

2021 AGLOW Fall Board Meeting
8:30 A.M. EST Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2021
Gaylord, Michigan

The AGLOW annual board of directors meeting was called to order at 8:38 EST Sept. 14, 2021 by Chairman Tim Lesmeister.

Roll Call: Present were: Chairman, Tim Lesmeister, President, Ken Perrotte, Vice President, Chris Sebastian, Treasurer, Trent Marsh, Secretary, Karen Lutto, Executive Director, Mark Smith, members, Joe Henry, Josh Lantz, Dena Vick, Mike Schoonveld, Scott Mackenthun and Shelley Crant.

On Conference Call: Barb Carey & Josh Huff

Motion by Trent Marsh and second by Ken Perrotte to approve and accept the minutes from the 2021 Spring Board Meeting in Punta Gorda, Florida.

Motion passed.

Motion by Josh Huff and second by Chris Sebastian to accept Officer and Committee Reports:

President's Report (Perrotte)

Vice President's Report (Sebastian)

Executive Directors Report (M. Smith)

Treasurer/Finance (M. Smith/Marsh)

Conference Committee Report 2021 (Perrotte)

AIC Committee Report (Sebastian)

Site Selection 2023 (M. Smith) – held until continued Board meeting Thursday, September 16, 2021 8:30 AM

High School Grant (Marsh)

Past Presidents (Lesmeister)

Toyota Scholarship (Lesmeister)

Ethics (Marsh/Zaleski)

Tourism (Zaleski)

Reports Discussions:

Conference Committee Report: Discussion led by Ken Perrotte about committee chairs and the need for more participation. Suggested that perhaps we have forms for committee participants to fill out. This is to be brought up at the general membership meeting.

Also discussed was that each committee should set goals at the mid-year Board meeting and discuss at the next Board meeting if these goals are being met.

Currently we have 18 standing committees of those only four are led by non-Board members.

Discussion was brought up about setting a goal of a 10 percent increase in membership. No decision was made.

By-Laws Report:

In order to move forward with the new restructured By-laws, it is necessary to post both the “old” and the “new” versions in Horizons for the general membership to view and approve. This will be done before the end of the year.

Action Item

Approval of New Members – Motion to Accept – Trent Marsh, Second Ken Perrotte.

Approval of Budget - Motion to Accept - Trent Marsh, Second Chris Sebastian

New Business:

1. Mike Schoonveld presented the idea of a Zoom meeting for the Board between each of currently scheduled meetings. He feels we need to touch base more than just 2x a year. Most Board members agreed that it may help us stay on target with the projects at hand. Committees can also plan meetings on their own between board meetings, as most Board members head up the committees.

2. Discussion continued making Executive Committee Member 2-year Terms. This needs to be put to a vote to the general membership. It will be sent via email to membership and posted in Horizons.

3. A dues restructure plan was discussed for 2022. It would offer a one year or 3 year membership with the three-year offering a \$50 savings. This would be for all levels of membership. Motion to accept – Ken Perrotte, Second Trent Marsh

Bid Presentations:

There were three presenters for the 2023 conference: Lake of the Woods (Joe Henry), Kentucky Lake (Elaina Blevins) and Bemidji (Brady Laudon). All three did excellent presentations, although Bemidji was missing some key elements which would have to be addressed before a final decision could be made.

Discussions on the Pros and Cons of each of the sites were made.

Lake of the Woods: Pros: Always a great destination with a plethora of hunting and fishing opportunities. They are familiar with hosting these events and truly cater to the needs of the group. Cons: The conference was held there in 2017 and 2008.

Kentucky Lake: Pros: New updated facility, easy airport access, good off-site opportunities for hunting, tours, not a dry county any longer. Cons: Asian carp; crappie and bass fishing still need some time to come back.

Bemidji: Pros: Never been here, great fishing & hunting, eager to host us. Cons: May need to work a little harder with them as this is a new venue.

It was decided that individually the Board would talk to the membership and ask which site they would like to see host AGLOW in 2023 and why. The Board would reconvene on Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. to vote.

Thursday, September 16, 2021

Bid Presentation

Discussion on the three bid presentations began. It was announced the Bemidji would cover its conference room fees which was initially a key issue. This put it on par with the costs of the other two sites. All sites would work out dates to coincide with duck/grouse/deer or other hunting seasons.

Mike Schoonveld pled a case for going back to Lake of the Woods and all it had to offer. He did not see a problem with being there three times in 15 years.

Discussions about having Lake of the Woods and Bemidji work together for pre- and post- trips if one or the other got the conference was brought up. This would allow the attendees and the venues the opportunity to take advantage of the conference being in the area.

Board members shared thoughts on feedback they got from discussions with the general membership meeting. It appeared that Lake of the Woods and Bemidji were the popular choices with Bemidji leading the pack. A Board vote was taken – 1 Lake of the Woods, 10 – Bemidji.

Discussion regarding diversity – Toyota has offered to expand its scholarship to allow AGLOW to use it as a recruiting tool to bring new members from diverse backgrounds. We have to be very careful on how this is handled and worded. Board members will tap various sources to come up with legal terminology and approaches before moving forward.

A recruitment committee for underrepresented groups will be set up once we have approved terminology.

Motion to adjourn.