

New Mexico Geological Society, Inc.

Minutes - First Quarter 2013 Executive Committee Meeting

DATE: January 11, 2013
TIME: 2:00 pm
PLACE: Mineral Museum, Socorro

ATTENDING: Barry Kues, Mary Dowse, Nelia Dunbar, Greg Mack, Virginia McLemore, David Ennis, Adam Reid, Shari Kelley, Steve Simpson, Stacy Timmons

Open Meeting

1. Call to order, 1:59 pm.
2. Outcome of elections – Connie Apache for Love. 46 ballots total. Slate of officers approved. MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEMBERSHIP REPORT: V. McLemore. M. Dowse seconded. Approved.
3. Installation of officers. Officers installed by G. Mack. G. Mack calls meeting to order.
4. Publication report – S. Kelley. Handouts on sales report. Bottom line - sales were similar to 2011 (~\$27k total). Decline in sales over last few years, so this may indicate a bottoming out. Campaign to sell older publications going well (202 guidebooks sold since October 1). Discussion on redesign of publications price list to be a folded-taped mailing to save on postage and staff time on stuffing envelopes. Point of sale moving forward. 2013 last for S. Kelley as publication chair of the publication committee. 2014 will be shared by S. Kelley and N. Dunbar, followed by N. Dunbar after that or will be co-chaired into the future. Thought is one person for day-to-day things, one person for new publications.
5. Webmaster report – A. Read. Handout on webmaster report. Discussion of on-line ballot initiative. Low response for last election (<10% of membership responded with a ballot). On-line ballot system may improve response. Spring meeting registration is now open. Propose to use system for submittal of new abstracts and hire a student to scan old NMGS abstracts. Estimate of 160 hours total to complete this. Dr. Maureen Wilks to possibly supervise the student/scanning. Estimated ~\$10/hour for a student to do the entries, less if work-study student is available. Discussion on extraction of NMGS guidebook abstracts into the system to improve searching. Estimate of 80 hours to complete this work. Discussion on completion of this work this year. Total estimate for scanning old NMGS abstracts + NMGS guidebook abstracts = 240 hrs. x \$10/hr = \$2,400. A. Read working on online submission system for scholarships. May not be ready for this year, but prior system is in place if needed.
6. Update on new publication (B. Kues, V. McLemore).

B. Kues discussed latest book to be published by summer 2013. It is a brief history of geological studies in the state & 42 biographical studies of deceased notable geologists in NM. Set date of January 31, 2013 for any last changes or new information to be published. Anticipated to be formatted in Feb/March in a similar style to NMGS publications.

V. McLemore discussed mineral resource publication. Some chapters written, some still to go. Perhaps next meeting to start setting deadlines. Geothermal section problematic – no one wants to write it without Jim Witcher. G. Mack to talk to Witcher. Possibly S. Kelley or Frasier Goff to write the section. Similar story for oil/gas section. Bureau Director (P. Greer) is behind this as a bureau supported publication.

N. Dunbar reported on V. Lueth's publication. >3 years for completion is estimate.

7. Spring meeting update. N. Dunbar organizing Hydrology and History of the Rio Grande. Anticipated to attract water managers, hydrologists, historians, multi-faceted aspects. Dr. Fred Phillips is the keynote speaker, recent author of book on the Rio Grande. Spring Meeting scheduled for April 12, 2013.
8. 2013 Fall Field Conference update – K. Zeigler, by cell phone. Logistics nearly figured out. Road-logs to be completed by late January. Organization of pre-trip to Grand Canyon. BBQ will be at meteor crater, with group staying in Winslow. El Rancho in Gallup will be the banquet location. Papers to be submitted in March. Petrified Forest schedule – most of the day in the park before going to Gallup. Couple stops scheduled behind the scenes that visitors can't normally go to. Still figuring out the budget estimate due to some food logistics to be determined. Enrollment will be limited to 150 persons. Balancing registrations between AZ and NM – the trip will be announced to both groups at the same time, so first come first serve. Registration will be just through the NMGS website.
9. Discussion of Technical Communications class profiles - Steve Simpson. Handout on Science Writing. Simpson is a technical communications professor at Tech. Wants to do something for technical communications majors to do popular science editor, writer, etc. Possible use of undergrads, grads and some faculty to write notable (living) geologist bios for NMGS website. Ideally students would do some of the research through interviews. Could have a digital audio file of the interview, snippets of the interview for the website. Would use template from Barry Kues notable geologist forthcoming book. B. Kues did some interviews of living geologists that he will provide to Simpson.

ACTION ITEM: NMED EC members to attend Simpson's class early in semester to discuss the project with students.

Discussion on their use of Lite Geology, other publications geared toward general audience. Discussion on the number and size of the profiles that NMGS would want and/or what is reasonable for the technical writing students.

ACTION ITEM: NMGS EC members to send Simpson several (5-10?) suggested names of living notable geologists for potential interview.

Probably 1-2 profiles per student over the course of the semester. Discussion on maybe the technical communications students writing a virtual tour of a place instead of a geologist profile since this is currently a stagnant portion of the NMGS website.

10. 2014 Fall Field Conference update - S. Timmons reported that there was a field outing to the Sacramento Mtns. area in late October to scope the area, La Luz canyon and more. Day 2 still up in the air. Still trying to find a place to look at volcanic stratigraphy. Bonito canyon possibly on the schedule. Day 3 will be organized by V. McLemore. G. Mack recommendation that the trip be delayed until mid-Oct to lessen chances of being impacted by severe thunderstorms, and should be less hot. 15-passenger rental van out of El Paso likely. Catering options still being evaluated. In-field scoping by S. Timmons anticipated spring 2013.
11. NMGS Editor transition - N. Dunbar reported, S. Timmons interested in taking on NMGS editor starting with the 2013 guidebook. S. Timmons suggesting shared responsibility between a graphic/layout editor (Brigitte Felix) and a technical editor (S. Timmons) that would split the \$4,000 fee by tracking time/equitable split based on time, and then they would bill individually to NMGS.