



# GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CONNECTICUT

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## BOD Meeting Agenda

May 6, 2024

Woodard & Curran, Middletown

4:30-6:00 pm

Refreshments [MM]

NH, MM, MS, JC, PR, JS, PD, SP; Remote; CI Absent; CG, RL

Start 16:37 NH

### Minutes [MM]

- 3/4/2024 Board Meeting – Approved as distributed PD, JC

### Treasury Report [SP]

- SP reached out to Weebly, and they requested additional information (email address, site address URL). SP to inform RL of expected correspondence.
- There was some discrepancy on the field trip registration roster. There were people who attended and were not members/membership lapsed. Details to be reviewed for who owes money for the trip.
- Additional details that SP will review are membership status, PayPal payment notes. PR to send Wild Apricot login information.

### Correspondence [RL]

- RL absent, but PR indicated that there were some PayPal notifications and field trip related questions.

### Website/Google Drive/Google Workspace update [PR]

Google for Nonprofits setup – no update

### Standing Committee Reports

#### Program Committee [RL, JS, CG, NH]

##### Spring Field Trip debrief

- Went well. Number of stops had to be reduced because of interactions at earlier stops. Attendees know to send photos to JC, Lindsey for website, and NH will add Drew's photos to Google Drive. Field guides will be distributed to those who have not attended next time we see them (unclaimed name tags to be attached to guidebooks). Other possible places to sell/distribute guide are CT River Museum.

### **EPOC Field Trip in June**

- The structure of the course will begin with an hour lecture before the trip and with field component to follow.
- The trip is expected to generate \$8000 for GSC (\$4000 x 2 courses). Purpose is for continued education for LEPs, and opportunity to generate more membership. The trip is at capacity. Fee money delivery will be coordinated among Seth and NH.
- The guidebook for this course is different than the Spring Field trip (stops are similar, but only focusing on glacial geology in CT using the River Valley as a way to explain the geology).
- Question: Should the guidebook for this course be published with a different ISBN #? Yes.
  - Difference between guidebook 4 and the new guidebook is that the stops are different – subtitle distinguishes the two books. It would help if the subtitle was presented next to the title.
  - MS to edit the copy to include new ISBN number, title reformat, footer with title/volume. Will coordinate with JS for additional details.

### **September 14<sup>th</sup> Field Trip by Paul Olsen/BBQ**

- MM will remind CG that he will be the one to coordinate with Paul. Things to confirm with Paul – date, field guide, structure of trip (# attendees, permits for stops, location) etc.
  - Ideal location will be DSP.
- Program committee will reconvene discussions about additional logistics.
- For News Blast, if trip date is September, July 1 will be an ideal time to send “save the date” with registration notification sent in August.

### **Annual Meeting plans**

#### **Location, Speaker, JWP award**

- Possible locations
  - Peabody – Website has information about available rooms. Fees might be determined on if we have Yale affiliated speaker.
  - CT Science Center
  - Wesleyan
  - Meig’s Point
  - Avery Point
  - Fort Trumbull – MM will be there this May and can send quick update to committee about site layout.

- Speaker
  - JS and PR indicated that Joop Varekamp and Ellen Thomas could give a talk about the Long Island Sound and marsh history.
- JWP candidate was discussed and likely confirmed. PR to look into award purchase.

## **Membership [PR, MS]**

### **Wild Apricot update**

- System for payment will be changed in the summer (ideally June). Will loop Lindsey in for logistics.

### **Membership levels and renewal cycle**

- PR to follow-up with those who indicated discrepancies and difficulties with registration.
- Some common issues could be remembering which email is associated with the account, when payment was submitted, option to have invoice sent in lieu of immediate payment, etc.
- PR has been cleaning up inactive emails.
- Committee will reconvene meeting about additional details.

## **Communication & Education [JC, PD, MM]**

### **News Blasts**

- For announcements of field trips, picnic, etc., it should be sent to all contacts (even if not members) to encourage renewal of their membership. JC will look into archive emails.
- See fall picnic announcement timeline in Program Committee section above.

### **Scholarships**

- There were no applications for the scholarship. Throughout the history of the grant, we have awarded those who applied (2-4 applications). This was a “dry” year, and some possible factors could be student motivation, retiring faculty not as invested, new faculty who do not have focus in CT, timing of scholarship announcements, faculty membership lapse, etc.
- Possible solutions
  - Make deadline in the fall and if there are no applicants, the process can be reopened in the spring. Fall deadline will broaden possibilities of money from the applicant’s point of view.
  - Open the scholarships twice a year – debatable depending on the school, funding (should have surplus of \$1000).
    - Travel dedicated award (perhaps for a smaller amount) with same criteria could be competitive.

- Considerations – if we have a lot of applicants, the abstract can be reviewed and students can provide a statement of how the funding is meaningful to the project. Possible amount for award could be \$250 (GSA student membership is about \$100 + travel).
- Marketing – it is hard to communicate with students directly. Possibilities could be to reach out to geology clubs, post flyers at universities, display poster at annual meeting.
- Increase scholarship amount. SP indicated that we could go up to \$750, but if we increase, it cannot be reduced back down.
- Committee to contemplate possibilities and report back in July meeting.
- Also briefly discussed reconvening the Academic Advisory Committee at a meeting to be scheduled for Sept/Oct as another outreach method.

### **Nomination Committee [PR]**

#### **2024 candidate search**

- Historically, there have been 3 members in this committee.
- PR will reach out to those who are up for re-election. Committee will convene as necessary.

### **Other Business and Ideas for 2024 not otherwise discussed in Committee Reports?**

#### **Dinosaur State Park updates [MM]:**

##### **Store collaboration**

- MM will continue to coordinate with store manager as needed.
- Manager indicated that they are interested in 2024 field guides. MM will coordinate with MS for 6 copies to bring to DSP. MS will ask Matte about past sales with DEEP store.

##### **DSP Day August 3<sup>rd</sup>**

- Seeking volunteer to be point of contact with DSP for this event. Possible attendees SP, NH.
- MS looking for volunteers to put rock kits together to sell – possibly have volunteer day for members (general or BOD).
  - Requests for samples: Littleton schist, Cleavelandite, MS to send inventory.

#### **Thank-you gifts for departing BoD members (for last 2 years?)**

- PR searched and saw that there is no mini version of the JWP award.
- Other possible items: beer pints, local potter to make custom mugs, custom Yeti, t-shirts.
- There are 4 recent BOD retirees.

- Likely gift will be custom Yeti. MM to look into this.

**Raffle donations**

- Should solicit sooner rather than later. Will discuss in July.

**Next BoD meeting = July (Doodle Poll to be sent out by NH)**

**End 18:21 PR, SP**

Edits incorporated – NH 5/7/24