

**Planning Focus Committee
December Quarterly Board
December 9, 2013
Northfield Inn & Suites – Springfield, Illinois**

Present:

Van Bitner, Chairman
Judy Beyers, Auxiliary
David McCormick
Roger Johnson
Kara Downin, ISWCDEA Co-Chair
Cindy Moon, District Employee
Sherry Finn, AISWCD
Steve Fulling
Marie Bunting, Auxiliary President

Absent:

Tom Beyers
Colleen Bogner, Auxiliary
Jody Christiansen, NRCS
Terry Davis
Tess Ferguson, Auxiliary
Darrell Roegge
Marty McManus, IDOA
Mike Rahe, IDOA
Dale Shumaker

Van Bitner called the meeting to order at 1:20 pm.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by David McCormick, seconded by Roger Johnson, to approve the agenda. MCVV

Meeting Minutes from June 2013 FAC meeting

A motion was made by Roger Johnson, seconded by David McCormick, to approve the minutes of the March 2013 FAC meeting minutes. MCVV

Partner Reports

No partners attended the meeting.

Annual Meeting Update.

The auction proceeds totaled \$6,182.00. The Auxiliary are happy with the figures for the Soil Stewardship Luncheon. Complaints were made on Director Training; there was no microphone system, and no disk for the training at the morning session. Chairman Bitner ask committee members to think of themes, the task force will be having a conference call in January. The possibility of revising the Farm Family Award application was discussed. The possibility of perhaps awarding a Farm Family award only every other year and having another venue in the off year was discussed. Another scenario would be two groups of eight Land Use Councils (odds and evens) would submit entries every other year. The information needs to go back to the Land Use Councils to get there feedback on this. Whatever the outcome, the changes wouldn't be effective until 2015. Marie Bunting stressed the Farm Family must be recognized more than they were in 2013. After traveling to Springfield, the winners should not just be recognized on the screen.

New Business

Outstanding District Employee Award – The outstanding employee will be awarded at Winter Training, and recognized again the following summer at Summer Conference.

There will be no one recognized at the 2014 Summer Conference, since there was award given at the 2013 Winter Training. The scholarship winner, which is sponsored by the ISWCDEA, will be awarded during Summer Conference. **A motion was made by Roger Johnson, seconded by Steve Fulling, that AISWCD provide two luncheon tickets for the Outstanding Employee when applicable, and also for the scholarship winner. MCVV.**

Annual Meeting Date, Location, Registration – A motion was made by Steve Fulling, seconded by Roger Johnson to recommend holding the Annual Meeting at the Northfield Inn on July 28 & 29, 2014. MCVV. A motion was made by Steve Fulling, seconded by Roger Johnson to recommend establishing the following registration fees. MCVV.

- Early Bird Registration April 15 – May 15 -- \$40.00
- Registration May 15 – June 30 -- \$45.00
- Registration July 1 – 8 -- \$55.00

Sessions by IDOA, ISWCDEA, and IAAP were discussed. The task force will ask for board approval on making other scheduling decisions, etc. for Summer Conference. Sherry Finn reported the Parliamentarian has already been booked for 2014. A suggestion was also made to start the Opening Ceremonies at 8:30, but a formal recommendation was not made. The Annual Meeting Task force will meet by conference call January 9th, with possibly a backup date of January 23rd, if another call is needed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Minutes taken and transcribed by:

Cindy Moon