



NAI Great Lakes Region 4 July 2018 Conference Call Agenda  
July 12, 2018 at 3:30pm

Present: Deb Nofzinger, Jennifer McDowell, Jenn Kirts, Will Gosnell, Aaron Douglass, Laurel Zoet, Nora Sindelar

Absent: Bob Dispenza, Cookie Ferguson, Kelley Bentley, Jill Vance, Renell Simrau, Becky Parkin

Director's Report – Deb Nofzinger

- National updates – Advisory Council conference call just happened. Region 4 is still strong. Several other regions are hosting online conferences. Paul Caputo updated on the Shining Stars – Region 4 is scheduled to be highlighted late. There may be a similar initiative for Sections.

Margo Clark said the National Board has approved the wording for a Bylaws update. The major change is that the core constitution changes need to be approved by the membership. Daily operations can be changed by the Board and there will be updates on who can be on the Board. This will be voted on by membership in October.

National is still working on figuring out how to pay off the mortgage, so they are starting “The Journey Home Campaign”. Their goal is to raise \$200K in a year which will save \$38K a year in mortgage payments. Half of that would become scholarships for trainings around the US and the rest would be used for member services and a small portion would be set aside for a rainy day fund.

- Budget review and approval – Deb sent out a link to the budget, so please take a look and review it.
  - Student Involvement – Requested \$500 for use for up to 4 1-day scholarships for students to attend the workshop. It would be for the day(s) with the highest number of concurrent sessions. They would not need to be a member to receive this scholarship, and Region 4 would purchase a student membership on their behalf.
  - Awards – Supplies for plaques for awards, requested \$550 to cover 10 plaques which is the maximum number of awards possible. This cost also includes covering the meal for a guest. Decided to increase to \$600
  - Ways and Means – Requested \$1,000 to replenish t-shirt supplies and then they want to get another item to sell. For National, do we want to send stuff to the National Conference? Ways and Means did not budget for a booth at this time.
  - Membership – All Set
  - Deputy Director Travel – Changed wording to better reflect that it's expenses for travel for meetings to plan the RIW. This will also cover some costs for purchases for the committee.
  - NIW – Registration and lodging for Director to attend NIW.
  - January Business Meeting - \$1,000 budgeted. This year is a 2-day event for 2019.

- Scholarships - \$2,750 was the total. It includes FIVE scholarships for Regional (at \$340 each - total of \$1700), one scholarship for National (\$750), and one professional development scholarship (\$300).
- Interpretive Project Grants – Keep it at \$3,000.
- Deb will connect with Executive Committee for final details on the budget. We will put approval on hold for now.

Deputy Director's Report – Jennifer McDowell

- 2019 – South Bend, IN
  - *Navigating the Waters of Interpretation*
  - Chairs – Garry Harrington – Rum Village, Scott Beam
  - April 22-26, 2019
  - DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel South Bend, Century Center Conference Center
    - Negotiating contracts, \$97-\$109/night at hotel, one time \$10 pkg (in/out priv)
  - Mobiles – ideas:
    - Naturalists – birding to Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore or Cowles Bog
    - Historian – History Museum, Studebaker National Museum
    - Zoos/Gardens – Potawatomi Park Zoo and Wellfield Gardens, Elkhart
    - Adventurous – Aerial Adventure Trails at Rum Village Park (along wire, zipline exit... 2.5-3 hrs)
    - Notre Dame – guide around campus, ND history, behind-the-scenes tour of research projects, inside Dome, Basilica, Snite Museum, stadium...
  - Next committee meeting 8/2 – doing site visit of locations as well



- 2020 – Cleveland, OH
  - Theme TBD
  - Date TBD
  - Location TBD
    - RFPs to hotels went out, have top choices, in negotiations for rate/pkg
  - Chairs – Becky Parkin - Lake Metroparks, Renell Roebuck – Summit Metro Parks
- 2021 – Toronto, ONT??
  - Chair, Kelly Bentley - Toronto Zoo??? (waiting for confirmation)
- 2022 – Michigan
  - Experience Grand Rapids CVB expressed interest in bringing to GR
  - Contacted MI members – interest received (and need to follow up):
    - Kaitie Janecke Soltész – Blandford NC

- Jeanette Henderson – plug for Calvin College’s campus – conference center/hotel 2 min walk south of nature center, 100 acre urban preserve/nature center
    - Melinda Robinett – John Ball Zoo
  - Previous Locations in each state
    - Michigan
      - 2018 - Traverse City
      - 2014 - Dearborn
      - 2010 - Midland
      - 2006 - Holland
      - 2003 - Ann Arbor
      - 2000 - Kalamazoo
      - 2023 – Indiana
        - 2019 – South Bend
        - 2015 - Turkey Run State Park
        - 2011 - French Lick Resort
        - 2007 - Pokagon State Park
        - 2004 - Bradford Woods
        - 2001 - LaPorte
        - 1998 - New Harmony
      - 2024 – Ohio
        - Sales Manager, Holiday Inn & Suites Cincinnati-Eastgate expressed interest in hosting
        - Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau also reached out interest, did let them know already interest in Cinti at that time...
        - 2020 - Cleveland
        - 2016 - Newark
        - 2012 - Perrysburg
        - 2008 – Cuyahoga Valley National Park
        - 2005 – Burr Oak State Park
  - National is considering a conference in Ohio in 2022. Deb is going to talk with National when they come to Cleveland or in the fall to find out how that will work regarding our Regional Conference (and the economic impact of it).
- Secretary’s Report – Jenn Kirts
  - Sent out previous minutes and sent them to Aaron to post to the website.
- Treasurer’s Report – Bob Dispenza – Not present, no report.
- Committee Reports
  - Archives – Cookie Ferguson – Not present, no report.
  - Awards – Laurel Zoet
    - Missed the 40-second Four Thought deadline to announce applying for National awards. Howard April tagged her to be an adjunct member on the National Committee and she is working on reviewing those applications. Let’s plan to publish it in April/May next year about National Awards.
    - November Four Thought will be the call to nominate for awards for the 2019 RIW.

- Communication – Aaron Douglass
  - His budget has been \$0 because he has been using MailChimp. It only remains free if it's fewer than 2,000 on the list. As long as we gain fewer than 500 people, it will remain free for 2019. Kayla sent Aaron the summer 40 Second 4 Thoughts – he has four and needs more. If there's an update or reminder from committee chairs, that would be great. He's generally looking for 300 years.
  - Has been thinking of RIW in 2021 at Brown County. Jenifer McDowell says it would most likely be 2023.
- Interpretive Project Grants – Kelly Bentley – Not present, no report.
- Scholarships and Grants – Jill Vance – Not present – She has received 3 applications for the NIW scholarship and the winner will be selected by the end of July.
- Membership – Renell Simrau – Not present, no report.
- Student Involvement Committee – Will Gosnell – We covered it in the budget. He placed some information in OneDrive. He has made a draft of the scholarship application for the RIW and how to rate them.
- Ways and Means – Nora Sindelar & Becky Parkin - Chairpersons Becky Parkin and Nora Sindelar will complete their term at the end of this year, currently looking for a new chair. Booklets are selling well, looking for a new chair that has interest in making the revision of old booklets and publishing new booklets a goal for the upcoming term.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.

Next Conference Call: October 11, 2018; 1:00pm