

OASLC Board of Directors Meeting

Via Video Conference

AKRO Room 420A

Video Bridge: 165.83.63.221##2001

March 6th, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Minutes (in black):

Participants: Benjamin Pister, Jim Pfeiffenberger, Rebecca Talbott (attended at 8:00 AM), Diane Chung (attended at 8:00 AM), Tahzay Jones (attended at 9:00 AM)

Not Present: Susan Boudreau, Frank Hays, Bekki Lasell

No quorum = no decisions made. Due to a miscommunication those who could participate did so at two different times, 8:00 AM and 9:00 AM.

Agenda (in gray):

1. Arrivals, Departures and Leave: Bekki has arrived, Susan is leaving us for retirement, and Benjamin will be taking Paternity leave in July.

- ❖ The topic of Susan Boudreau's replacement on the OASLC Board was discussed. It was suggested that the SEAN parks should choose amongst themselves, as they did for initial Board membership, with the goal of choosing a replacement by the April ALC meeting. It was also suggested to keep Deb Cooper/Directorate in the loop on the decision. On 3/12 Benjamin spoke with Susan Boudreau who recommended the next GLBA superintendent replace her on the Board, and said that the SEAN parks are in communication on such matters.

ACTION ITEM: Benjamin will email southeast superintendents and Deb Cooper to get the ball rolling on identifying Susan's replacement.

- ❖ In lieu of new board membership there is a suggestion to have another meeting around the end of April to bring the new superintendents up to speed.

2. Update on FY14 work plan and budget. With the easing of sequestration, our budget has changed dramatically. We'll discuss additional funds and Technical Committee input and suggestions. Included will be a progress update on the highest priority elements of the work plan:

- ❖ An updated work plan for FY14 and accompanying budget was sent out before the meeting.
 - Implementation Plan

- ◆ Benjamin sent materials to Joan Darnell and Zach Babb for initiating an implementation planning process in December. We're still waiting to hear back, and it seems as if Joan's staff is shrinking while their work load is increasing. There is some question as to how long this process may take with available staff. Benjamin brought up the possibility of contracting a facilitator to streamline the process. Tahzay felt this was wise. In a follow up conversation on 3/12, Susan agreed with Tahzay. With the summer approaching, park participation in the process is not realistic until the fall. Benjamin will look into submitting a contract for a facilitator and report back to the Board at the next meeting.
 - ◆ Went through the revised work plan. There was general agreement on the format. Rebecca would like additional information on proposed research or outreach as part of the FY15 proposed budget.
 - ◆ At some point we will need to discuss how FY15 projects will be identified. Rebecca is especially interested in I&E projects.
- Website
 - ◆ Alex Lindeman has assisted Jim Pfeiffenberger in transferring our old website to the new CMS template. We're in the process of filling in current content. It will be available for viewing in a few weeks.
 - Hiring the Science Communicator
 - ◆ Filling the Science Communicator position is proceeding. We are waiting for a reclassification of the PD from HR.
 - CESU Agreements FY14 Status
 - ◆ One CESU agreement with the ASLC, the intern and staff development project, has been submitted to contracting in AKRO.
 - ◆ Kachemak Bay Research Reserve (KBRR), who conducts Discovery Labs in Homer and SWAN park villages, is in danger of dissolving as a result of the AK State legislative budget process. This may eliminate our partnership with them, and unless some obvious stability returns we will not submit an agreement with KBRR for FY14.
 - Coastal Marine Grants
 - ◆ Review and ranking of the Coastal Marine Grant proposals is in progress. Forty-six proposals for \$11,693,458.16 were submitted. The Board will review the technical review panel's suggestions before making their own selections for the ALC to consider/approve.

3. Discuss process for allocating remaining funds. Approximately 65k remains unplanned after sequestration was eased. The TC has recommended adding to the Coastal Marine Grants as the fairest way to obligate. An alternative might be to use the POPs as guidance in lieu of an Implementation Plan. This gets to Rebecca T.'s question of how to solicit proposals from parks and programs.

- ❖ Some funds are committed to covering the LACL STF interp ranger's salary for four pay periods, in order to assist with KBRR Discovery Labs, or OASLC summer projects.
- ❖ Approximately \$12,000 could be spent on sending the Arctic Impression exhibit to Kotzebue, Barrow and other communities in that area, as outreach concerning ShoreZone and coastal resources.
 - Rebecca would like to know which coastal communities we have contacted or heard from, what interest they have expressed, and given limitations on space which formats would be most useful to them. (Such as a short run poster series that can be hung on the wall of a tribal office, or on-line virtual tour that would also be useful (or more useful) and also have a longer "shelf life"?) Judy Kessler has been looking for subject rich content to link parks to. We also need to confirm whether these communities really want to see this exhibit, and consider the audience we're trying to reach, along with the message.
 - Tahzay has the exhibit and is waiting for Board confirmation before proceeding.
- ❖ The Technical Committee recommended folding remaining funds into the Coastal Marine Grant process as the fairest and simplest way to obligate funds among parks this fiscal year. Parks do not have time to submit new projects, and reviewers do not have time to review them. Diane and Rebecca favored this approach with the goal of finding an I&E project to fund. Tahzay suggested looking at other sources of vetted projects (such as NRAC, EAG, CRAC, etc.) and to find a project that best suits the OASLC mission. In a subsequent conversation, Susan supported these suggestions.

4. General Operations:

- Time frame for approving work plans (The Charter has some guidance on this.)
- -How often should the Board meet?
 - ◆ Rebecca, Diane and Benjamin discussed scheduling meetings quarterly and establishing a "haphazard" meeting date that superintendents can plan on. E.g. schedule standing meetings sometime in December, March, June, and August. Or some schedule that makes sense with the timing of work plan submission, etc.
- -Arrange joint Board/TC meeting for ASLC to give presentation.
 - ◆ Diane liked this idea and suggested it be in person, perhaps in the fall.