

TCS Board of Directors Meeting  
October 2, 2008  
Via conference call

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: President Kristen Fletcher, President-Elect Jeff Benoit, Treasurer Jeff Smith; Directors: Rick Burroughs, Rick DeVoe, Tali Engoltz, Laurie Jodice, Lisa Schiavinato; Ex-officio Directors: Angela Gustavson, Christine Patrick, and Executive Director Judy Tucker.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

**MOTION:** The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2008 meeting.

REPORT OF ELECTRONIC VOTES

The motion to contract the services of M.F. (John) Cooksey to be the TCS 22 conference coordinator passed, 12 in favor and 1 no vote. Mr. Cooksey was the TCS 21 conference coordinator.

TCS 21 REPORT

The conference evaluation survey conducted online using Survey Monkey yielded a 54% response rate due to the ease of use and regular promotion. A summary of key points was distributed. The conference format and logistics and the plenary sessions received high marks, and the theme of leadership and diversity should be continued. In a section included to help determine whether an international conference location would be successful, respondents indicated the same factors determining attendance applied, including the usual request that they play an active role as a presenter, moderator or sponsor. An additional survey of poster presenters indicated a preference for display at one session, which could be in a larger room with exhibits and refreshments.

The conference net revenue was \$107,800. Sponsorship income totaled \$118,720.

TCS 22 REPORT

Conference coordinator, John Cooksey, has been hired. RFP's have been sent to Convention and Visitor Bureaus in New Bern and Wilmington, NC. The conference co-chairs, Lisa Schiavinato, NC Sea Grant Legal Program, and Todd Miller, NC Coastal Federation, will meet with Jeff Benoit in November for an overview of planning TCS 22. A function with potential NC sponsors will be held in conjunction with the Board retreat to orient them to TCS.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS THIRD QUARTER 2008

As of 9/29/08, TCS operated with a net income of \$69,853 and has total assets of \$100,906. Liabilities for the fourth quarter include \$2,300 for the third quarter Bulletin and \$2,500 for the CMJ subscriptions. An additional 200 hours for the Executive Director in the fourth quarter was approved by the Executive Committee. The fourth quarter expense for the Bulletin and Executive Director will be paid in 2009.

2009 – 2010 BUDGET

The two-year cycle, the line for Prior Year Assets and the line for Net Income plus Prior Year Assets are shown to reflect the impact of the conference. Explanations of each line item can be

viewed online by revealing comments. New activities represented in the budget include seed money for development and membership activities, and support of additional TCS events or participation in events of other organizations. While TCS will operate at a net loss for 2009, it will end the year with assets of \$43,600. After normal operations and TCS 22 net revenue of \$65,000, TCS is projected to end 2010 with \$73,600 in assets. The budget will be reviewed toward the end of 2009, and as additional programming is considered by the Board, the budget may be amended.

**MOTION:** The draft budget for 2009 – 2010 was adopted as presented.

**ACTION:** Incoming President Benoit is to consider the best methods for appropriate oversight of the conference as the largest source of potential income.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

CHAPTERS: New officers have been identified. Two conference calls are planned to orient chapter leaders to the responsibilities under their Letter of Agreement with TCS. Chair is working with chapters to address their two concerns: 1) how to reserve and/or build benefits for members and still allow open participation in chapter events, 2) mismatch of academic year v. TCS's calendar year for membership (i.e., join in September for \$20 and pay in December \$20 for 2009.)

**ACTION:** Chair Christine Patrick to present a recommendation regarding a special dues promotion to Fletcher.

EDUCATION: Conducted student travel scholarship program and student awards competition in conjunction with TCS 21.

INFLUCATION: Met at conference to discuss the line between advocacy and lobbying. Interested in bringing together other ocean groups to infuse their views into the Presidential candidates' agendas.

MEMBERSHIP: Membership as of 9/30/08 is 322. Board efforts are needed to retain the large number of dropping members.

NOMINATIONS: All candidates have been contacted to explain the process of slate development among a large field of nominees, the expectations for participation as a Board member, and the future direction and priorities of TCS.

**MOTION:** The slate as presented was approved.

**ACTION:** Fletcher to contact all nominees regarding their status.

**ACTION:** Tucker to collect biographical statements and prepare the ballot.

**ACTION:** Nominating Committee to draft policy for the criteria and procedure for selection of final nominees which can be used by people to encourage members to run for office, to nominate qualified and interested candidates, and by the Nominating Committee to streamline the process of selecting a slate of candidates.

## NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held in December and will include the current Board along with newly elected Board members as guests.