



NOAA Employees Association (NEA) at the National Weather Center (NWC)

Friday 17 April 2009 NEA Meeting Notes– Nickels Room, National Weather Center

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 am, with 27 in attendance; pizza served.

Secretary Jami Boettcher read the minutes of the 20 February 2009 meeting; treasurer Chris Grant reports \$8445.00 in the NEA account.

Merchandise report (Mike Coniglio) – National Association of Emergency Managers (NAEM) has requested that NEA make available NEA merchandise for purchase at the NAEM annual conference in Orlando in November. NEA members present supported the idea; the NEA sold more than \$3000.00 of merchandise at the National Severe Weather Workshop in early March. However, the logistics of getting merchandise to the conference will have to be worked out. One idea (Linda Crank's) was to have the items shipped, and to raise the cost of items by \$3.00 to cover the cost of shipping. Another idea was to have a third party make the items available for sale at the conference.

Mike said that both tee and polo shirts are on order with the Vortex2 logo. NEA merchandise will be available for the upcoming May 3 Anniversary Event, held at the NWC Friday, May 1, 2009.

Jami Boettcher discussed the NEA's upcoming community service drive to assist homeless people along the South Canadian River here in Norman. Collection boxes for personal items (toothpaste, etc.) will be placed on each floor of the NWC. Volunteers will be needed to monitor the boxes and to deliver donations.

Members present voted to approve a donation of \$1000 to the Oklahoma Red Cross to aid victims of the 10 February 2009 tornado at Lone Grove (near Ardmore).

Members also voted to approve a \$600 donation to the Full Circle Adult Care center here in Norman. The money would be used to purchase a new vacuum cleaner (approx. \$300.00), and to purchase several personal DVD players. The Center has expressed interest in these items. One NEA member voiced concern that the latter items might be stolen from the Center, but others present stated that this likely would not occur. Mark Benner and Linda Curtis said that they could purchase these items for the NEA tax-free at the "PX" shop at Tinker AFB. This option will be considered for future service projects that involve specific items.

Linda Curtis reported that a cabinet that is both suitable for the display and housing of NEA merchandise, and compatible with existing NWC furniture, is available for purchase. The price was not mentioned. No vote was required on this item.

New business: Planned events for this year (same as last year):

Ice cream social (no need for a vote; cost minimal (<\$175.00))

Fall picnic (may need vote at next meeting)

Holiday party (high interest; OU wants to be involved again; may need vote next meeting)

Golf tournament (likely again this year, but Lou Wicker would like help in arranging it)

Halloween candy event for kids (no need for vote; cost minimal (<\$50.00))

Mike Coniglio appealed for help with NEA merchandise sales; Chris Grant agreed to manage orders/monitor inventory.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm.