

Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Board Meeting
Lake Anna, Virginia
April 6, 2008

Agenda

Call to Order

State Reports

- Delaware
- Maryland
- North Carolina
- Virginia
- Washington, DC

Officer & Committee Reports

- President's Report
- Past President's Report
- President Elect's Report
- Secretary's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Masthead Report
- Standing Rules Committee
- Awards Committee
- Grants Committee

New Business

- Website update
- MAMEA Election Calendar
- Local NOSB Support
- MAMEA Exhibit
- Mentoring Committee
- Nominations Committee
- Budget Accounts
- NMEA Auction Basket
- Responsibilities & Tasks of the Board Members and Committees
- Email Discussion List
- MAMEA representation at NSTA New Orleans
- MAMEA representation in the NMEA News Bulletin
- NMEA Memberships
- Finance Committee
- Grants
- Electronic Newsletter

Call to Order by David Christopher at 12:05pm. 2nd by Ruth.

David Christopher, Carol Hopper-Brill, Kathy Siegfried, Jackie Takacs, Tami Lunsford, Dawn Sherwood, Bill Simpkins, Ruth Schneider (available on the phone) were in attendance.

Member Comments

One member present stated his appreciation to the board.

State Reports

Delaware Report

Submitted by Tami Lunsford, Delaware Representative

- Since the conference is not the same weekend as Coast Day, Tami would like to do something at Coast Day, representing MAMEA and NMEA. It will probably have something to do with HSC. Bill Hall may be of assistance.
- Tami has been sending out monthly emails to the Delaware members of MAMEA and NMEA to keep them posted on marine science and education happenings and to encourage them to participate. In addition, she has submitted updates whenever requested to NMEA News and the MAMEA newsletter on Delaware events.
- Tami volunteered at the Chesapeake Bay Bowl, NOSB in Washington DC, on February 23 in Annapolis, MD.
- Tami attended the MAMEA conference and brought two new members with me from Delaware. She also attended the NSTA conference and NMEA board meeting in Boston in March.
- Events of interest in Delaware include the following:
 - EPSCoR Biotech Workshop on March 7-9 in Lewes, Delaware. This workshop introduced middle and high school teachers to the instruction of biotechnology in the classroom including a product's historical roots, current agricultural applications, classroom applications of content, hands-on laboratories and the latest "gee-wiz" research applications. Participants received texts and materials needed to incorporate biotech into the curriculum, and lodging at the University of Delaware, Lewes Campus, was included in the free workshop registration. Contact Bill Hall at 302-645-4253 or bhall@udel.edu for more information.
 - Green Eggs & Sand Workshop on May 16-18 featuring the award-winning curriculum in ecology and horseshoe crabs. The creator of this curriculum and one of the presenters is the NMEA 2007 Educator of the Year, Gary Kreamer. The workshop cost is \$100 and includes meals, lodging, and workshop materials. Contact Katy O'Connell at (302) 739-3436 or katy.oconnell@state.de.us for more information.

Maryland Report

Submitted by David Christopher for Christine Grant because this information became available just recently.

Maryland held a successful mini-conference at the National Aquarium in Baltimore on March 13 and 14. The mini-conference was a teacher overnight at the Aquarium. Participants took part in a presentation from Rebecca Bell of the Maryland State Department of Education and participated in a share-a-thon facilitated by Christine Grant. Participants also watched a night dive in the Aquarium exhibits and visited the Aquarium's new 4-D theater. This year the conference had 46 attendees, with 43 of them being new members.

North Carolina Report

Submitted by Ruth Schneider, North Carolina Representative.

- NC Mini-Conference at NC Aquarium on Roanoke Island
 - 13 participants- 9 school teachers 4 informal
 - Terri shared information with members about MAMEA and NMEA
 - In the workshop evaluation she conducted, participants indicated that they learned about MAMEA/NMEA organizations and the benefits of belonging.
 - Focused on how teachers could use the NC Aquariums as a resource
 - Described educational programs and new outreach program
 - Behind the scenes tour and night hike were huge hits with educators
 - Gained 8 new MAMEA members and reconnected with old members
- Scales and Tails event for all three NC Aquariums
 - Our kick off to Year of the FROG (AZA program)
 - The weekend drew in over 32000 visitors to Ft Fisher alone
 - Opened w/ the opening of our Dart Frog Exhibit
 - Vendors from all over the Southeast came to display their reptiles and amphibians
 - It was such a huge success, it may now be an annual event
- Frogs in the Classroom outreach program
 - Over 13 classrooms site in the Wilmington, NC area are participating in a conservation project that allows the classes to raise local southern toad eggs to toadettes and then release them in a mass fieldtrip event.
- Planning a week of educator workshops in July
 - Project Wet
 - Project Learning Tree
 - NC Aquariums workshop
 - Other local park workshops
- Other state news
 - Barbara Waters team won the Great Heron Bowl and is heading to Alaska for NOSB
 - Maritime Museum Ocean Girls Day May 17, 2008
 - Teacher Appreciation Day on May 7, 2008 at NC Aquariums FF and PKS sites
 - Earth Day celebration again the state!
 - Trying to encourage NC teachers to go to NMEA since it is so close.

Virginia Report

Submitted by Dawn Sherwood, Virginia Representative

- Dawn attended the NSTA Conference in Boston, and she is currently working on idea for a Virginia mini-conference.
 - Dawn hopes to encourage teachers from her county to attend the MAMEA conference in the fall.
- Dawn requests a MAMEA membership list so she can start connecting to VA members.
- Wants to do something with Project Wet and Year of the Reef for a mini-conference in August.
 - David suggested NAIB to help Dawn.
- Carol said that VIMS wants to do something in August, so need to coordinate.

Washington, DC Report

Submitted by Bill Simpkins, Washington, DC Representative

- Bill conducted 2 teacher workshops for DC Public School teachers and shared membership information with the participants.
 - Low attendance may be alleviated by offering workshops during the school day and offering sub pay.
- He attended a Teacher's Night at the U.S. Botanic Garden hosted by the Botanic Garden and the DCEEC (DC Environmental Education Consortium) where I had information on MAMEA and the programs at The National Aquarium.
- He has joined DCEEC and is on the Education Committee.
- He is now a member of the DC STEM Alliance. Through his participation in these new organizations, he is hoping to gain more MAMEA members in the DC area so DC can become a bigger entity in MAMEA and start having its own mini conferences.
- Bill noted that there has been a shake-up in the DC school system administration. However, he still sees little interest among DC teachers in participating in additional programs. Teachers don't want to give up their free weekend time and the District is not supporting continuing education for their teachers, so there is little incentive.

Officer and Committee Reports

President's Report

Submitted by David Christopher, President

- The 2008 MAMEA Conference was huge success. The conference brought together over 70 educators from Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Florida, Massachusetts, and Washington, DC. The conference also had a very successful auction, bringing in over \$2,000.
- This winter, David volunteered for the 2008 Chesapeake Bay Bowl held at the Naval Academy.

- David also attended the 2008 Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education Conference. MAMEA had an exhibit at this conference.
- David assisted the Awards committee by writing a letter of recognition Carrie Jones teacher, the 2007 Classroom Teacher Award Winner.
- David has submitted a proposal to conduct a Share-a-thon again NSTA in Portland.
 - David will ensure that the proposal is turned in for the national conference in New Orleans.
- David also got the mid-year board meeting together.

Past President's Report

Submitted by Adam Frederick, Past President

It has been a great pleasure serving MAMEA and I have enjoyed seeing us make improvements and gain new participation on the Board, Committees, and State Reps. Seems like the three year term from Pres-Elect, Pres, to Past Pres goes by quickly- thank goodness. Before I start on specifics I would like to give BIG Thank You's to all of our Board, Comm. Chairs, and State Reps!

A special thank you to Jackie since she made my time as Pres. a smooth process with how she handled the books, the Annual conference in 2006, and assorted misc. administrative items along with her part time asst. Joyce Cantrell.

Here are the things that I think we have made some improvement upon and future direction:

- Improvements to the website have made a significant difference since these updates can only be made after policies and documents get updated. This process, lead by Carol, was a big success. Improvements to Scholarship, Grants, Awards, and overall organization has been a big help. Big thank you to Lisa for making web updates a breeze.
- Thanks to following individuals for stepping up to relieve Barry from his multi-tasking (more members participating actively is always a good thing):
 - Amy Sauls- Scholarships
 - Susan Haynes- Mini Grants
 - Kathy Siegfried- Newsletter/Masthead
- In addition, I think at this point we can eliminate the Finance Comm. since the need no longer exists. All kudos to our long standing keepers of the archives (Terri), Standing Rules (Vicki), John Chubb (Awards), Mentoring (Jane), Nominations (Bill), and Web Keeper (Lisa). Anyone interested in passing the torch? *Lisa is not allowed to pass the torch.*
- Member Benefits:
 - We have 4 open \$300 scholarships for the annual conference and all were used last year- excellent! **Motion: Lets keep this going.**
 - We have two Mini Grants @ \$500 ea. Currently we have awarded one mini grant 07-08. **Motion: I say we up both to \$1000.**
- Newsletter:

- Is it time to go electronic like many other organizations and save the paper and postage costs? **Motion: Go to electronic pdf.**

President Elect's Report

Carol Hopper Brill will discuss the 2008 MAMEA Conference tentatively scheduled for October 24-26, 2008 in Virginia Beach. Basic information is posted on the MAMEA website, homepage, and conference page.

-Field trips on Fri and Sun.

-Cape Henry Collegiate School (CHC) – conference venue at the confluence of the Bay and Ocean, approximately 3 miles from the hotel

- negotiation with the CHC headmaster since this has never been done before at the school; looking to us to help set the price

- have a new science wing/building that we can use, 600 person auditorium, reception space, cafeteria, and other amenities

- can do as many as 8 concurrent sessions at one time; suggestion made to have fewer than 8 to ensure attendance to speakers

- may be able to arrange child care at the site

-Hotel VA Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center is hotel; \$119/night for a suite plus tax

- There are other hotels in the area that are less expensive, but this hotel seems to fit the bill for member requests. It is on the water, facing the C. Bay, near the Bridge Tunnel.

-Since VA Beach is a family-friendly destination, may be able to increase participation by members with family that can come along. So may want to consider a family-friendly event, in addition to having child care possible.

-Carol has been using the conference cookbook and David's records to estimate costs. Conference cost may be close to \$100, but hopefully less. It was recommended that the conference fee includes the membership fee, but will have to adjust this for Lifetime Members.

-Possible Theme: updating Chesapeake Bay status and research, oysters and others as "case studies." Discussion with Jackie's husband confirmed choice of one speaker.

- Board stressed the importance of having a speaker who can communicate at the appropriate level of the conference audience. Maybe we can get the PP presentation ahead of time to share.

- Make topic estuaries vs Chesapeake Bay to include our NC and DE members.

- Need to "add things to the participant's toolbox"; come up with a strong strand

- The suggestion was made to pick presenters instead of asking for submissions.

- Tami suggested that after participants heard the scientists, the participants were broken up into groups according to their audience and were able to brainstorm on using the information. Would have to be facilitated.

-Dawn suggested that presentation in the same strand be offered in series, rather than simultaneously, so a teacher can attend several presentations on a topic of particular interest.

-Carol will email the Board with information to further the discussion.

-Tami said that there is also a NMEA conference cookbook on the web. She will ensure that Carol has access.

-There are a number of field trip possibilities for conference participants, as well as, destinations to suggest for family members accompanying MAMEA members.

Secretary's Report

Submitted by Kathy Siegfried 3/31/08

Reflects MD Mini Conference Registrations, but not NC Mini Conference.

Non-renewals from 2007: 77 (Including several board members)

Active Members: 149 as of 3/31/08

New: 81

Renewals: 60

Lifetime: 8

State-by-State Breakdown:

9 Delaware

64 Maryland

2 DC

42 Virginia

23 North Carolina

2 Pennsylvania

2 West Virginia

1 Florida

1 Massachusetts

1 South Carolina

1 Tennessee

1 Wisconsin

Membership Dues Breakdown:

20 Conference

42 Mini-Conferences

79 Check

8 Other (Lifetime, gift, etc.)

From the Secretary:

- Several dedicated members did not renew this year. Some may have renewed through the NC mini.
- Membership was not included in the annual conference registration which may have had an impact on membership renewals.
- Renewal reminders went out with the annual report Masthead to save postage and printing costs.
 - Renewal form was included to make it even easier to renew.

Board Suggestions:

-Tami suggests that we set up a PayPal account for MAMEA transactions; memberships and conference registrations

-There is a 5% charge

-David is going to talk to Lisa and Jackie about setting this up

Treasurer's Report

-We shouldn't have the money market anymore, but the bank did not close it.

-Jackie took the Money Market added to the CD to make \$35K for (90 days) 3 months with the remainder to go into checking. Left remainder in Money Market instead.

-2 scholarships have not been claimed yet and Dawn's grant

-Jackie talking to the accountant about tax forms for 2007. We will need to bring in the lawyer for insurance for the annual conference.

-John Chubb contacted about one of the award winners going to NMEA.

-Website currently shows the budget and bank balance to anyone. Carol is going to ask Lisa to remove it.

-Make sure website shows annual expenses and income, not checking account balances and all assets, etc.

2008 Working Budget

Actual as of 4/6/08

INCOME

Interest on Accounts	\$1,000.00	\$1,200.00
MAMEA Conference	\$5,500.00	
Auction	\$1,200.00	
Memberships	\$2,000.00	\$740.00
Mini Conferences	\$300.00	

TOTAL INCOME \$10,000.00

EXPENSES

Accounting Service	\$500.00	
Awards		
NMEA membership	\$70.00	\$35.00
Plaques	\$70.00	
Bank Charges	\$25.00	
Board Meeting	\$50.00	
Grants	\$1,000.00	
Legal Consultations	\$300.00	
MAMEA Conference Expenses	\$5,000.00	
Masthead	\$1,000.00	
Mini Conferences	\$300.00	
Office Supplies	\$100.00	
Past President Expenses		
NMEA Mid-year mtg	\$500.00	\$500.00
NMEA Annual Conference	\$500.00	
Postage	\$500.00	
Presidents Discretionary		

Discretionary	\$100.00
Gift Memberships	\$100.00
PS Scholarships	\$1,200.00
Renewal Notices	\$100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$11,415.00

Standing Rules Committee Update

Submitted by Vicki Clark, Chair of the Standing Rules Committee

1. Recent Activity:
President-elect Carol Hopper and the SR Chair updated Standing Rules document to reflect SR changes which the board approved at the March 2007 mid-year meeting.
2. Chair submitted request 4/4/08 to MAMEA webkeeper Lisa Lawrence to post updated SR document on MAMEA website.

Additional comments:

I would like to turn the chair position over to another person at the end of this year of service (ending at the MAMEA board meeting in October 2008). There are to my knowledge no official members of this committee other than myself and Terri Hathaway. Terri is also the sole member and chair of the MAMEA archives committee, so it is not safe to assume that she will want to take on the SR committee by herself. I request that the President appoint a new SR committee chair when committee chairs are appointed at the MAMEA business meeting in October 2008. I will happily mentor the new chair during his or her first year of service.

Ruth adds that she was added to the Standing Rules committee 2 years ago. Ruth is willing to step in as new chair, but will need Vicki to mentor her. David deems it so and would like to be involved in the committee also.

Awards Committee

Submitted by John Chubb, Co-Chair of the Awards Committee

John Chubb and Beth Jewell, Co-Chairs of the Awards Committee have submitted complete nomination packages for Carrie Jones (Teacher) and JoAnne Powell (Marine Educator) to NMEA for their 2008 Awards. John has been in constant contact with Vicki Clark, the NMEA Awards Chair, who has provided good advice. MAMEA still needs nominations for our 2008 awards program. Deadline is "the end of August."

Grants Committee

Susan Haynes has been appointed to be chair of the Grants Committee. Grants notice was just sent out to the list serve. Deadline is September 22, 2008.

Scholarship Committee (From Amy Sauls)

I was pleased with the scholarships/process from this past conference. I will be setting deadline dates soon. If anyone has any comments on the process, please let me know. I

think, however, that we are on a good path. We do need to encourage state reps to help promote scholarships each year. North Carolina took all but one in 07.

New Business

Website update

NMEA just recently redid the look of their website (Lee Larking is their webmaster and is responsible for the new look.) David would like to discuss the look of MAMEA website. We have just reviewed the content and now that that has been complete this is the perfect time to change the look. I have discussed this with Lisa Lawrence and she says it would be approximately \$130 to purchase a template to use and then the cost of her time to actually create the website.

Carol reported that she and Lisa completed the updates to the content of the website, based on the Board Meeting of March 2007. Final content information installments update went in last month.

Ruth and Tami noted that it was easier to use and more inviting now.

We need more pictures of our teachers for the website. Send it to Lisa and/or Johnette for NMEA. Make sure you have permission to publish from those in the photo. Carol to inform Lisa that the Board wants to move ahead, ask her to present some representative templates for the Board to consider.

Tami moves that we have Lisa purchase a website template and complete website updates including compensating Lisa for her time. Dawn 2nd.

Motion passes.

Changing the MAMEA Election Calendar

David would like to discuss changing how we elect officers. This idea has come up because I think we need more time to plan and market our conferences. If we move elections earlier in the year and conduct them using an online survey tool (many professional organizations use survey monkey to conduct elections), we can identify elected officers in summer. A goal would be to be able to announce the results of the election at our chapter meeting at NMEA. Officers would still take office at the conference in October; however, this would give the incoming president from July to October to get some information about the conference in order. I realize that if we pursue this option, it will have to be voted on by the membership in October. This would have several advantages.

1. Currently we only have 1 board meeting between conferences; this new plan would allow the incoming president elect to bring their conference plan to the October board meeting where the board can comment on the plan.
2. During the October conference people always want to know where next year's conference is, if we change the election process, it would give more time for conference planning and hopefully by the Conference the incoming president elect would have at least some information viable. The more information about the next year's conference that is available the better.
3. It has been a goal to have information about to the fall conference to teachers by late may or early June. This is difficult with the current schedule.

4. It would give the incoming president elect an opportunity to use the conference to solicit help for committees.

-Tami suggests that we do a mailing mid-May with elections with the announcement of the new officers at the NMEA conference.

-David would like to send this information to the membership for a vote.

-Bill stated that we would need to change the By-Law.

-Kathy suggested that the information goes out in the next Masthead for a vote.

-Tami suggests Vicki and Ruth draft the new by-law. (Article 5, section 2; Art XIV for election)

-Bill motioned that we send out a ballot to the membership to amend the election time line to elections prior to the National conference where our new Board is announced at the National conference, but take office at the Annual conference. Secondly to amend the by-law for membership votes to include on-line elections. Tami 2nd. Motion passed.

Creating a New Board Position – NMEA Rep

-Tami brought up that our MAMEA rep to NMEA is not able to represent us as well as we would like. One year is not long enough for our Past President to learn what to do. There are only 2 Board meetings per year. She would like to propose the idea that this is a separate Board position.

-Kathy asked how other regions pick. Tami responded that they have an election for the position.

-Bill said that they usually hold the position for at least 2 years. Most NMEA Board positions are 3 year terms.

-New NMEA Board take office in July at the National conference.

-David moves that we change the standing rules (103.2) for a change to the Past-President's duties not to include NMEA Rep and to (Article IV and Article VI) set up a new elected officer as NMEA representative. This post would be a 3 year post. Bill 2nd. Motion passed.

-After further review and discussion of this change Vicki Clark commented that we will have to re-write MAMEA's original Constitution and file a new "Articles of Incorporation" document with the Commonwealth's State Corporation Commission. Changing the last two legal documents will most likely require a lawyer's involvement. Through the discussion many on the board expressed that they did not want to make that change at this time.

David moved to halt the move to create a new elected officer, recognize that the board felt that this issue was still important, and to table further discussion and decisions on this issue until a later date. Upon tabling the discussion the Board will:

- **Seek input from current and former MAMEA Representative's to MAMEA**
- **Get more information on how other chapters handle this issue**
- **Discuss all the suggested options.**

Motion 2nd by Kathy. Motion passed.

Support of NOSB

In the past we have supported the local Ocean Bowl competition by giving memberships to the coaches who are new to MAMEA. This was done through the presidents discretionary memberships which are determined by the membership at the beginning of the year. I would like to discuss more formally supporting them by creating budget line separate from the discretionary memberships just for these coaches. This program can be run out of the Secretaries office.

Currently:

-Carol stated that for the VA regional competition, only new coaches are given memberships (4-6 teams out of the total 16 teams).

-There are 7-8 teams in DC; 15-20 teams in NC.

-Carol's concern is that teachers are not renewing or taking advantage of the memberships. NMEA gives the top coach in each region a membership. In VA, VA Sea Grant underwrites NMEA membership for all other coaches.

-Tami suggests that we establish a scholarship for NOSB coaches only.

-David wants to support NOSB across the region, putting MAMEA's logo on the NOSB items.

-We need to be in contact with the NC regional coordinator which Carol can provide. Blue Heron Bowl, Morehead City, NC. Hosted the University of North Carolina. Contact: Janelle Fleming (Janelle.fleming@gmail.com, 252-726-6841)

-Carol motions that we formally support NOSB by giving all new NOSB coaches within our region memberships and give them information about MAMEA opportunities, including conference scholarships. We would also ask each regional coordinator to include MAMEA logo on NOSB materials. Jackie 2nd. Motion passed.

MAMEA Exhibit

David would like to discuss creating a nice high quality MAMEA conference display. A nice display would be approximately \$500. Board members agree that we need a professional display. David is looking into prices and will report.

-Jackie suggested that we have promotional items.

-David moves to buy pencils and make a brochure as promotional items for MAMEA. Dawn 2nd. Motion passed.

-Jackie will discuss with Lisa options and costs for MAMEA logo items.

Mentoring Committee

We currently have no one chairing the mentoring committee. This committee has never really been fully defined. I would like to discuss the role of this committee, and ask for suggestions of who would be a good candidate to chair this committee.

-Ruth suggested that we model the program after the NMEA Buddy Program.

-Tami agrees that the Buddy Program makes a difference.

-David suggests that this would be the duty of the past president.

-David motions (SR 104.10; SR 103.2) to change the duties of the Past President to include running a buddy program modeled after the NMEA buddy program. (Article VI, section 2; Article II) This would effectively dissolve the Mentoring Committee. Dawn 2nd. Motion passed.

-Jackie asked what we can do to make the MAMEA membership worth it so new members stay and become involved.

-The suggestion was made that there was a discount for items or admissions to museums, etc. in the region.

-Tami is investigating and will report.

Nominations Committee

Bill has worked on the nominations committee the past few years. This year he is up for election and cannot head the committee. We need to select one of the state representatives to be the chair of the committee, working along with the Secretary.

-David will take this on for this year due to the changes in the elections.

Budget Accounts

Discuss what we would like to do with our budget accounts to make sure our money better works for us.

-Jackie will be in contact with Don Hudson (NMEA Treasurer) to talk about potential investments.

NMEA Auction Basket

Discuss ideas for a chapter basket to be donated to the NMEA Auction.

-Please email your ideas to Adam.

Responsibilities & Tasks of the Board Members and Committees

Carol has been working on a document outlining the Responsibilities & Tasks of the Board Members and Committees - drawn from the By Laws and Standing Rules. Her plan is to post this on the Board page of the MAMEA website as one of the Board Tool Kit references. This would be a good time to review it - especially with new committee chairs coming aboard. The State Rep "How to" was already put on the website.

Email Discussion List

Last spring, Lee Larkin and Carol invested time in bringing the discussion list up to date. Our method for keeping it updated, however, is a bit vague. Carol would like to standardize this and she needs feedback on some of the issues involved.

-Carol suggests that we automatically put members onto the list. She is willing to take on that responsibility. We do need to ensure that we have a "preferred" email for every member, our conference and mini-conferences, as well as membership forms need to be consistent.

-Because this list includes both active and non-active members, we need to ensure a secure communication to active members for any on-line elections, etc. Kathy suggested that the MAMEA member database could serve this function.

-Carol will work with Kathy 3 times a year when there are updates to the list and will work on an annual purge of inactive email addresses. Individual members have the right to remove themselves from the list, but instructions to do so need to make it clear that they will miss the majority of communications regarding MAMEA activities and other regional opportunities.

MAMEA representation at NSTA New Orleans

Mellie Lewis asked the board to discuss representation at NSTA in New Orleans in March 19-22, 2009. She has offered to assist. Adam Frederick would also like us to discuss gathering materials for the Share-a-thon.

-Bill will be there.

-Hopefully any misunderstandings will be fixed for next year with changes in Board member responsibilities.

MAMEA represented in the NMEA News Bulletin

Mellie Lewis would like us to be represented in NMEA News Bulletin. A submission was sent in by Adam.

Ocean Hall Request

Sharon Walker requested at the NMEA Board Meeting each chapter submit 10-20 facts about the ocean following the Ocean Literacy Principles that can be used in the Ocean Hall Kiosk. Mellie Lewis has offered to help with this if needed. They are due by June 15th to Sharon Walker. She will be sending an email.

NMEA Memberships

Mellie Lewis has asked that we discuss reducing the disparity between our MAMEA Membership and NMEA Membership percentages. Mellie Lewis has offered to help with this if needed. This issue has been noted and studied in depth several times.

-At the regional conference we should have a NMEA display, conference video, etc.

-The suggestion was made for us to act as a facilitator for connecting MAMEA folks for sharing a room, carpooling, etc.

-Kathy would like to see how many NMEA members are from the MAMEA region and are not MAMEA members.

-Bill said that in his former chapter had a NMEA Board member come to speak at the regional conference.

-David suggested that we put a picture in the Masthead following up, just like we do for mini conferences and the annual conference.

Finance Committee

Adam Frederick has suggested we eliminate the finance committee.

-Most duties are conducted by the Board anyway.

-Dawn moves dissolution of the finance committee. Tami 2nd. Motion passed. (SR 104.9)

Grants

Adam Frederick would like us to discuss raising the grants to \$1000.

-Carol moves to increase the grant to \$1,000 using the same grant criteria. Kathy 2nd. Motion passes. This will go into effect for next budget year.

Electronic Newsletter

Adam Frederick would like us to discuss changing publication of the newsletter to pdf.

-Tami raises the concern that this is a membership benefit, and we need to ensure only active members receive that benefit. Other viewpoint: Seeing the range of activities and resources offered to MAMEA members may also attract non-members to us. Perhaps we should consider extending newsletter access to non-members, especially if no mailing costs are involved.

-This would have to be phased in over the next year.

-David suggests that we will be all electronic by the end of year.

-Tami suggests the next Masthead mention this change.

-It is our answer to "go green."

-David motioned to have the Masthead to go electronic by the end of the year. Tami 2nd. Motion passed.

NMEA from Tami

-2009 August 4-7 in Monterey, CA

-2010 in Gatlinburg, TN

-Looking for places in 2011, looking for something in AK and Great Lakes region.

-Submit Current articles

-Do we have directors and officer's insurance? We may be able to through the NMEA insurance.

-Jackie will be investigating the insurance. Carol is interested in this issue also re: its application to conference liability coverage for Fall 2008.

Call for adjournment by Kathy Siegfried at 4:16pm. Dawn 2nd. David thanked the Board for their time and Jackie for the use of her family home.