

NWEA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING MINUTES

December 12, 2008

Tim Blackwood called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM

Present at the meeting were Tim Blackwood, Steve Walti, Michael Clayton, Bob Burnham, Pat Geehan, and Garth Tallman. Jamie Schick, Ron Gullberg, Treck Cardwell and Debra Geller were absent.

The following items were discussed:

- The current by-laws with proposed edits by Debra Geller were handed out to all present. It was agreed that all would review the proposed changes after the meeting, and forward any comments or additional recommendations to Tim Blackwood via e-mail. Tim will compile the information in a single document to discuss and vote on at the next meeting. Particular topics to consider include purpose, membership, board members, meeting frequency, committees, and dues.
- Establishing an NWEA Scholarship was discussed. The focus of the scholarship was not decided, but would likely be related to alternative energy sources/development, renewable energy or similar related topics. Schools to contact include PSU, OSU, OIT, U of W, and WSU. It was agreed that Tim Blackwood would head up a preliminary effort to collect information for consideration at the next meeting.
- Establishing a NWEA Website was discussed. All agreed it would be a worthwhile effort. Ideas for inclusion in the website included meeting minutes, announcements, by-laws, links to related organizations and societies, etc. Steve Walti agreed to head up collecting information on costs, options, etc. for the website. He will report back at the next meeting.
- A discussion of the future direction of the NWEA was held. Options to consider include focusing on a narrow topic such as distribution focused, petroleum focused, or other discrete area; or expanding the interests of the organization to include all energy sources. The following related to this topic were noted:
 - Bob Burnham reported that a member survey had been sent out in 2000/2001.
 - A new survey could be distributed seeking input from members on the direction of the NWEA. Questions regarding:
 - Specific groups or individuals that should be included/solicited into the NWEA. Specific companies, schools and municipalities were mentioned.
 - What the focus of the organization should be
 - What networking opportunities are currently in place and how to improve those opportunities
 - A corporate survey could be completed as well. This survey could focus on specific companies and seek input on how the organization could serve needs they might have. NWN, PGE, PacificCorp, Wind Energy companies, Solar companies and others could be included in the questionnaire. It would be best if the survey were conducted in person.

- The 2009 Annual Symposium was discussed. The following was agreed to:
 - The organization's first choice is the Whitman Hotel in Walla Walla.
 - The later part of September is preferred.
 - Pat Geehan and Garth Tallman will coordinate this year's event. They will check into the above venue and forward the information to the directors so planning can begin.

- Holding meetings at different locations were discussed. The January through March speakers are set in Portland. Garth will pursue a speaker for April, and plan to hold the meeting in Fife/south Seattle.

- The next director's meeting was set for immediately following the February monthly breakfast meeting.

Action Items

What	Who	When	Status
By-law review and edits.	All review and make edits. E-mail to Tim Blackwood.	Prior to February 13 th Director's meeting.	Pending
NWEA Scholarship	Tim Blackwood	Bring preliminary information to February 13 th meeting.	Pending
NWEA Website	Steve Walti	Bring general information re website to February 13 th meeting.	Pending
Member Survey	All	February 13 th meeting	Continue at next meeting
2009 Symposium	Garth Tallman, Pat Geehan	Venue and date by February 13 th meeting	Pending
April Speaker	Garth Tallman	Prior to April	Pending

Respectfully submitted by Tim Blackwood

Date: January 18, 2009