



Alaska Herpetological Society

Meeting Minutes for Annual Business Meeting

October 5th, 2014, 3:45pm (AKDT)

CONFERENCE HELD AT UAF, UAA, UAS
(O'NEIL BUILDING CONOCO PHILIPS BUILDING, EGAN BUILDING)
TELECONFERENCE, ALASKA

KEY HIGHLIGHTS AND ACTION ITEMS:

- Overview
 - Officer Introductions
 - Old Business
 - New Business
 - Finances
 - Pick, Click, Give!
 - Research Grants Program
 - Activities
 - Officer Elections
-

Joshua Ream called the Meeting to order at 3:45 pm on October 5th, 2014 from Anchorage, Alaska. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

Officers Present:

Joshua Ream, President - Anchorage

Amanda Gibson, Incoming Secretary – Aberdeen, WA

Aaron Hopkinson, Incoming Treasurer – Anchorage

Officers Absent:

Seth Perry, Vice President

Wendy Holman, Newsletter Chair

Guests in Attendance:

Don Larson – Fairbanks

Mark Spangler – Fairbanks

George Bonnet – Juneau

Guests also in Attendance for Biennial Conference:

Tracey Gotthardt – Anchorage

Jesika Reimer – Anchorage

Number of Full Members Present:

Conference 8 (eight)

Meeting 6 (six)

Announcement of Recording:

No objections from board or guests

Overview:

1. Great Year!
 - a. President will not be applying for as many grants in 2015.

- i. Other board members are encouraged to if you feel there is something important for AHS to participate in. Board is available to approve applications.

Introductions:

1. Seth Perry (Introduced by Joshua Ream, in his absence).
 - a. Great job in participating!
 - b. Many hours of volunteer work and dedication
 - i. SLAMP program
 - ii. Monitoring around AK with Joshua
2. Amanda Gibson
 - a. Moved to Aberdeen, WA – remaining on board with AHS
 - i. Membership rosters, artwork, projects, connections
 - ii. Happy to be a part of AHS and continuing to support the organization
3. Aaron Hopkinson – incoming Treasurer
 - a. introduction
 - i. Works for Credit Union 1
 - a. Fundraising, Community Engagement, Community Service, Volunteering with non-profits
 - b. Volunteer Matching Program
 - i. For every ten hours of volunteer participation – AHS receives from CU1 \$100.

Old Business:

1. AHS is up to date with the department of commerce in the state of Alaska
 - i. 501c3 approved
 - i. Donations are tax deductible
 - ii. Great way to promote AHS
2. Past Events:
 - a. SLAMP
 - i. First year. Will continue SLAMP year to year.
 - ii. On the Stikine.
 - a. Participants can go with Joshua Ream and Seth Perry.
 - b. Participants can go alone under AHS permit.

- c. Contact AHS in order to inform state biologist.
- b. Outreach
 - i. Amphibian Outreach Education Program
 - ii. Forest Service
 - iii. National Park Service
 - iv. Environmental Protection Agency
 - a. Working with kids and public in Stikine, Copper River Basin, Interior Fairbanks, Petersburg
 - i. Petersburg High School – hopefully long term partners through amphibian and frog monitoring.
- c. Resolutions
 - i. Need a volunteer to testify in the hearing with AK board of Fisheries.
 - a. Biologists will speak
 - b. Sport Fish Division is also supporting the resolutions
 - i. There was an online vote
 - 1. Mostly unanimous
 - 2. Still positive because it gets people talking

New Business

- 1. Finances:
 - a. AHS account holds approximately \$1350.
 - b. Account is \$30 out of balance.
 - i. Will be dealt with asap.
 - c. Upcoming expenditures:
 - i. T-shirt orders already taken – 12 shirts
 - ii. Have t-shirts in stock – another 12 shirts
 - iii. \$40 printing set-up fee for every order
 - iv. Discount price after 24 shirts
 - v. Hoodie orders back through midnight Oct. 5th 2014
- 2. Pick, Click, Give!:
 - a. \$250 annual application fee.
 - i. Next application period opens Feb. 1st, 2005
 - c. Board members to decide if AHS should participate
 - d. Concerns mentioned:
 - i. Public recognition
 - ii. AHS is still small and not well known
 - iii. Not seeing a return on moneys spent
 - iv. Public understanding of what AHS is
 - v. It is a significant percentage of our savings

- e. Board suggestions:
 - i. Publicity – T.V., radio, newspaper, University, press releases to CU1’s mailing list, survey monkey polls, media blitz
 - ii. Needs to be strategically set in line with application period for PDF.
3. Clothing Sales:
- a. Order of Salamander T-shirts closes midnight
 - i. Partners of Amphibian Reptile Conservation Park.
 - a. The Year of the Salamander
 - b. Official Theme of 2014
 - a. New Design
 - i. Native Frogs of Alaska
 - a. Black and white
 - b. With common and Latin names added
 - c. Will have orders open in time for holidays
 - d. Beginning of November

Research Grants Program:

- 1. 2014 – no applicants
- 2. 2015 – rolled over from previous year
 - a. Is now \$500
 - b. Has been requested to be opened to general public
 - c. AHS member suggestion: Alternate years between public and academic
 - i. Discussion – none
 - ii. Members – agreed

Participation in Fairbanks:

- 1. AHS needs member located in Fairbanks for promoting and involvement in activities/events.
 - a. Annual Mother’s Day Frog Walk
 - b. Dragonfly Day – Joe and Alyssa Morris

2. Hold short lectures by video conference monthly
3. Camp Habitat – promote AHS with placard or poster
 - a. Graphic Designer from CU1 can possibly create poster for AHS

Partnerships:

1. Really expanded this past year
2. We've done great work and fulfilled our obligations
 - a. Will help to promote AHS, maintain partnerships and get future grants.
 1. Forest Service
 2. National Park Service
 3. Alaska Forum on the Environment
 4. Girl Scouts of America
 5. Petersburg High School
 6. Partners of Amphibian Reptile Conservation

Officer Elections:

1. No new nominations
2. Motion to close nominations
 - a. Aaron Hopkinson closes nominations
 - b. Members second
 - c. No discussion
 - d. All members in favor
 - i. Motion approved – nominations closed
3. AHS nominations include one nominee per office
 - a. President moves to approve motion by unanimous consent
 - b. Motion approved by board members
 - c. Seconded.
 - d. No discussion
 - e. All members in favor
 - i. Motion approved – Officers elected by unanimous consent

Closing Discussions:

1. George Bonnet suggests that we check the website for discrepancies
 - a. Joshua Ream is the webmaster – all concerns about website can be directed to him
2. The President closes with a positive word

- a. Meeting went well
 - b. Good hearing from everyone
 - c. Meetings are a positive way to update members on research and events
 - d. AHS wouldn't exist without members and their support
3. Sweatshirt raffle
- a. Aaron Hopkinson drew name
 - i. Tracey Gotthardt at National Heritage Program wins

- ADJOURN

- Meeting Officially Adjourned at 4:40pm AKDT

Minutes Submitted by Amanda Gibson, Secretary.