

Soil and Water Conservation Society—Empire State Chapter

Council Meeting Minutes

Annual Meeting
January 10, 2017
8:30 – 9:30 AM
The Natural Resource Center
7413 County House Road
Auburn, NY 13021

1) Welcome

- a. Peter Wright called the meeting to order at 8:35am.
- b. Peter Wright, Lisa Miller, Ray Mueller, Jason Cuddeback, Jason Schenck, Jessica Sargis, Brad Schwab, and Heath Eisele were in attendance.
- c. Various other members were in attendance.

2) Review of Minutes from December 8, 2016 meeting

- a. The minutes were reviewed. Jessica Sargis moved to accept the minutes and Ray Mueller seconded the motion. All Council members present were in favor.

3) Review & Notable items from the Treasurer's report:

- a. Ray Mueller and Lisa Miller presented the Treasurer's Report. Lisa explained that the report doesn't reflect the financial impact of the annual meeting because the meeting was delayed until 2017. Brad Schwab made a motion to accept the report, Jessica Sargis seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

4) 2017 Chapter Goals

- a. Chapter goals for 2017 were discussed and the following ideas were the result of the discussion:
 - i. Jess Sargis suggested that we should hold regional meetings again
 - ii. Brad Schwab suggested that we should work to broaden membership. **ACTION ITEM:** Brad Schwab will contact Erica Crady in the Ankeny office to request a list of all members that were lost in the past 5 years.
 - iii. Peter Wright proposed that maybe our Chapter could produce a position paper
 - iv. Ray Mueller suggested that we should work to integrate with other organizations.
 - v. Peter Wright suggested that we should evaluate our scholarship and mini-grant programs.
 - vi. Ray Mueller suggested that we should survey our members to get their ideas of things they would like to see the Chapter accomplish.

vii. All Council members agreed that sending a representative to the national meeting is a valuable use of Chapter funds.

5) Council Elections

- a. The following Council positions were filled:
 - i. Past President: Jessica Sargis
 - ii. Treasurer: Ray Mueller
 - iii. Secretary: Brad Schwab
 - iv. Region 1 Representative: Heath Eisele
 - v. Vice President: Jason Schenck
- b. The following positions on the Council still need to be filled:
 - i. President Elect
 - ii. Region 3 Representative

6) Budget

- a. The 2017 working budget was presented to the membership in attendance and no objections were raised.

7) Other

- a. The proposal to combine the two endowments was presented to the membership in attendance. Heath Eisele made a motion that the endowments be combined. Ray Mueller seconded the motion and all Council members and other members present were in favor.

8) Adjourn

- a. At 9:15 Ray Mueller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jessica Sargis seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Minutes taken by Brad Schwab, Secretary