



Youth Education Committee

Meeting Agenda

Date: 1/28/2021	
Start Time: 10:00am	End Time: noon
Location:	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85757342980?pwd=a3laVnJrNzJGeWtabW9qaTNFRVcyZz09
Committee Members: Tracy Arnold (Portage) (Chair), Anne Bartels (Marinette), Patty Benedict (Portage), Lisa Burns (Washburn), Stephanie Egner (Washington), Kelly Maginnis (Columbia), Sarah McDowell (Vernon), Aleisha Miller (St. Croix), Michele Sadauskas (Oneida), Josh Saykally (Waushara), Heather Palmquist (Iron), Zach Wilson (Iron), Lee Jennings (Brown), Karyn Eckert (Taylor), Megan Steckelberg (Adams), Catherine Higley (Vilas), Justine Bula (Sauk) (Sec), Sarah Wichman (Outagamie), Mary George (Shawano), Steve Kircher (Forest), Cassidy Neilitz (Forest)	
WI Land + Water Staff: Kim Warkentin, Youth Education Director	
Notes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WI Land + Water Meetings are open meetings. Individuals may observe in person or via conference phone if desired. • Order and time allowed for agenda items may be changed due to pace of meeting or at the discretion of the committee chair. 	

ALL AGENDA ITEMS ARE ACTIONABLE.

10:00 am Call to order: Arnold (Chair)

- Introductions/Roll Call (Bula)
- Adopt agenda/Additions
 - Motion - Patty
 - Second –Mary
 - Motion Carried
- Approve previous meeting minutes (11/17/2020)
 - Approve pending update on the correction for the grade division from 4-5th to 5-6th for the speeches that Zach had from Iron Co.
 - Motion – Aleisha
 - Second – Stephanie
 - Motion Carried

10:05 am Conservation Camps

- Sand Lake, Grade 6-8, June 16-18, 2021-Anne Bartels-Marquette Co
 - Anne: No Sand County Camp for 2021. At this time there is not enough vaccine and not enough staff to safely host camp. The dept. decided to not host camp. Camo Bird (facility will not be open). New Conservationist will work with summer camp at home, looking for grant funds to put together kits for 75-80 kids in lieu of camp.
- WI Land+Water Camp, Grades 9-12, June 21-24, 2021-Heather Palmquist-Iron Co, Zach Wilson-Iron Co
 - Heather: Everything is in limbo at the moment, no decision has been made as of today. Need to get a call together to discuss. Solidarity with Sand County camp. Will send a doodle poll out to committee to meet and discuss. Will also reaching out to YMCA camp for info (just starting to have family camps, looking for a summer camp but working in pods).Lots to discuss for this one yet.
 - Kim talked with Andrea from Lion’s camp and they had attempted to host camp last year and had to close down due to COVID outbreaks. Kim will reach out to her to get more ideas and information on how and if we can host camp.

- Tracy: Lots of logistics to figure out.

10:15 am WI Land+Water Conference, YEC breakout

- Wednesday, March 3 from 9:00-10:00am
- Iron County Youth Education Program “Woods and Waters.” Presented by Zach Wilson, Iron Co
 - Zach unable to attend today’s meeting.
 - Heather provided updates on programs:
 - Woods Program is a program where high school students learn ecology by studying fishers. The program focused on studying fishers for about 6 years and then switched to American Martins (endangered but small population in Iron Co.). They have collard about 11 animals. Students learned how to trap and place collars on the animals and then learned how to track and follow. Now they are unable to trap and sedate the animals and have moved to using a camera over bait to study the animals. Zach built custom stands and bait stations to get measurements when the animals visit the station. Some small mammal trapping has been included to allow students to get hands on experience. Along with the ecology lessons, this program incorporates forestry lessons as well.
 - Water Program is a program that focuses on the ecology of loons, shore land buffer health, macro invert, and lake ecology. Students are able to monitor nesting platforms for loons on three lakes that had successful nesting loons but saw a decline in the number of loons nesting over time. They have obtained a DNR permit for this program.
 - There will be a moderator and assistant for the online presentation. Moderator will work with presenter and helps manage time. The assistant monitors chat to bring up questions.
 - Kim will moderate and Tracy will be the assistant.

10:20 am Poster and Speaking Contest

- Poster Contest (Egner)
 - Local, Area, State
 - All forms and photos submitted by Feb 12, 2021
 - Make sure that all of the information is included on the forms along with signatures so that they can be used for publications and images on the web.
 - Local & Area Poster Contests:
 - Google forms submission discussion:
 - The google forms submission option worked okay for local level contest and north central area contest (worked well). Potential to keep this format in the future as well.
 - Josh noted that the google forms allows more people to vote and participate in the contest and that it might be a good idea to try to continue this in the future.
 - Mary sent out a PowerPoint and instructions to judges so that they understand what a good poster is. This worked out well for their competition.
 - Patty pointed out that when you have posters with multi media/textures, it is hard to capture all of that with just a photo.
 - Kim: Does not see Nationals going back to in person posters at all. Posters are submitted electronically
 - Cathy H. has concerns over using the same format for fair representation (scanning with GIS dept. vs. taking a picture with a phone).

- Other noted that the cell phone pictures were working the best for their contests.
- The issue not getting parental signatures came up again this year with the same county. Please be sure to check all forms to ensure that they are filled out completely when they come in at local and area level.
- A question on how to deal with students who put their name on the front of the poster came up. There is currently no rule stating not to put name on the front of poster.
 - Mary added a rule to not post name on front of poster and added the instructions for where to put the students name to the NACD Ed. PowerPoint that she shared.
 - Patty: Try to preserve poster as best as possible but keep it anonymous. Try to erase if it is pencil, white out or place paper over the name. Try to preserve poster as best as possible but keep it anonymous. It can be possible to blur out name on poster if using an electronic format.
 - Megan S.: Always tells students to not put their name on the poster but always ends up with a few that have names on the front.
- Concerns were brought up over issues with punctuation for the National theme. Students were not punctuating or using the correct theme for Nationals. How should we judge posters that are well done but use incorrect punctuation? How should these be judged to make sure the contest is fair and the proper theme is used?
 - Stephanie: We should contact nationals about theme to keep the words/theme simple and more straight forward. Spelling is always a challenge with the themes.
 - Kim: Nationals changed the punctuation partway through competition this year. Kim will talk with nationals about this issue.
- Sate Poster Contest
 - Kim: Link on the website with instructions on how to submit posters through the google form. There are two links, one to scan and submit the poster and one to scan and submit form. Try to submit posters and forms through the google links first then if you are having issues email Kim, but please try the form first.
 - Tracy: confirm that all posters and speeches are submitted and received for state contest. Check with area reps to confirm that the posters or speeches match all registration forms.
 - For state poster contest: All posters will be judged online via socio program for attendees. Announcement will be made during the conference on winning posters.
 - Volunteers are needed to help with set up of speaking and poster contest. Also looking for anyone who might be able to help figure out the Socio platform. If interested in helping, please contact Tracy or Kim.
- Speaking Contest (Arnold)
 - Local, Area, State
 - All forms and videos submitted by Feb 12, 2021
 - Local & Area Speaking Contests:
 - Not a lot of entries for speaking contest this year.
 - State Speaking Contest:

- There is a separate link for the speaking contest forms. It is set up similar to the poster contest forms.
 - Lisa had an issue with two videos that she was trying to send to the state comp. She tried submitting using the google form but it did not work on the first try. The videos are web link not a movie file.
- Winning speeches will be judged and selected prior to the conference and then made available to view online via socio. Judging for state will be week of Feb. 15th (tentatively set). Poster & Speaking contest subcommittee will need to meet to get judging and platform set up.

10:45 am Envirothon

- Virtual State event 2021, April 14-15 virtual testing, 2021 April 16th current issue presentations.
 - A link will be sent to the team captains. Once the link is clicked to open the test, the test begins. Tests have a time limit and that begins once the link is opened.
 - There will be 45 minutes allotted for each test.
 - The links will be available for two days and they will be accessible 24/7 during that time.
 - If they have questions during the test, are there station captains available to answer?
 - Nobody will be available to answer questions.
 - Kim will reach out to Envirothon contacts and will ask other states about how they handle this issue.
 - Current issue will be presented via zoom on April 16th.
 - Kim sent out a save the date to advisors and has only heard back from one. We will need to all help to promote this one.
 - DPI will send out info to schools and teachers.
 - Social Media Post for WI Envirothon Facebook page, please share via your county Facebook page.
 - Check in with any of your teachers to see if they are interested in participating.
- Subcommittee updates
 - Converting test to online format
 - Using virtual a platform called “classmarker”. With this platform, we can add pictures, videos, and create multiple formats for question formatting. (Cool platform!)
 - Talked to different states that held virtual competitions last year to make sure this is a good format. We are staying in contact with other states to get feedback and ask questions.
 - Team and individual options to participate
 - Working to promote Envirothon to more students. Opportunity to try the test out to get an idea of what Envirothon is like.
 - Offer relief for teachers by offering Envirothon competition to class. Option to compete as individual or class at state if they want. Individual will not participate in the current issue component. However, in order to advance to nationals, must be a team.
 - No official decision has been made on nationals competition yet. Everything is posted as if it will be in person event. Nationals has been encouraging states to go virtual so we expect that nationals will end up virtual but no decision has been posted yet.
- County sponsorships (\$55)
 - Dues came out in December

- Due received \$430.00
 - \$55.00 from Marquette, Wood, Iowa, Langlade, St.Croix, Washburn
 - \$100.00 from Clark
 - \$300.00 from the Lake Winebago Area
- There will be no map of shame since budgets are tight this year. Please feel free to respectively reach out to your county for support.
- Funds from last year will be rolled over for this year's event. We expect that costs will be lower since it is virtual.

11:00 am YEC Area Representatives Updates (Egner)

- Northwestern-Lisa Burns, Washburn Co
 - Lisa: 132 posters and 33 speakers. For state 4-6 and 7-9 move onto state. One poster for each division move onto State. County asked about silent auction map and felt bad about not contributing/being able to contribute. Unhappy about the map and how it portrays the county.
- West Central-Aleisha Miller, St. Croix Co
 - Pierce: 22 posters, St croix: 23 posters. Only have elementary speeches so far. Area contest scheduled for Feb 9th.
- Western- Sarah McDowell, Vernon Co
- Southern-Justine Bula, Sauk Co
 - Justine: No speeches for Southern Area. A teacher asked about a digital poster option. (This has been brought up before but will not be allowed in the poster competition, a separate contest would be needed for a digital poster).
- Southeastern-Stephanie Egner-Washington Co
 - Stephanie: Four counties participated in poster competition, with more than 200 entries. Area contest will be coming up and will use google forms. Most counties hosted an in person contest. No speeches this year but has never been big in the area.
- Lake Winnebago-Megan Steckelberg, Adams Co
 - Megan: 7 counties for poster competition and 1 for speaking. Contest going on until January 29th.
- Lake Michigan-Lee Jennings, Brown Co
 - Lee: 4 counties participate in poster contest, no speaking entries
- North Central-Patty Benedict, Portage Co
 - Patty: Area meeting & contest will be January 27th. There have been 38 posters at county and 2 speakers move on. Area 4 counties participate in poster, 2 speaking contest counties. 2 speeches going on from North Central and posters for every division.
- Area reps: please get participation numbers for each grade level and complete the form and report each county and their levels to Tracy.
 - Tracy has not gotten any forms yet. These numbers get submitted to nationals and are needed to submit the entries to the national's competition.

11:25 am Silent Auction-Megan Steckelberg-Adams Co/ Karyn Eckert-Taylor Co/ Kim Warkentin-WI L+W

- Welcome back and congratulations Megan!!!!
- Karyn provided an update:
 - Five items submitted so far. Please reach out to your county for participation. Will check with counties that have donated in the past and see if they are planning on donating. WE are competing with other fundraisers going on. There is the option to personally donate

items to silent auction if the county is unable to solicit donations. No need to start too early in February since we are still getting items.

- Tracy noted that camping gift certificates are great options (COVID safe activity). You can buy a gift certificate for however much you want and they can redeem it for a number of different things.
- Heather: Each year we put funds into our budget to purchase items from local businesses for silent auction. This can help support local businesses that have been struggling and hit hard during this time.
- Megan: email reminder to counties about getting items for auction.
 - Dates: February 19th as deadline to submit items, will not turn items away if they come in after that, they can still be added to the auction.
- Concerns were brought up over donation of hard to ship items and costs for shipping.
 - Possible solutions are to post items as available for in person pick up only and post location of the item.
 - An estimate on the cost of shipping should be included with the posting. Need to specify estimate on cost of shipping or if it will be available for pick up. County can be reimbursed for shipping charges, receipts need to be submitted to Kim. (WI Land & Water Reimbursement form).
 - Kim: make sure people have the correct reimbursement form. Include the form in email or post it on website.
- Kim: Gameification of auction to encourage more participation via the platform, just need more items to donate and bid on.
- Youth Ed Area Reps try to promote auction participation at area meetings.
- Reach out to Megan and Kayrn if you have any question or issues.

11:55 am Additional topics/projects/concerns

- Request for Kim to share email for Envirothon with Youth Ed group so that it can be forwarded onto any local contacts.

11:58 am Next meeting

- State Conference in March
- Need smaller committee meetings to get programs set up rather than full Youth Ed. committee
- Next Youth Ed committee meeting will be in May

11:41 am Adjourn

- Motion – Heather
- Second – Mary
- Motion Carried