

**Minnesota Center for Mineral Resource Education; Friday, January 4, 2019, 10 AM at MGS in St Paul**

At MGS: Mike Hultgren, Harvey Thorleifson

By Phone: Fred Corrigan, John Cunningham, George Hudak, Kelsey Johnson, Julie Marinucci, and Andrea Reed

Unable to attend: Brian Allison, Heather Arends, Jim Miller

- Agenda agreed as circulated; Minutes for August 30, 2018 – motion to approve by Kelsey, 2nd by George; carried

**Report of the Chair - Mike**

- Mike welcomed the group, noted how pleased he is with the way things are going, and thanked everyone
- Mike noted that this was his final meeting as Chair; Harvey expressed thanks to Mike, and all joined in thanking Mike
- Vice Chair Admin does doodle polls and meeting notices, Chair does agendas, and Harvey does minutes

**Report of Vice Chair – Administration – Fred outgoing and John incoming**

- Thanks to Fred for his service as Vice Chair Admin! And thanks to Jill for her role
- Financials compiled by Jill had been emailed by John, and a list of donors provided, without amounts as is customary
- Fred and John reported that finances are in good order, although down a bit
- Fred again noted that we have funds to invest in classroom materials
- We try to have one workshop in reserve; costs were a bit less last year; reserves are in good shape
- We will certainly want to maintain a relationship with recurring donors, although we can't be too aggressive in fundraising, as we have sufficient funds for the current style of operations
- John suggested that we update thinking on the amount of funds needed
- Fred suggested that we develop a new message to rejuvenate our relationship with contributors

**Report of Vice Chair – Finance - Kelsey**

- Kelsey and Katy, working with Fred and Frank, sent out a letter a few days ago
- We need more envelopes, at MCMRE expense – OK with the group
- Each year, we refine our annual letter, and follow up on a case-by-case basis
- The team did their best to update the message
- Final MMEW reports are required by some donors; the Executive Summary is crucial for the requests; this has been very well done by Andrea and others
- Helps to have photos and testimonials from teachers; Andrea can help
- Most contributors are regular donors who support us year after year
- IMA, for example, has many new Members, and the fundraising team is wisely selective on who to contact
- We were delighted to learn from Julie that SME will contribute \$5k; Kelsey will request payment
- Agreed that a thank-you to donors ideally would go out in the summer

**Report of the Vice Chair – Operations – Andrea**

- 22<sup>nd</sup> MMEW will be held June 18-20, 2019, in Grand Rapids, MN, at Itasca Community College
- Needed to juggle a bit relative to other events, although this worked out in the end
- Theatre and four classrooms booked at reasonable cost
- Site visit January 18<sup>th</sup>; Down payment will be arranged with Jill; Itasca is very pleased to have us
- Working to confirm instructors by January 16<sup>th</sup>
- Five instructors confirmed so far – peat, iron minerals, caves, groundwater, mining 101; Christina and others working on field trip; Kelsey and Katie are eager to play a role similar to two years ago
- Andrea proposes investments in communications such as popup banners with professional graphics help – this was supported by the Board; We have an arrangement for graphics, and if needed, ARM can help
- There was agreement that we need to enhance our communications, to help recruit teachers to participate – ideally 90 participants to fill two buses; Need to enhance our presence at MESTA, for example with the popup banners
- Preparing brochure for MESTA, February 1<sup>st</sup>
- Budget emailed by Andrea was agreed by the Board
- It was noted that every speaker, organizer, and Board member contributes many hours in kind, which is appreciated
- We note that a major contribution of hours is needed from DNR, to make our activity as a whole viable
- We were tremendously pleased to learn that the outgoing Commissioner has approved the DNR role for another year
- We will write to DNR to express appreciation if it seems that this would help
- Discussion on volunteer expense reimbursement – most don't request this – Jill could sum up history if needed
- Andrea will be on maternity in the spring (Congratulations!), and members of the MMEW team will ably cover for her

**Board Nominations for 2019**

- Motion by Harvey, second by John, that the 2019 MCMRE Board be Chair Harvey Thorleifson of MGS, Vice Chair Administration John Cunningham of ARM, Vice Chair Finance Kelsey Johnson of IMA, non-voting Vice Chair Operations Andrea Reed of DNR, as well as Directors Brian Allison of MESTA, Fred Corrigan of ARM, George Hudak of NRRI, Mike Hultgren of AIPG, Julie Marinucci of SME, Jim Miller of UMD, as well as non-voting Director Heather Arends of DNR; carried
- George will consult with Jim and will strive to recruit a new Board member from UMD to replace Jim

**Other Business**

- Things are going well, thanks to excellent work all around!

**Next meeting: doodle in late March, meeting very early April; later meetings likely July and December**

Meeting adjourned; Minutes prepared by Harvey Thorleifson; Minutes are available at <http://www.mcmre.org/>