

Spring Meeting of the Forestry Scholarship Association

Missoula, MT – The Press Box

April 22, 2012, 1200 - 1600

Present:

Cory Noordermeer – President

Alyssa Stewart – Secretary

Rachel Kinkie

Jonah Vaughan – 96th Foresters' Ball Push

Eric Hoberg – President Elect

Alex Williams – Board Chair

Beth Dodson – Treasurer

John Fidler – Board Member

Ben Super – Board Memeber

Cindy Super

Shannon Agner – Student Board Member

Ken Plourde – Student Board Member

Mac Bones

Jeanne Bradley

Action Items are bolded

Foresters' Ball Update

Student leadership met with the UM administration April 14th and presented their strategic plan outlining changes for the 96th Foresters' Ball. The meeting went well and the administration was responsive to the plan, but the outcome is uncertain. They are still waiting for the administration to get back to them.

Current Committee Updates

1. Careers in Natural Resources Fair (Alex)
 - a. Haven't done any formal outreach yet, waiting on decision about 96th Ball
 - b. Alex emailed school superintendents, but not a lot of discussion yet on the viability of the Friday afternoon high-school student career fair. It seemed to Alex that the decision would be up to the principals of the high schools
 - i. Even if we don't get high school students in the first year, we could make this an event useful for university students
 - ii. We could help with bus cost, probably a donation from Beach if necessary
2. Family Forestry Day (Alyssa)
 - a. No update.
3. Alumni Mixer/Fundraiser (Cory)
 - a. Pricing seems doable
 - b. Initial thought was to do it on campus, but keeping the student message of alcohol-free event is more important. Considering moving off campus – Doubletree, Tower, etc. Formalized social hour, dinner, silent auction.
 - i. Ben - But, it is important to get alumni to Ball to see it. Having a keg of beer there is within university rules as an alumni event. (2-5 time period?)
 1. Need to curb over-drinking, propose a cap on alcohol
 - ii. Campus prices:
 1. Domestic keg \$180, import/micro \$250, corkage fee \$200/keg – those fees include server + gratuity
 2. To get the permit for alcohol, must have food. Don't necessarily have to pay for the food, though, we could have food donated. Catering services contact is supporter of the Foresters' Ball, will work with us.
 - a. Tower?
 - c. Sell tickets for the event
 - d. Need ideas for silent auction items
 - e. Split proceeds 50-50 between FSA and Ball

- i. 50% to Ball to offset any reduction in Ball revenue

Discussion:

1. These events are worth pursuing, regardless of the Ball's future on campus. They could continue on or off campus.
2. Note: CC the secretary on committee updates, etc. so we can keep an official record. Cory/Alyssa will send out updates to the membership as needed.

Action: Keep doing legwork on events. CC the secretary with updates.

By-Laws

1. Line-by-line discussion – sections only listed if there was discussion of them, otherwise accepted as-is
 - a. 2.02 Powers
 - i. Can students on the Board of Directors receive scholarships from this organization? – Per Rachel, probably, as long as they're not on the scholarship committee, but she will check.
 - ii. If students on the BOD are members of an organization that receives funds from the FSA, is there a conflict of interest? – Per Rachel, no, but should discuss a conflict of interest policy. (section 7.02)
 - b. 2.03 Nonprofit Status
 - i. Have EIN number, Rachel is waiting for dust to settle to file 501c(3) paperwork
 - ii. Will file paperwork for bank account @ Missoula Federal Credit Union, President & Treasurer, and a board member will have access
 - c. 3.01 Number of Directors
 - i. Have not yet identified faculty member for director position, so will allow community representative OR faculty member. Important to have odd number of directors to avoid ties.
 1. Community representative could be member of FSA, but aim for someone outside the college/industry/etc.
 - d. 3.05 Removal of Directors
 - i. Did not elect a board chair as referenced here.
 - ii. Alex nominated and elected as Board Chair.
 - e. 3.06 BOD Meetings
 - i. While things are getting settled, we foresee more meetings than just 4/year
 1. Regular meetings changed from February, April, September, December
 - a. April meeting coincide with Show?
 2. Take out specific months and just say quarterly meetings
 - f. 3.07 Voting
 - i. Alex working on members section on website for voting etc.
 - g. 3.09 Annual Corporate Meeting, Board Elections
 - i. Spring – show meeting (April/May) in order to keep Ball/Clubs officers and BOD on same cycle.
 1. elect BOD over Ball week
 2. install at show meeting, officers elected by BOD then
 - h. 5.01 Creation of Committees and Appointment of Committee Members
 - i. We will not require a director to be on each committee as they are acting on behest of the BOD & with their approval
 - i. 7.01 Books and Records

- i. Make sure Alyssa/secretary is CC'd on emails where decisions are made so she can keep book/records
2. **We will get an edited version of the by-laws out via email for the BOD to approve. Will present to the general membership for voting around May 15, give membership until June 1 to vote.**
 - a. **Rachel & Beth should be able to meet June 1 deadline.**

Board Members

1. We need to fill 2 board member positions – should we do it now, or wait until the next elections next spring.
 - a. Per Rachel, it would be better if they were filled now instead of waiting
 - b. OK to appoint – as they would be on the interim board, and there is no official membership yet
 - c. Will have official BOD elections next April/May
 - i. **Alyssa will develop visual “flow chart” for how succession/elections will happen for the next few cycles**
 - d. Beth thinks we can get a faculty member by mid-May after the semester is over, if not accepted by a faculty member, we can find a community member or other alumni to fill the position
 - i. Ben Super has an idea of community members
 - ii. Fid has an idea of alumni members
 - iii. Outreach to faculty in the Fall looking for April nominations
 - e. Jeanne Bradley nominated for fourth general membership position, she will think it over and get back to us.
 - f. **The BOD is OK with proceeding with five directors in the interim.**

Non-Profit Status

1. We are in need of donations now in order to get business going.
2. Per Rachel, we can get donations in trust that we will get a 501(c)3 and the stipulations that:
 - a. if we don't, we'll give the money back OR they can say don't worry about it
 - b. they understand they might not be able to write off the donation for 2012 if we don't get non-profit status in 2012, they might have to wait until 2014 for 2013 taxes
 - c. **Rachel and Beth will develop a form for people to agree with those stipulations**
3. We cannot take loans to get started, but grants are OK.
4. The IRS will allow back-dating 15-18 months from the time we get tax-free status.

Membership & Finances

1. Fees - \$35/annually
2. Lifetime membership
 - a. 10 x yearly fee = \$350?
 - i. **Beth will look at other organizations and compare lifetime membership rates**
3. Student members
 - a. Need to address in conflict of interest policy.
 - b. Would have different fee.
 - i. \$10 fee
 - c. Perks: networking, resume builder
4. Perks of membership:
 - a. Newsletter

- i. 4 x year, post-meetings
 - ii. via email
 - b. Alumni Mixer, Homecoming events at reduced cost for members
 - c. Member Card
 - d. Travel to meetings can be written off on taxes
- 5. Sustaining member
 - a. Automatic reoccurring monthly donation
 - b. Good to look at in the future
- 6. Tax deduction
 - a. Annual base-level fees are not tax-deductible
 - b. Lifetime, sustaining, above-and-beyond donations are tax-deductible.
 - c. **Beth will explore this with the accountants.**
- 7. Until tax status is determined, only offer annual memberships.
- 8. Information gathered:
 - a. Name
 - b. Address
 - c. Contact Info
 - d. Optional questions
 - i. Affiliation – current student, former student, parent of student, industry member, etc.
 - 1. For tracking purposes only, not classification of members
 - 2. Leave blank on form, but give example
 - ii. Employer?
- 9. Have membership information up on website ASAP
 - a. Alex is current webmaster, delegated by secretary
- 10. Alex and Cindy Super will work on a handout about the FSA and membership options, direct people to the website to have in hand for Forestry Days.**

Insurance

- 1. Alex and Cory will make contact about insurance options.**

Finances:

- 1. Getting closer to bank account, should have in the next week.
- 2. Accounting system – wait until after April 15 (tax day) to get things setup, will be mid-May before that happens.

Committees

- 1. Finance and Audit Committee nominated:
 - a. Beth Dodson
 - b. Ken Plourde
 - c. Will outreach for additional membership when general membership is bigger
- 1. Governance and Nominating Committee
 - a. Ben Super
 - b. John Fidler
 - c. Alyssa Stewart
- 2. Membership and Marketing Committee
 - a. Alex Williams
 - b. Cory Nordemeer
 - c. Jeanne Bradley

- d. Shannon Agner
- e. Committee members above will get together to brainstorm ideas for Homecoming, Graduation, Foresters' Ball, Forestry Days
 - i. Homecoming Committee – Ben Super is chair
 - ii. Fall Membership Drive in conjunction with Homecoming Sept. 22
 - 1. Friday event
- f. 3 Subcommittees
 - i. Careers in Forestry Fair
 - 1. Alex, Hoberg
 - ii. Family Forestry Day
 - 1. Neil, Alyssa
 - iii. Alumni Mixer
 - 1. Fid, Beth, Cory

Logo

- 1. Would like a logo without the Forestry tree on it, as inclusive as possible of all the CFC groups
 - a. Try a diploma with a branch on it – Hoberg's idea
 - b. Moose?
- 2. T-shirt shop?
- 3. 99 Logos - \$300 to have someone to design it for us
- 4. **Will have general membership input and decision on logo.**

Newsletter/Magazine

- 1. First publication to go along with fall membership drive – either pre or post, aim for simple edition September 1st.
- 2. Let membership drive newsletter content, make sure we publish student events, etc.
 - a. Post-event, put up pictures

Planned Meeting Dates

- 1. Next meeting tentatively set for June 2 from 10-2, location TBD.
- 2. **Cory will look at conference call/web options for those that can't make it in person.**
- 3. Possible Meeting locations:
 - a. The Press Box
 - b. Missoula Public Library
- 4. Meeting after that tentatively August 11 or 13.
 - a. Conference call/email possibility.