Bruce asked how SEA is collaborating with Washed Ashore. Mary said we schedule seminars at Washed Ashore and Beach Clean-up collaboration. JT said he will share information with the Board on the Marine Debris Plan. He is also wanting to draw more people to the downtown area and is offering space for events and share ideas with us on public events.
- Dan asked if there is a prize for Beach Clean-ups for volunteers who pick up the most trash. He asked if JT would possibly have a T-shirt to donate.

Next Meeting: February 21, 2019

