

MOAFS EXCOM Meeting- Minutes

9.22.2023

Attending:

Tom Boersig	Ben Havens	Chris Rice
Emily Tracy-Smith	Jacob Westhoff	Jen Girondo
Joe McMullen	Kat Lackman	Joe Dillard
Mike Allen	Eric Rahm	

Committee reports

a. Anglers with Disabilities

Mary Scott

- Had about 30 people attend the fishing event at Rolla Lions Club, very good day with lots of happy participants. Mary will be passing along photos to Communications Committee
- Would like to request \$1200 in next year's budget for T-shirts and fish

b. Awards

Jacob Westhoff

- Jacob is working with Kat on Award's nomination solicitation

c. Chapter Historian

Joe Dillard

- Joe requests Committee Chairs get updates to him for inclusion in our Archives housed at the State Historical Society of Missouri.

d. CFM Liaison

Eric Rahm

- CFM is currently in the process of Board elections
- Eric attended CFM Affiliate Summit, 80+ people in attendance, 60+ affiliates
- Eric's term is up as Board Member, plans to run again

- Each affiliate gets a single vote (voting after the beginning of the year)
- Newsletter/email push about CFM elections
- MOAFS affiliate membership with CFM is being updated by Chris Rice

e. Continuing Education

Brad Farwell

- Assisting with MNRC Job Fair in 2023
- Matt Acre (USGS) and Brad are planning to visit the AFS Subunits and hosting a life skills workshop- how to apply for jobs, interview skills, working with groups.
- Would welcome any ideas or help that someone has
- *Tom added that MOAFS has been discussing with Chris Riggert some partnership opportunities for trainings and workshops in the future.*

f. Finance

Ben Havens

g. Information Technology/Website

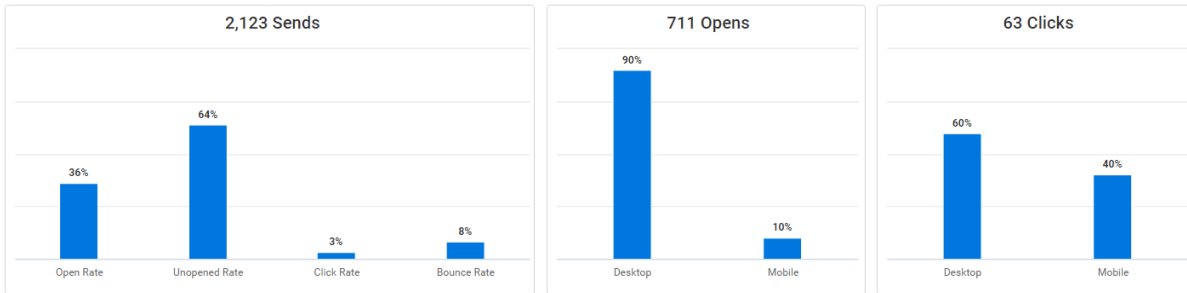
Kat Lackman/Alex
Prentice

- No updates
- President's message will be sent out
- *Joe Dillard asked what our subscription rate is*
 - Kat said everyone who is an active member receives email updates.*
 - Can look at Constant Contact for more detailed information as far as interaction/engagement*

Overview

A look at some of your top emailing stats during the selected time range.

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Trends

Compare your stats over time and across your industry during the selected time range.

Your open rate:	36%	Your click rate:	3%
vs. previous 30 days	-1% ↘	vs. previous 30 days	-1% ↘
vs. industry average	-7% ↘	vs. industry average	+1% ↗

h. Newsletter

Emily Tracy-Smith/Dan Metcalf

- Started pulling and sorting information: what goes into newsletter, what needs immediate dissemination.
- Prioritize more timely communication/updates with membership.
- *Joe Dillard asked about when and where to pull information to archive*
 - a. *Print physical copies of newsletters/updates for archives.*
- *Kat mentioned the value of having the website and email as complementary platforms*
 - a. *Can use Constant Contact to send automatic reminders to EXCOM regarding updates, reports, deadlines, etc.*

i. Legislative Concerns

Emily Tracy-Smith

- No updates at the moment, legislative session begins in January.

- Following Mary Culler (Stream Teams United) and CFM.
- Can push for other topics through Legislative Concerns- RAWA, for example.

j. Membership

Jenna Stiek

- A few renewals, made sure they are included on email list.

k. MNRC Steering Committee

Mike Allen

- Mike and April Sevy are communicating with the 2024 MNRC group
- Meeting at Margaritaville in late October
- Changes
 - a. Outside food is no longer allowed, increased budget
- Has folks assigned to Treasurer, Registration, Presentations, Programs, Arrangements, Job Fair, and Website.
 - a. Needs help with Publicity, A/V, Exhibitors
 - i. *Joe McMullen volunteered to assist with Publicity*

l. Publicity

Joe McMullen

- Booth space has been reserved for MNRC, same spot as we've had historically

m. Rivers and Streams

Amy Meier/Kiah Wright

- No updates

n. Student Support

Jen Girondo

- Jen is reaching out to Subunits about upcoming scholarship opportunities, as well as with the Scholarship selection committee

- SEMO Subunit appears inactive; have received some interest from other universities about starting a Subunit.
- *Joe Dillard asked if we could check with Subunits to see if they would be interested in submitting materials to be archived.*
- *Eric Rahm mentioned he is working with the UCM Subunit on a panel discussion with MOAFS members in late October.*
- o. Student Subunit reports
 - i. University of Missouri
 - No report
 - ii. Missouri State
 - No report
 - iii. University of Central Missouri
 - No report

2.) New Business

Committee vacancies

- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
- Historian
- Rivers and Streams?
- Others?
- *Tom Boersig mentioned that if you're interested in other Committee positions, know of anyone interested in serving on a Committee, or would like help on your Committee, let him know.*

Membership involvement

- *Tom Boersig brought up the possibility of hosting a MOAFS happy hour between the end of the Business Meeting and the Awards Ceremony.*
- *Mike Allen offered to assist with planning, looking at on-site options*

MRNC 2024 and 2025

- Timeline and Business Meeting room reservations
- Call for papers/presentations
 - o Sponsored session? Workshops?
- MOAFS Booth
- Officer/Award Nominations
- 2025 Planning
- *Eric Rahm mentioned Tom Boersig had mentioned putting together a grantwriting workshop, either for the 2024 meeting or when MOAFS hosts. CFM had a professional grantwriter come to their meeting and present a workshop, and this may be a good contact in the future.*

Poster sales update

Eric Rahm

- Poster sales slowed down this summer
- MOAFS spent \$2632.73, has had \$3325 in sales, yielding about \$625 in profit
- Sold 31 full sets, 87 individual posters, and had several donations where individuals paid for a full set but only bought one or a few posters.
- At least 50-60 copies of each poster still remaining, some have more.
- Open to providing them to educational groups
- *Tom Boersig mentioned some of the Master Naturalist groups at the River Soundings conference in St. Louis were interested in getting posters.*

Communications Committee Update

- Structure and purpose
- Website
- Addressed during Newsletter update

Directory of Aquatic Workers

- We've got the ball rolling on this with Tom, Kat, and Jenna
- Form created; will go out with President's message

- Hoping to have a digital copy available to members at 2024 Business Meeting. May print some copies.
- *Joe Dillard asked if efforts were underway to reach out to non-AFS members for inclusion in the Directory of Aquatic Workers. He will look into our archives at the State Historical Society to see how that was done in the past. May be an opportunity to recruit new members.*

Student Support and Engagement

- Scholarship announcements and timeline
 - o Will put out scholarship announcements this fall
- MNRC poster/presentation judges
 - o *Jen Gironde mentioned she's had support from Chapter members with poster/presentation judging, but typically has to ask.*
 - o Call for volunteers through newsletter/email
 - o Opportunity for early-career professionals to get involved with MOAFS
- MNRC booth volunteers
- Seed money for Subunits?
- Virtual Subunit
 - o *Tom Boersig mentioned this had been brought up at the Midwest conference in February. May provide opportunities for students to engage/get answers from Chapter members directly. It's been on the back burner, but he'd like to work on it this winter.*
- SSTF strategy
 - o Open to re-starting discussion
 - *Chris Rice mentioned the tradeoffs between maximizing performance vs. sustainably funding SSTF and weathering economic downturns. Need to decide which approach suits our needs*
 - *Tom Boersig mentioned efforts to revisit and finalize the Student Support Trust Fund Plan.*

- *Eric Rahm mentioned his work reaching out to the UCM Subunit and setting aside scheduled time to get folks in the room.*
 - *Students appreciate opportunities to get folks out in the field, may not be receiving those opportunities on campus.*
 - *Jen Girondo mentioned reviving the Student Field Day MOAFS hosted with TWS*
 - *Kyle Winders was the lead on MOAFS' end; reach out to him*
 - *Talk to Lauren Hildreth and Jordan Meyer with TWS to see if they're willing/able to re-start the event*

Bylaws/Operations Manual Update

- Joe Dillard has been working on Operations Manual updates
- Tom Boersig will be tackling the Bylaws as Past-President next year
 - Emailing/meeting with Committee Chairs individually, see what's working, what isn't, what needs to be amended/included/changed

Other Action Items/Deadlines:

- Tom will check in with Ben Havens about attending the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference and acting as the MOAFS representative to NCD.

Open discussion and new ideas

- Mike Allen mentioned he's on the Resource Management and Training Committee with MDC
 - Looking at hosting a training conference during FY25, looking at venues across the state
 - Interest from MDC in having professional societies help sponsor the event.