

National Shellfisheries Association – Pacific Coast Section: Annual Meeting Notes

Members in attendance: Laura Hoberecht, Sean McDonald, Bethany Stevick, Philippa Kohn, Molly Jackson, David Fyfe, Julie Barber, Chris Langdon, Dan Cheney, Paul Rudell, Colleen Burge, Andy Suhrbier, Cathy Stanley, Chris Eardley, Lillian Kuehl, Sandy Zeiner, Scott Mazzone, Bobbi Hudson, Joth Davis, and Steven Roberts. *Non-members in attendance: Natalie Lowell, Megan Hintz, Jaqueline Padilla Gamino, Lindsay Alma, Courtney Fiamengo, Yaamini Venkataraman, Laura Spencer, Alice Helker, Larissa Clarke, Jeff Barrett, Roy Clark, Chris Burns, Conrad Newell, and Courtney Greiner.*

- Agenda overview
- 2015 Business Meeting minutes passed

Chair's Report

- Executive meeting at NSA-triennial meeting highlights:
 - Overall, NSA membership levels are decreasing (although the PCS seems to be fairing well) and they are offering an incentive to get more people to become members
 - There was no industry representation at the executive meeting (Bill Dewey or Rick Karney), so a request is being made to encourage the industry representatives to attend or have another person step up
 - Election update:
 - Nature McGinn – Vice President
 - Lisa Milke – Secretary
 - Brett Dumbauld – Member at Large
- NSA-PCS and PCSGA Contract
 - In the past it has been a challenge to figure out finances so a contract was made between NSA-PCS and PCSGA, which negotiated for a flat rate of \$1500 (not including silent auction, fundraising events and donations to support students) with an agreement that this is to last for 5 years with the option to re-assess if needed
 - Flat rate was based on averages for past years, although it is higher than previous years
 - Average proceeds from 2005-2015 = \$500
 - Average proceeds from 2011-2015=\$1200
- There are a number of award opportunities through NSA for students and in the past there has been poor representation of students from the West coast.
 - Applications due by November 1st
- 2017 the national NSA meeting will be held in Knoxville, TN, with 2018 in Seattle, WA, and 2019 in New Orleans, LA

Vice- chair's Report

- The amount of tweeting going on has been awesome, and it was reminded that Twitter is a great platform for sharing work
- Thank you to all of the judges of the student presentations – don't forget to hand in judging forms
- Thank you to all of the students for volunteering
- Last year there were concerns about the amount of time students were being asked to volunteer and that they may be missing sessions. This year it was arranged so that students helped with the a/v, and they staffed the registration table in the morning and after sessions so that they wouldn't miss any sessions.

- Bobbi Hudson commented that she though the student a/v support was great
- The need to get talks loaded early was highlighted – a student will be there this evening to load presentations

Treasurer's Report

- Currently 2 sign-in sheets at this meeting – please sign-in
- Still taking donations for today's lunch, with the emphasis being that it is a donation
- A table was shared detailing the checking and savings account (budget)
 - The savings account is used for the students
 - Did well in the silent auction last year
 - Received \$960 from student sponsors
 - 2015 NSA sponsored 12 students with the NOAA fund contributing to all and in 2016 NSA sponsored 13 students
 - Received funding again this year from NOAA for \$5000
- Reminder to keep membership up to date otherwise you will not be on the NSA mailing list
 - January 1st is a great time to re-new
- There was a motion made by David Fyfe to accept the budget and it was seconded by numerous members and approved.

Secretary Report

- Thank you to all who contributed silent auction items
- This year's fundraiser was able to get 16 teams to compete which brought in \$640. The costs of putting the fundraiser on was roughly \$100 (\$32.69 for the balls and \$70.33 for the room rental), making the total profit from this year's fundraiser about \$540.
- This year new t-shirts were ordered and they are by the registration table
 - Female t-shirts in plum and navy
 - Unisex t-shirts in navy and cardinal red
- Notes from last year's business meeting are on the table.
 - Motion to accept last year's notes by Dan Cheney and seconded by multiple members and approved.

Old Business

- Member at large terms are now 3 year terms and are staggered
- If you have minutes from any of the previous year's meetings please send to Laura or anyone else on the NSA-PCS executive board

New Business

- Laura (Chair), Sean (Vice-chair) and Molly (member at large #2) are up for election this year
 - Laura and Sean willing to run again, Molly would not like to do another term
 - Laura was nominated and Sean seconded with all in favor except one "nay"
 - Sean was nominated and Joth seconded with all in favor
 - Molly explained the role of her position. Chris Eardley offered to do it, and Sean seconded it.
- Reminder of the 2017 meeting in Knoxville March 26-30th and that the call for abstracts is open until December 1, 2016.

Other items discussed

- David Fyfe brought up that the question about whether we should do these meetings outdoors as it is currently cold. He wants to know if it is worth it to pay to rent a room.
 - It was mentioned that next year's meeting is in September in Welches, OR, so it should be warmer
 - It was mentioned that renting a room in the hotel costs money and they usually are not supportive of bringing in outside food—have to then pay for the venue and food
 - The NSA executive board is open for suggestions on where to have this meeting next year in Welches

Meeting Adjourned