

TCS Board Meeting
May 19, 2005
2:00 PM EDT

Attendance: TCS President Paul Ticco; TCS President-Elect Kristen Fletcher; TCS Past President John Duff; TCS Treasurer Mo Lynch; TCS Secretary Lindsay Fullenkamp; TCS Board Members Tom Bigford, Laurie Jodice, Gib Chase, Bob Goodwin, and Larry Hildebrand; TCS Ex-Officio Board Member Ariel Cushnir; and TCS Executive Director Judy Tucker

Paul Ticco thanked Tom Bigford for sponsoring the call.

I. Secretary's Report

Vote to accept minutes of TCS board meeting of January 28, 2005

MOTION: John Duff moved to accept the minutes of the January board meeting.

SECOND: Mo Lynch seconded the motion.

VOTE: Of ten possible votes, ten were cast, all affirmative. **MOTION CARRIES.**

Lindsay reported on three electronic votes.

SECONDED MOTION: The Membership Committee moved to establish an interim goal for TCS membership of 444 total members by May 14, 2006 when the Society will convene for TCS20. That goal will be met through the combined efforts of the TCS Board of Directors, each of whom will be responsible for attracting 12 to 15 new members.

VOTE: Of 13 possible votes, five were cast, four affirmative, and one negative.

MOTION FAILED (NO QUORUM).

MOTION: Mo Lynch moved that the Executive Board provide a \$1,000 co-sponsorship of a reception offered by NOS International Programs at the CZ05 conference.

VOTE: Of five possible votes, three were cast, all affirmative. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION: John Duff moved to eliminate the membership fee disparity between the US and international individual member rates by reducing the international individual fee of \$40 to the US fee of \$35, and keeping the \$35 rate for each through at least 2006.

SECOND: Larry Hildebrand seconded the motion.

VOTE: Of 13 possible votes, 12 were cast, all affirmative. **MOTION CARRIED.**

II. Treasurer's Report

Mo reported that TCS' net worth as of April 30 was \$53,785. Total income by April 30, 2005 was \$2,100 and total expenses were \$4,193. Mo reported that these numbers compare well to previous non-conference years and puts TCS in a good financial position for TCS20.

III. Membership Report

Tom Bigford and Judy Tucker developed a list of tasks from the Membership Plan, and Tom reported that while the membership committee was willing to develop the plan, they did not want to carry out the tasks. Tom needs more people to work on membership. Tom prepared an e-mail survey for the TCS Board to test. The survey results will drive the strategy for developing other events and for creating membership materials. It was suggested that the survey go directly out to the members.

ACTION ITEMS: Tom and Judy will send a draft of the membership survey to Paul and Kristen for review, and then send it to the members.

Tom reiterated that TCS needs to clearly articulate the benefits of membership to both prospective and current members. Tom also said he would be relying on other appropriate committees to carry out their roles.

Judy reported that TCS currently has about 350 members. Judy calculated the cost of supporting the membership and chapters at \$34.55 per member. The cost of adding new members would remain proportional, and Judy has the time to support additional members. Cost is not a restriction on adding new members. The annual cost of the Bulletin divided by 350 members is \$22.83 and is not included in the above cost. This cost should be shared with publicity and membership recruitment efforts.

John Duff explained that he thought that each board member should have a goal, and that the board should make a joint effort to reach a common goal. He thought that the board should have concrete metrics to measure its effectiveness.

MOTION: John Duff moved that the board make a concerted effort to reach 444 members by the first day of the TCS20 conference.

SECOND: Bob Goodwin seconded the motion.

VOTE: Of ten possible votes, ten were cast, all affirmative. **MOTION CARRIES.**

IV. Communications Report

A. Bulletin

Lindsay Fullenkamp reported that there were no major problems with this year's first issue of the Bulletin, and reminded board members to send any story ideas to Ellen Gordon, the Bulletin editor, and she would be happy to work with them. She also reported that Ellen had developed a schedule for producing the next three issues.

B. Website

Laurie Jodice reported that the website has been turned over to Dan Hellin at the Urban Harbors Institute. Routine updates to the website can be sent to him. Kristen Fletcher asked Laurie if they had started the conference website yet, and would like to have the web address on the call for papers for TCS20 that will go out in mid-June.

ACTION ITEM: Laurie will develop a web address for the conference web page and send it to Kristen before mid-June.

V. Special Projects

A. Seminar Series

Judy Tucker reported that the first seminar in the series was well attended. The next seminar will be held in June at Louis Berger, and the following seminar will be in September.

B. DC Happy Hour

Paul Ticco reported that about 60 people attended the recently held happy hour, and that about 30 people signed-in with e-mail addresses. Paul followed-up with these people and encouraged them to become TCS members if they are not currently signed up.

C. Fall 2005 Event

Paul would like to hold a topical event or events during this off-conference year. The event does not have to be held in DC, and that there could be more than one.

Kristen has been thinking about events that could be appropriate on the Pacific, Atlantic, and Gulf coasts. Bob Goodwin agreed to work with her on a Pacific coast event, and Mike Wascom offered assistance with a Gulf event. One of the topics she had in mind was LNG facilities. Tom Bigford mentioned that he has recently heard of energy projects along the coast that do not rely on dams, but on turbines run by tides and other forces. John Duff mentioned that desalination plants are also a relatively new issue and could be an interesting topic.

VI. Education Committee Report

No one from the Education Committee was available to make a report.

VII. Development Committee

Paul Ticco reported that the chair of the development committee remained open, and that before he nominated someone he would like volunteers or suggestions from the board. John Duff volunteered to chair the development committee at least through TCS20. Paul appointed John to chair the development committee.

VIII. Regional Chapter Reports

A. Cascadia

Bob Goodwin reported that the chapter co-sponsored a Shoreline/Coastal Planners Group winter meeting. The chapter also gave money to the University of Washington Student TCS chapter to bring a national speaker to the Fisheries, Aquatic, and Marine Ecosystems conference.

No other chapters made reports.

Kristen Fletcher reported that the effort to get all existing chapters signed on to a letter of understanding is underway. The only chapter yet to sign on to a letter was ECU.

IX. TCS20 Conference

Kristen Fletcher sent out an e-mail with a list of possible themes for TCS20, and asked for the Board's response.

ACTION ITEM: Based on the Board's discussion, Kristen will send out another e-mail with additional themes.

One of the issues Kristen would like the Board to address is how to involve Florida and the surrounding geographic area in the theme for the conference. Kristen also said that she would like the Board to provide the big-picture perspective for the conference, and the details and on-the-ground tasks would be left to the conference planning committee. Kristen is also working on the call for papers to go out July 1.

John Duff said that letters to potential sponsors went out two weeks ago, but he has not heard any replies. He said he would start contacting sponsors individually.

ACTION ITEM: Judy Tucker will send John a list of sponsors with phone numbers so that he can begin following-up.

Gib Chase sent Judy his comments on the sponsorship packets.

ACTION ITEM: Judy will send Gib's comments on the sponsorship packets to John.

Paul Ticco visited the Trade Winds Resort and said it will be a great place to hold the conference. The resort will have all of the appropriate AV equipment, and Paul said that the equipment is part of a separate contract.

Judy reported that she has sent out an RFP for a conference coordinator.

Kristen is investigating a system for on-line abstract submissions. In the past, conference organizers have gone through Omni-Press for abstract submissions, but a new system would eliminate them as a go-between. Kristen will make a recommendation to the executive committee, which will in turn make a recommendation to the Board for a vote because the expense will be greater than \$1000.

X. Other Issues

Paul congratulated John on his new baby girl Eliza.

A. CZ'05 Conference

Judy reported that TCS will host three events at CZ'05, including a Sunday evening reception, a Tuesday morning members meeting and breakfast, and a Wednesday afternoon lunch and board meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Judy will send the board a schedule of TCS sponsored events at the CZ'05 conference when she has the details.

Paul was able to secure a table at CZ'05 for TCS materials without paying the regular tabling fee. He also spoke with conference organizers and developed an agreement that TCS and CZ can promote one another's conferences without paying the fees.

B. MOU with FWS

Paul is still waiting to hear from Dan Ashe. The major issue with the MOU is that TCS should not commit to provide specific deliverables when it enters into an MOU with another organization.

C. Strategic Planning

Paul will query the Board and members to help determine future priorities and the direction of TCS as a whole.

D. MD/VA/DC Chapter Formation

Paul asked Bob Goodwin his advice on how to proceed in forming a regional chapter. Bob cautioned against multi-state chapters, because he felt that it was difficult to conduct business when people could not easily meet face-to-face.

E. Monthly Committee Reports

Paul wondered how the board felt about the committees submitting monthly activity reports. Some on the board were opposed to the idea, but agreed that the committees need to improve activity. The committees need to be staffed, and they should have agendas. Bob Goodwin expressed interest in serving on the Membership Committee, and Ariel Cushnir and Gib Chase expressed interest in serving on the Development Committee.

ACTION ITEM: Lindsay Fullenkamp will update the committee roster, send it to Paul, and have Dan Hellin post it on the web.

XI. Adjourn

MOTION: Larry Hildebrand motioned to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Laurie Jodice seconded the motion.

VOTE: Of nine possible votes, nine were cast, all affirmative. **MOTION CARRIES.**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm EDT.