

Minutes - OFFICIAL

ACI Board of Directors Conference Call – Nov. 12, 2008

Roll Call –

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. (CST). The following Directors were present:

Officers

Nels Rodefeld (President)
Bob Wines (Treasurer)
Scott Ball (Secretary)
Marianne Burke (Immediate Past President)

Board Members

Thomas Gresham
Stephanie Hussey
Robin Thomas
Michael Gray
Micah Holmes
Monica Linnenbrink

Also present were Dottie Head (Balance Wheel Editor) and Kay Ellerhoff (Future Conference Hosts Committee Chair).

Marianne stated that it was good to have Kay Ellerhoff back. Kay said she was glad to be back.

Approval of July 2008 Minutes –

Bob noted that the minutes of the July 17 meeting did not reflect the election of Treasurer. He also asked about a reference to "...balanced budget 25,900" in the July 14 minutes. Scott said he believed the intent was to say "...balanced budget of \$25,900." Nels asked Scott to correct the minutes of each meeting. Motion to approve the July 14 and July 17 minutes as corrected was made by Bob, seconded by Marianne and passed by the Board.

Budget Report (Bob Wines) –

Bob said that as of Oct. 29, we have a checking account balance of \$29,211.95 and \$60,000 in CDs. All our bills are paid, and we are in good financial shape. He noted that we are now paying new quarterly rates for both the Webmaster and Balance Wheel Editor – \$1,000 per quarter, up from \$750.

He has not billed members for awards yet, but invoices for dues and awards will go out beginning the week of Nov. 17.

Marianne asked when Louisiana could request its \$5,000 advance for the 2009 conference, and Bob replied that she could do so anytime.

2008 Conference Status –

Bob has not heard from Don King since shortly after the conference, and Marianne has not received anything from Don either.

2009 Conference Update (Marianne, Thomas) –

Marianne reported that the theme for the 2009 conference in Baton Rouge will be “That was then. This is now: ACI 2.0.” There will be a display reflecting ACI’s history. Committees are working to develop sessions along several tracks. She added that leads on potential conference sponsors are welcome.

Thomas said there are plans to provide live streaming video of the opening session, and they hope to recruit volunteers to write blogs from the conference. He also hopes to provide blogs as the conference continues to develop. Live video from 1-2 other sessions is also a possibility.

2009 Conference Content Development (Stephanie, Marianne) –

Louisiana is open to suggestions for session topics.

Stephanie said they are interested in providing a variety of formats (speakers, roundtables, etc.) Nels asked if they needed assistance in finding speakers. Marianne said they would work with individual session chairmen. They also plan to do a member survey to identify and narrow down session topics.

Marianne said they would like to secure a big-name keynote speaker for the opening session. Please send suggestions to Marianne and Thomas. Several names suggested during the call were Les Miles (LSU football coach), Sarah Palin, Laura Bush and Ted Turner.

Louisiana plans to send letters to potential sponsors in January.

Mid-term ACI Financial Plan (Nels) –

Nels would like to develop a menu of programs and projects for ACI for investment. To accomplish this, we would brainstorm to collect ideas. A committee would then flesh out the ideas, developing a one-page document for each: describing the idea, estimating its cost, how to measure its success, etc.

Monica, Bob and Micah volunteered to serve as the committee, and Nels asked Monica to lead it.

Marianne asked about the time frame. Nels suggested collecting ideas through January, assimilate and flesh out the ideas through March or April, allow 2-3 months for members to review, and make a final decision at the July 2009 conference.

Discussion of Awards program –

Time constraints prevented a thorough discussion. Nels asked members to contact Thomas directly if desired, and the Board will try to schedule the topic at the next conference call.

Official Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation to be placed on ACI Web site

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Postponed due to time constraints.

Location of 2010 ACI Conference –

Michael was concerned about a possible miscommunication with Ohio. Kentucky had understood that it would host the 2010 conference, with Louisville being the likely site. But Vick Ervin of Ohio, perhaps during an informal conversation, had suggested or offered to co-host with Kentucky at a Kentucky location like Covington, just across the river from Cincinnati. Although nothing had been confirmed, Ohio apparently has begun work to plan for the 2010 conference. Michael believes Louisville would be a better location for a Kentucky conference but didn't want to cause any hard feelings with Ohio.

Kay said the confusion may have started when Colorado had to withdraw its offer for 2010. No board members were aware of any firm commitment involving Ohio for 2010.

Kay recommended that we stick with Kentucky (Louisville) as the sole host for 2010. National Conservation Training Center/West Virginia is tentatively scheduled as 2011 host, but the formal application process hasn't started yet. She suggested asking Ohio to host in 2011, and schedule NCTC for 2012. The board agreed.

Kay offered to contact Vicki Ervin to apologize for any confusion and inconvenience and ask about having Ohio host in 2011.

Nels thanked Michael for Kentucky's enthusiasm and willingness to host the 2010 conference solo. He added that we should be sure that Ohio's chance to host is not too far down the road.

Michael said he could benefit from any information or records from Tennessee's, Massachusetts' and Florida's hosting experiences. Scott said he will send Florida's information.

Other business –

Bob said the dues invoices he is about to send will include each member state's directory information for review and update.

Scott is creating a BOD group e-mail list and members confirmed he had their correct e-mail addresses.

Meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m. (CST).