



NAI Great Lakes Region 4 October Conference Call Minutes

March 1, 2017
2:00PM EST

Meeting started at 2:05pm EST.

Present: Deb Nofzinger, Jenn Kirts, Liz Emerson, Kelly Bentley, Jennifer McDowell, Dorothy McLeer, Becky Parkin

Not present: Bob Dispenza, Aaron Douglass, Jill Vance, Renell Roebuck, Amy Gregg, Nora Sindelar, Jenn Wright

Director's Report – Deb Nofzinger

- Legacy Fund Donation Updates: Put together a video from Region 4 challenging everyone to make a donation to the Legacy Fund. Margo Clark at National has been thinking about distributing it to each Regional Conference. Not certain what National is going to do with this, but we have put together the video and National will take it from here with incentives, etc.
- To Pay Pal or not to Pay Pal – NAI is not allowed to have multiple Pay Pal accounts, so all of the work Deb Nofzinger has put into this project is now on hold. Deb now needs to talk to National about how this will affect online purchases and/or auction payments with the Cube. It's possible we will not be able to use the Cube in Canada.
- We need to plan the General Session for the RIW in Canada. **Action: We need updates from each committee so it can be presented at that meeting. Deb will share a Google Slideshow and share it with everyone so we can add slides for that meeting.**

Deputy Director's Report – Jennifer McDowell

- Regional Interpretive Workshop (RIW) 2017 – Ontario
 - Currently 66 registered, \$17,245 (1 nonmember) (38 bringing nametags, 7 looking for roommate)
 - Early bird deadline today
 - Last day to register is 4/7
 - Committee has a conference call tomorrow
 - Hotel – Cut off 3/27
 - Guest tickets – 3 THURS dinner/auction, 3 Balls Falls, 3 WED eve dinner
 - Mobiles – 57x
 - 15 – Bird Kingdom, Niagra Falls, Butterfly Conservatory
 - 16 – Birding Along Niagra
 - 9 – Old Fort Erie and Downtown Niagra
 - 16 – Royal Botanical Gardens Canoe and Dundurn Castle
 - 1 – Welland Canal Centre & Lakeside Carousel, Port Dalhousie
 - Auction –
 - 30 folks bringing items
 - Marketplace –
 - 5 interested – Bob Dispenza, Courtney Schofield, James Dake, Jennifer Kirts, Victoria Zablocki
- 2018 – Michigan

- Created new RFP based off materials provided by National
- Sent to Traverse City Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Four responses –
 - Great Wolf Lodge - <https://www.greatwolf.com/traverse-city> ; \$93/night
 - 3 miles from beach, no mtg rm fee with \$24K F/B, 1/40, 1 suite
 - West Bay Beach - <https://westbaybeachresorttraversecity.com/room/kids-suite/> ; \$84.95/night
 - 400 rental, \$5K F/B min, 1/45, 1 suite
 - Hotel Indigo - <https://www.ihg.com/hotelindigo/hotels/us/en/traverse-city/tvcin/hoteldetail>
 - 750 rental, 1/40, 1 suite, underground pkg – valet 10/nt chg
 - Shanty Creek Resort - <http://www.shantycreek.com/>
 - 27 miles away in Bellaire, requires night deposit for guest rooms in advance for rsrv, c/l 5p c/o 12p
 - No rental if guarantee 190 rm nts, 1/30, 1 suite
 - Still no Chair to step up
 - James Dake, GrassRiver, has agreed to help with mobiles
 - Jamie Krupka, ODC, has agreed to help with registration
 - Michelle Fournier, Chippewa Nature Center will help with a committee
- 2019 – Indiana –
 - Jennifer sent out email request for Chair on January 9.
 - Forwarded request to Jessica for possible inclusion in March rotation of 40 Second 4 Thought.
- 2020 – Ohio
 - Becky Parkin and Renell Roebuck interested in Co-Chairing
 - Need to obtain update on if NIW will be hosted by Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

Secretary's Report – Jenn Kirts

- Corrections to January minutes were submitted to Jenn Kirts and she made the corrections. Jenn Kirts submitted minutes to Dan, but they haven't been posted yet.

Treasurer's Report – Bob Dispenza – not present, no report

Committee Reports

- Archives – Cookie Ferguson – not present, no report
- Awards – Liz Emerson – The deadline has passed. They received nominations for 6 categories. Names of the nominators and nominees were sent to National to verify membership. One nominee was not an NAI member. We had a discussion about whether or not that nominee can become a member prior to giving the award. Made the decision to not offer that award. That will give us a shorter award ceremony with only 5 recipients. The committee would like to notify recipients prior to the conference. The committee would like to acknowledge the recipients prior to the announcements and possibly do a Power Point to highlight their accomplishments. This might increase the recognition they receive throughout the week.
- Communication – Aaron Douglas – not present, no report
- Interpretive Project Grants – Kelly Bentley – The committee is working on updating the application. It will be placed on the website, Facebook, etc. when it is ready. She will

seek an update from previous grant recipients to show how the money has been spent. Then an update will be put together for RIW to advertise the grants. Jen McDowell suggested recognition for grant awards during the Awards Dinner at RIW. We settled on this recognition happening for 2016 awards during the Regional Meeting.

- Scholarships and Grants – Jill Vance – not present, no report
- Membership – Renell Roebuck – not present, no report
- Student Involvement Committee – Dorothy McLeer/Amy Gregg – No one from Ball State is available to come and Dorothy's students are unable to attend. Julie has 2 students who may attend the RIW. They can either do a 10 minute presentation or they can do a poster session during the Market Place of Ideas. Dorothy has now talked with Amy about the Szabo/Weaver Scholarship (Amy is very busy right now!).

Szabo/Weaver our goal was to have an application up and out by March. It looks like this is not going to happen for now. We need to let the next chairperson know about this goal.

T-shirts - We are not out of sizes right now. Would we want to order more now or use that money for other things?

RIW – Michelle Fournier is attending and can help sell things there. We will likely have to do paper credit card for stuff. Jen McDowell will talk to Rick Stronks about sorting out Canadian vs American dollars as well doing auction and Ways and Means.

- Ways and Means – Nora Sindelar & Becky Parkin – Becky Parkin does not have a big update. Paypal is what's slowing us down on putting things on the website. Deb is working with National to sort this out.
- Strategic Plan – Jenn Wright – not present, no report
- Jen McDowell – We are up to 957 members in Region 4.

Next Meeting: Regional Interpreters Workshop; Tuesday, April 25; 1:00