



Michigan Chapter

Executive Council Zoom Conference

Friday, June 4, 2021

MINUTES

(“Action” Items are in red *italics*)

Call to Order: 10:01 a.m. by Katie Droscha, Vice President

Roll Call:

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Officers Present: | Katie Droscha | Vice President |
| | Tim Harrigan | Past President |
| | Kelly Goward | Treasurer |
| | Dan Kesselring | Secretary |
| | Rebecca Bender | Region 1 Director |
| | Zachary Curtis | Region 2 Director |
| | Gerald Miller | Region 3 Director |
| | (7 Officers present – quorum achieved) | |

Others Present: None

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Officers Absent: | Glenn O'Neil | President |
| | Shelby Burlew | President-elect |
| | Dan Busby | At Large Director |

Agenda: Katie asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda as presented. Hearing none, Katie declared the agenda approved.

5/7/2021 Minutes: The minutes of the previous conference were appended to the agenda. Gerald Miller moved to approve the minutes as presented. Zachary Curtis supported the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Kelly Goward had submitted the Treasurer's Report by email. The balances are: General Fund \$5696.22; and Scholarship Fund \$16,956.52. Moved by Kelly Goward, supported by Gerald Miller, to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Motion passed by voice vote.

Disbursements: None presented for approval.

Motions approved by email prior to this teleconference: None.

New Business: None presented.

Old Business:

Maple River RCPP Deliverables: Katie Droscha reported on the Chapter's partnership responsibilities.

Environmental Law and Policy Center inquiry: Because he wasn't going to be present, Chapter President Glenn O'Neil had emailed the Executive Council asking for a decision on the Center's appeal for support of a request to designate three new Wilderness areas and one addition

to an existing Wilderness area on the Ottawa National Forest in Michigan's Upper Peninsula: (1) the Ehlco area, (2) the Trap Hills, (3) Norwich Plains, and (4) the Sturgeon River Gorge Wilderness Addition. The Wilderness Act of 1964 established the National Wilderness Preservation System in an effort to "secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness." The Ehlco area, the Trap Hills, Norwich Plains, and the Sturgeon River Gorge Wilderness Addition each meet the federal standards for protection under the Wilderness Act. Including these areas in the National Wilderness Preservation System would greatly benefit present and future Michigan residents because maintaining the integrity of Wilderness environments is vital to protecting ecological health, safeguarding unique recreation opportunities, and preserving aesthetic and historic assets. Moved by Rebecca Bender, supported by Tim Harrigan, to support this Wilderness Area designation effort, and to have President O'Neil sign and submit the letter of support. Motion passed by voice vote.

Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning Ad Hoc: Report postponed in Glenn's absence.

Professional Development: Jerry Miller, Chair

MACD Summer Conference MiSWCS sponsored breakout: Katie reported briefly on the MiSWCS virtual session on Climate Change scheduled for the Conference next week. In addition, Katie asked for topic suggestions for the Fall MACD Annual Convention.

Systems Based Planning: Zachary Curtis reported on continuing work on a future Webinar.

Future Events questions: Jerry reported that he had submitted a brief article, asking for Chapter members suggestions, for the upcoming newsletter.

2022 ANR Seminar: Jerry asked Tim Harrigan if he would be willing to chair the Seminar Committee again. Tim agreed to serve. *Jerry will send an email asking for volunteers for the Committee.*

Membership and Outreach:

Newsletter: Next issue to be September or Summer. Article deadline August 15.

Membership Status: Currently 53 members.

Legislative: Jerry reported.

Work Plan Update: Items for June were appended to the agenda.

Next EC Conference: Next EC conference is 10:00 a.m. Friday, July 16, 2021.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel F. Kesselring, Secretary