

# **AGS Board Meeting**

MMS Conference Room, Centerpoint Building

September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007

## **Attendees**

**Anchorage:** Peter Barker, Art Banet, Ric Wilson, Diane Shellenbaum, Jennie Flight, Peter Johnson, Laura Silliphant, Mikie Weeks, Robert Blodgett

**Fairbanks (via telephone):** Bob Gillis

**Meeting called to order at 11:35 am.** President Art Banet

## **Secretary Report:**

- Jennie presented the August minutes, no corrections or additions were offered. Robert Blodgett moved the minutes be accepted, Diane Shellenbaum seconded, the motion passed unanimously

## **President's Report**

- Safety deposit box
  - Confirmed that we had voted last time to have new keys made. Promising tips on where the old keys might be located did not pan out. Laura will pursue getting new keys.
  - Need to add the current board to the appropriate bank accounts – believe that whoever is on the account now (last year's board) would have access to the safety deposit box. Laura will pursue updating accounts.
- Budget
  - Laura presented Art with last year's budget as a go-by for this year. Art will review this and suggest this year's budget at our next board meeting. He will send out copies of this proposed budget electronically prior to the meeting.

## **Treasurer's Report**

- Morgan Stanley
  - Need to get the right board members authorized on this account
  - Laura gave copies of last year's account activity to Peter Barker.
  - Peter questioned the board about the financial objectives and time frame to achieve these objectives. Board is to think about their goals and objectives for these funds. Peter will present the board with some options at the next meeting after reviewing the account information.

## **Vice President's Report**

- Speakers
  - Brian Sralla September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Brian has requested a back up laptop be present. Rocky requested that this talk be filmed. Board discussed various options for making these talks accessible to Fairbanks:
    - Video conference
    - Teleconference

- Public broadcast television
- Filming options
  - Ric Wilson to investigate the cost of purchasing a video camera versus the cost of renting one
- In all of the recording options we will have to get speaker approval.
- Oct 25<sup>th</sup> – Kirk Johnson from the Denver Museum (AAPG Speaker)
- November – Bob Hunter to talk on the Gas Hydrate Well
  - Seems that he is also giving a talk to the GSA on the same topic in November).
  - Joint meeting? Peter to talk to Bob about the duplicate booking
- December – Naresh Kumar on Regional Chukchi Geology or Dwight Bradley has a detrital zircon dating talk
- January – Marti Miller
- February – Tom Hamilton to talk on groundwater around Pebble
- No speakers lined up yet for March, April or May
  - Pete Barker suggests Don Easterbrook – Talk on global warming related to the sun

### **Speaker Venue**

- For larger talks, could consider using the UAA conference rooms (~ half the cost of the Hilton), or APU conference rooms (~ half the cost of UAA).
- Both facilities have catering options
- BP energy center is free, but might be too small for some of the larger draw talks.

### **Commemoration for AGS Founding Members**

- This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> year of AGS
- Tech conference suggested as a good place to honor the founding members (evening reception?)
- Need a list of the founding members
- Feature the founders in the newsletter
- Art in charge?

### **Webmaster**

- Robert brought a resume of Thomas Parker who might be interested in maintaining our website for the going hourly rate
- Current website is out of date and board is unhappy with the appearance / graphic design of the current site
- Need both a web designer as well as a webmaster to maintain the site.
- Discussions of what we would be willing to pay
- Peter Johnson suggested a webmaster / web designer who has done local websites (e.g. Nordic Ski Association). He will meet with her and give her an idea of what our needs are. Will ask that she provide a work plan and cost estimate for the board to review.

- Webmaster selection should involve Tom Plawman, who has done web design before.

## **Newsletters**

- Suggestion that we include a membership form in each newsletter
- There are some corrections that need to be made to the newsletters. These should be forwarded to Greg Wilson
- Perception that many are not getting newsletters or e-mail meeting announcements. Make an announcement at the next meeting to let us know if that is the case so we can update our records. From this meeting at least Pete Barker and Michaela Weeks both have not received newsletters this month, while others received them over a week ago.

## **Communication**

- Emails about talks and lunch reservations are not getting to the entire membership
- Newsletters are also not being delivered to the entire membership
- Need to make sure we have contacts at each company that would be willing to circulate an e-mail announcement for the talks.

## **Government Affairs Position**

- Have an opening for the government affairs position. Diane is removing herself from the position
- Position needs to be advertised to the greater AGS community

## **Publications Report**

- Ric Wilson suggested that it would be nice if the publication list included a one or two sentence abstract on what the publication was about.
- Peter Johnson reported that ANHA has purchased 2 copies of each publication. They will sell these for 2 x their purchase price (which was our wholesale price)
- Current publications are priced so that we break even on the cost to reproduce them after 60% have sold.
- Long discussion on whether AGS pricing structure needed to mimic ANHA.
- Diane made a motion that AGS sell their publications to non-members at a minimum of 5 dollars more than the member price, and that Peter Johnson should have the authority to increase the difference beyond that as he saw fit. Pete Barker seconded the motion. Motion passed with 6 in favor, 1 opposed (Ric).

## **Scholarship Report**

- Mikie requested that \$4,000 - \$5,000 be approved for this year's scholarships.
- Peter Johnson made a motion that AGS put \$5,000 into the 2007 – 2008 budget for scholarships. Laura seconded. Discussion about why \$5,000 rather than \$4,000 as in previous years. Mikie explained that awardees ranged from PhD candidates through undergrads and that \$4,000 divided

amongst those candidates made the awards pretty small. Motion passed unanimously.

- Richter scholarship – has not been awarded in recent years as we wait for the funds to grow.
- Former AGS member has offered to donate a painting to AGS so that it could be auctioned off and the proceeds used for scholarships. Since AGS does not have 501c3 status, the board felt that it would not be in the best interest of the donor. Mikie will alert the donor that we do not have 501c3 status, but that we are pursuing it. Laura will talk to Sue Karl about pursuing the 501c3 status now that the IRS situation has been addressed.
- Whitman University has set up a scholarship in memory of Art Watts. Received a request from that scholarship committee to give them free advertising space in the newsletter to announce that this fund has been established. Board agreed to print an announcement about the fund (provided by the Whitman Scholarship folks), but did not want to contribute to the fund itself.
- Other
  - Agreed to expand invitation list for board meetings to committee heads, especially newsletter and membership chairs.
  - Need to start thinking about planning Tech conference for next April.
  - All who bring handouts will try to send out electronically before the meeting, as those on the phone in Fairbanks are otherwise completely out of the loop.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm

J. Flight – AGS Secretary 2007-2008