



AIANEA National Council Teleconference Minutes

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

Respect, Harmony and Beauty

Council Members & Guests Attending:

President

Kirt Peterson, Colorado

1st Vice President

Cameron Clark, Wyoming

2nd Vice President

Melissa Sturdivant, Texas

Interim Secretary

Melissa Sturdivant, Texas

Treasurer

Bill Parrish, Pennsylvania

Southeast Regional Representative

Melissa Allen, Virginia

Northern Plains Regional Representative

Kelley Barkell, Montana

Guests Attending

Deborah Clairmont, National AIAN SEPM

Past Presidents Attending

None

Meeting Minutes:

- a. Meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm (Central) by Kirt Peterson, President. Kirt extended his appreciation to all of those who attended the meeting.
- b. Welcome, introductions & roll call
A roll call of those in attendance was taken by Melissa. A quorum was not achieved, so business before the Council was limited.
- c. Treasurer's Report
The treasurer's report was emailed to the Council. Bill provided an update on the financials. Wells Fargo = \$ 20,274.85; Frost = \$ 140,979.19
Bill indicated that the scholarship monies have cleared on the financial ledger, so all of the students have cashed the checks.
- d. Kirt shared that Tanya Meyer-Dideriksen had contacted him and shared that a company had reached out to her about them providing services to organizations like AIANEA. Kirt and Tanya felt this is probably not something we need to do at this point. All agreed.

- e. Kirt shared that he had visited with John Whitney, our AIANEA member who coordinates and keeps the Facebook page updated. Kirt is trying to align our platforms so that we are consistent with information and can maximize our information available to the public. He also believes that coordinating this information will also provide easier processes to track our progress at the end of the year, and know what we have accomplished each year. He commented that 800 people frequent the Facebook page, and we can help build our professional webpage, too.

Kirt feels that we should be able to communicate what we are accomplishing and make this information available to our larger community.

- f. Kirt discussed the planning underway for the 2019 professional development training in Spokane, WA. Kirt shared that a USDA Connect site has been established and is available to folks who want to be involved in the planning. Just let him know, and he can add you as a member of the community.
- g. National AIAN SEPM Report. Deb Clairmont shared that she has been working with all of the state-level SEPMs to collect the information on the heritage month posters created over the years. Deb has been able to collect all of the posters. She is working with HQ to possibly create an archive where these can be displayed or stored for future use. She is trying to locate the history and story on each of the posters, but also the information of how the poster evolved as a NRCS project.

Deb also asked about involving AIANEA Elders in the quarterly AIAN SEPM teleconference calls. All agreed that there are lots of advantages of involving our Elders. Kirt talked with Tanya about this. Melissa added that some logistical problems arose recently and an Elders teleconference is scheduled in March and Tanya plans to reach out to our Elders and see what we can do to involve them in these meetings.

Deb added that she would like someone from AIANEA to talk at one of the upcoming quarterly teleconferences and share with the SEPMs information about the Association and the advantages of being a member. Deborah stated that the next scheduled conference call is planned for May 3.

Deb asked that we remember to include SEPM training as part of the planning for the national training program. Cameron discussed the needs of training for SEPMs and added that he will include Deb as we move forward.

- h. Cameron provided an update on the 2019 national training planning. Minutes are on the Connect site. They are working on defining a theme for the training. We are about 14-15 months out from the training. Cameron stated there are four or five committees that can involve AIANEA members – Program Planning, Logistics, Communications, and Evaluation, and he shared information about each of the committees and what kind of support is needed. AIANEA has the lead for the Program and Communications committees. Kirt suggested that we may need to form an Ad Hoc Committee to facilitate planning and support for the training conference. Cameron stated that volunteers should expect donating possibly 4 hours each month in preparing for the training program. Deb suggested that making sure SEPM training is included as part of the training will help with the approval process. Discussions followed. Melissa shared that we can reach out to Steve Durgin as well, as he has worked closely with NEDC for program approval when we worked on the 2014 training.
- i. Kirt reviewed regional reports and forwarded a copy of Cassius' report. Attachment A.
- j. Melissa provided an update from Tanya on the Elder's Council, and stated that the book project has been pushed forward at the request of the Elders. Melissa stated that we are searching for NRCS Representatives to assist our Elders, specifically for Norman Lopez in Colorado, and Loretta Metoxen in Wisconsin. Melissa also shared that the DVD project which was started several years ago is almost completed and Roylene provided the voice over narration. Gina has asked if we can grant permission to the videographer for use of some of the video for a Rural Development employee training.
- k. Melissa shared that we still need a vote to approve the minutes from January. Melissa Allen will send an email so that voting can be accomplished.

- I. **ACTION ITEMS** – Kirt will schedule a separate conference call for Cameron, Melissa and he to look at the action items more closely to come up with a game plan.
- 1) Melissa will follow-up with Tanya to see if our AIANEA Elders can participate in the AIAN SEPM quarterly teleconferences.
 - 2) Cameron will follow-up with Deb and insure that SEPM training is on the national training agenda.
 - 3) Kelley and Melissa will see if we can track down the history of the heritage month poster.
 - 4) Kirt will work on Facebook and our webpage to make sure we are telling our story.
 - 5) We need to recruit AIANEA volunteers to serve on the respective national training program sub-committees.
 - 6) We are searching for AIANEA members in Wisconsin and Colorado to serve as representatives for Elders Loretta Metoxen and Norman Lopez.
 - 7) We need to follow-up with Gina with National Council approval to allow excerpts to be used from our DVD video for a Rural Development training being developed.
- m. Kirt extended his appreciation to the Council members attending and with no further business, the Council meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm, Central.

Attachments

A – Treasurer Report

B – NE Regional report

Minutes respectfully submitted by Melissa Sturdivant, AIANEA National Council Secretary (Acting).
Please respond to melissa.sturdivant@tx.usda.gov with questions or comments.



AIANEA National Council East Region Representative Report:

Delaware, Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia

Submitted by: Cassius Spears Jr.

Monthly AIANEA National Council Meeting: 2/21/2018

Meetings Report:

Upcoming Indian Ag Youth Events

Great Lakes Youth Intertribal Food Summit*

May 10-13, 2018 – Tama, Iowa

*Held in conjunction with Great Lakes Intertribal Food Summit

Online Application: goo.gl/w8DLZz

Eastern Native Youth Food Sovereignty Summit

June 25-29, 2018 – Westerly, Rhode Island

Online Application: goo.gl/c7szLh

Rocky Mountain Native Youth in Food & Agriculture Summit*

August 1-3, 2018 – Wind River Casino, Riverton, Wyoming

Held in conjunction with Rocky Mountain IAC Meeting

Online Application: goo.gl/MWFBMF

5th annual Native Youth in Food and Agriculture Leadership Summit

June 7-14, 2018 – University of Arkansas School of Law, Fayetteville, Arkansas

The 2018 Summit will be a skills-development focused event that will give attendees an opportunity to do a deep dive in a particular area of food and agricultural production or policy.

Online Application: goo.gl/1fGUdB

Upcoming Events

The Northeast Regional - NAFWS is pleased to announce the 2018 NAFWS National Conference, which will be hosted by the Narragansett Indian Tribe during the week of May 8-10, 2018 at the Crowne Plaza, Providence, RI.



Major focus areas will include, but are not limited to:

- Climate Change
- Conservation Law Enforcement/Training
- Environmental Protection/Training
- Fish Culture/Fisheries Management
- Wildlife Management
- Water Resources/Environmental Protection
- Restoration Projects
- Youth Programs - SYP

Narragansett Food Sovereignty Initiative is hosting a food summit in Southern New England August 20 - 25, 2018.

