



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

**NEA Meeting
Monday, 26 April 2010
NWC Room 1350**

Former President David Imy called the meeting to order at 11:51 AM CDT and introduced the new president, Steve Kruckenberg. Twenty members were in attendance.

President Steve Kruckenberg introduced the 2010-2011 NEA Officers and Points of Contact (POCs):

President: Steve Kruckenberg (NWS OUN)
Vice President: Linda Curtis (WDTB)
Co-Secretaries: Jami Boettcher (WDTB) and Steve Corfidi (SPC)
Treasurer: Linda Skaggs (NSSL)

NSSL POC: Dena Grose and Kevin Manross
NWS OUN POC: Steve Kruckenberg (Currently looking for a new POC)
ROC Apps Branch POC: Eric Ice
SPC POC: David Imy
WDTB POC: Linda Curtis

Steven Martinaitis read the minutes for the previous meeting on 27 January in place of Co-secretary Jami Boettcher, who was not in attendance.

Treasurer Linda Skaggs was also not in attendance to provide an updated financial report.

Old Business

Christine Grant was absent but reported to Steve Kruckenberg that the merchandise sales at the National Severe Weather Workshop were very good, perhaps one of the best ever. There were some emails concerning the retirement of Joan O'Bannon and whether or not photos would still be available for sale. However, NEA will still make photos available for purchase.

New Business

Ashton Robinson Cook gave a talk to pre-schoolers about severe weather and gave out "Pet Tornadoes" and coloring books to the kids. He would like to give a one-hour course to approximately 40 kids at the YMCA that he works with and provide a "Pet Tornado" for each of them. Cost for the supplies is \$120 (40 kids @ \$2.50 per kid and \$20 S&H). David Imy suggested the idea of purchasing extras to sell at other event, such as the Weather Festival, or to give out for outreach. There was further discussion on the placement of a logo on the "Pet

Tornado.” This included whether or not having them on the shipment needed by Ashton for the YMCA talk before early June and if we can just do them ourselves by placing a NOAA sticker on them. Doug Forsyth suggested that we make an initial purchase up to the \$175 limit to cover for Ashton’s class and to have some extra on hand while a second purchase can be made at a later date for sales/outreach. John Ferree made the proposal to donate \$175 for the supplies and Doug Forsyth seconded. Steve Kruckenberg brought the proposal to a vote, which passed unanimously.

David Imy made a motion to continue our contributions to the community and proposed donating \$1000 to Meals on Wheels. Linda Curtis seconded the motion, which will be voted on during the next meeting.

Steve Kruckenberg initiated discussion about having another NEA summer picnic, which was generally held during the bye-week of OU football. Attendance was low last year (~75 people) due to other activities. Liz Quoetone and Mark Benner suggested that it should be moved to another time of year, preferably not during football season, but should not clash with other events. Mark Benner also discussed the problem of not having an accurate head count, which led to a significant amount of wasted food. Steve Kruckenberg will send out an email to get a public opinion on what timeframe would work for the summer picnic and to determine a way of getting a more accurate count of people attending.

Steve Kruckenberg suggested that the NEA should become involved with the “Big Event,” an event where OU students and staff, including those from SoM, give back to the community through numerous services. Dena Grose mentioned that we currently participate in a similar event called “Day of Caring.” Steve Kruckenberg will send out an email to gauge interest in participating in another community service event.

David Imy opened discussion on beginning to plan for and allocating money for the 2010 Holiday Party. Last year, the party cost NEA approximately \$850 and it was a great success based on the participation and the involvement in the setup and cleanup of the event. Mark Benner suggested sending an email out in order to get feedback on improvements for the Holiday Party. One concern that was brought up was that our OU POC, Dean Snow, has retired. Linda Curtis will talk to Tanya Guthrie concerning this. David Imy stated that we can still do this with just the NOAA involvement.

Mark Benner will renew the NEA Sam’s Club membership which expires at the end of May. There will be no changes to the plan that we have with them. Anyone can use the Sam’s Club card, but the payment must be a check from NEA.

Meeting adjourned at 12:13 PM CDT. Next meeting will be held around late June at the earliest.