

TCS Board Meeting
January 28, 2005
3:00 PM EST

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, Rick Burroughs, Gib Chase, and Chad Nelsen; TCS Ex-Officio Board Members Ariel Cushnir and Summer Morlock; and TCS Executive Director Judy Tucker

Paul Ticco thanked Tom Bigford for sponsoring the call.

I. Secretary's Report

In an electronic vote:

MOTION: To obtain the TCS Conference Insurance as outlined in a document circulated to the Executive Board.

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

MOTION: John Duff motioned to accept the minutes of the December board meeting.

SECOND: Rick Burroughs seconded the motion.

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

II. Treasurer's Report

Mo Lynch reported that TCS had a total net worth of \$53,455 as of December 31, 2004. TCS had a net income of \$34,330 from January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004. Mo also reported that TCS19 had a final net income of \$56,572. This is enough to get TCS through a non-conference year and provide a little start-up money for TCS20.

The income from the MPA workshop was offset by expenses included in general conference food and beverage.

Mo reported that there are two outstanding bills waiting approval from Paul Ticco.

Judy Tucker encouraged the development of a two-year budget for planning purposes and to show sponsors should they inquire about it.

III. Membership Report

Tom Bigford reported that the Membership Committee did not receive any comments from the board on the membership plan they developed. Tom reiterated that the task of implementing the plan will not fall on the Membership Committee, and that Board Members should become more involved. John Duff asked Tom to have the committee develop a list of concrete tasks the Board or other members could undertake.

ACTION ITEM: Membership Committee to develop a list of concrete tasks from their membership plan for the Board and/or other TCS members to undertake.

Tom also reported that the committee is updating a TCS bookmark to use as a promotional item.

Judy Tucker reported current membership at 294, down from 351 at the beginning of the year. Judy included membership renewal forms in the TCS20 topics surveys sent out to all members. Tom thanked her for this effort.

Other sources of members discussed include tapping into a meeting for coastal managers held by NOS. Mo Lynch suggested working with a NOAA NOS program that encourages minority students to enter the coastal management field. One of the colleges in the program is in Florida and could get involved in TCS20. Tom mentioned that he has developed a network of schools and will promote TCS membership when he visits them. Tom encouraged others to follow his lead with the internship program. John Duff asked board members affiliated with Universities to encourage their students to join TCS.

IV. Communications Report

A. TCS Bulletin

Lindsay Fullenkamp reported that two responses were received to the RFP for Bulletin Production and Website Maintenance. One response (from Ellen Gordon) was for editorship of the Bulletin, while the other (from the Urban Harbors Institute) was for design, layout, and distribution of the Bulletin and website maintenance. Both parties could work well together. Lindsay was attempting to contact both parties. John Duff encouraged the Communications Committee to move quickly. Some on the board expressed concern that the cost of having two parties work together could be high, and that the logistics could be difficult.

ACTION ITEM: Lindsay Fullenkamp will work with the Communications Committee to address any logistical issues between Ellen Gordon and UHI. The Committee will also develop a list of issues they may have with turning over the website to UHI, including developing conversation threads, a memo repository, and online membership application forms.

B. Website Update and Enhancement

Laurie Jodice stated that she had no problem with turning over the website to UHI, but wanted to make sure that we address the issue of how much control we will maintain over the site. She checked into the capacity of the server to hold past copies of the Bulletin, and discovered that we may want to review our contract with the server provider and add server space for less cost.

ACITON ITEM: Laurie Jodice will check into changing the contract with our server provider.

Laurie and Judy Tucker are working to implement an online credit card acceptance program called PayPal. As soon as a test has been performed, the link on the TCS web site will be activated. This online payment procedure still requires the joining or renewing member to mail or fax a form to the TCS Office, which is an extra step when paying by PayPal instead of check. Laurie suggested that an interactive membership form be developed so the person joining/renewing can send the form electronically. This question will be put to UHI. If they cannot design it, Laurie will work on it.

V. Special Projects Report

Kristen Fletcher reported that she would like to develop more off-conference year activities, including networking events. She would like to take advantage of the Society's chapter network. Summer Morlock mentioned a conference in April for graduate students co-sponsored by the UW chapter that TCS might be interested in, and Ariel Cushnir is organizing a seminar series in Washington, DC.

ACTION ITEMS: Summer Morlock will send Kristen Fletcher and John Duff information on the conference. Ariel Cushnir will send John a list of dates for the seminar series. Paul Ticco asked board members to send other ideas to Kristen.

Kristen also reported that she is working on a sample time line for TCS20 and will share that with the board.

VI. Education Committee Report

In addition to the seminar series that Ariel is planning, Rick Burroughs and the URI Chapter hold a "brown bag" seminar series.

Laurie Jodice mentioned that the technology may be available to have these seminars live on the internet or videotaped and then digitized and put up on the web. However, we would want to be sure that this service would be of interest to TCS members.

VII. Development Committee Report

Chad Nelsen reported that he is stepping down as Chair of the Development Committee. He is willing to stay on the committee and said that it is important that TCS find revenue beyond what comes in from the conferences. Paul Ticco thanked Chad for his service, and asked board members to send him suggestions for a new Development Committee Chair. Judy Tucker mentioned that TCS committee chairs do not have set terms and have usually been appointed or reappointed by TCS Presidents at the beginning of their tenures.

Ariel Cushnir mentioned the link between the Membership and Development Committees, and Tom Bigford pointed out the overlap of the Membership and Communications Committees. Committee chairs might want to have conference calls. John Duff wanted to make sure that the committee responsibilities are not split too much, as all of the work TCS does could fall under several committees. Tom

encouraged committee chairs to get TCS members who are not on the board involved in their committees so that board members are not stretched too thinly.

VIII. Chapter Reports

Summer Morlock reported on the activities of the University of Washington chapter. The chapter held a tsunami fundraiser that culminated in a Blue Drinks event. The chapter raised about \$500 for tsunami relief efforts and gave the funds to a local organization. The Blue Drinks events are based on similar Green Drinks events that take place all over the country. They provide a way for people interested in all types of water issues to network. Laurie Jodice mentioned that there are many Oregon State University alumni living in the Seattle area and that they may be interested in attending Blue Drinks. The chapter also established a panel to discuss tribal issues and a marine sanctuary in the Pacific Northwest, and is participating in the conference being held in April.

ACTION ITEM: Summer Morlock will summarize and the chapter's fundraising activities into a short paragraph and send it to John Duff for the Bulletin and Judy Tucker for the Annual Report.

IX. TCS20 Conference

A. Topic Survey

Judy Tucker reported on the preliminary feedback from a survey sent out to determine TCS members' interest in topics for TCS20. So far, the survey has a 11% response rate, and Judy thought that including an addressed and stamped envelope improved the response rate. The results show that members are highly interested in Coastal Land Use Planning and Management (including coastal access and ports and harbors) and Coastal Water Quality for themes. Survey respondents were interested in theme tracks of Resource Management, Ecology, and Governance/Policy.

B. Sponsorships

John Duff encouraged the board to contact the sponsors from TCS19 and thank them for their support. He also thought that we should get a good idea of what topics are of interest to them. Paul Ticco stated that he is expecting every board member to participate in getting conference sponsors.

X. Other Issues

A. CZ '05

ACTION ITEMS: Paul Ticco will check with CZ '05 conference organizers to see if we can set up a membership table, and will explore the possibility of having a TCS panel at the conference. Mo Lynch will determine the cost of hosting a student reception at the conference.

B. Coastal Managers Meeting, Sea Grant Meeting, NEP Meeting in early March

ACTION ITEM: Judy Tucker will coordinate with Tom Bigford to get TCS membership materials to each meeting.

C. TCS Collaborations with Other Agencies and Organizations

Gib Chase has developed an MOU with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Paul Ticco said that he would be interested in developing MOU's with other organizations, but wanted to limit the number of specific obligations by TCS because circumstances and people change, which makes it difficult to uphold these obligations. After hearing some of the contents of the MOU, Mo Lynch cautioned the board against agreeing to give advice to other organizations.

ACTION ITEM: Paul Ticco will send the MOU to board members for review.

XI. Other Items

Judy Tucker mentioned that the board had discussed several times during the meeting how the board might do business better. She suggested that board members set aside a specific time devoted to planning the operation and activities of TCS for the next two years.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40pm EST.