

North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
2016 Business Meeting
Institute for Advanced Learning & Research Center
Danville, VA

March 16 2016

1. Call to Order, Kim Sparks, President
 - a. Meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m.
2. Determination of Quorum, Bryn H. Tracy, Secretary/Treasurer
 - a. A quorum of at least 20 paid 2016 members was present
3. Welcome and Introductions, Kim Sparks, President
 - a. AFS Parent Society EXCOM in attendance – none
 - b. AFS Past President(s) in Attendance – Fred Harris
 - c. AFS Southern Division and Past-President(s) in attendance – Dave Coughlan (President-Elect) and Fred Harris
 - i. Comments by Dave Coughlan
 1. Reminder to submit Change of Officers form to SDAFS and AFS
 2. Future SDAFS & AFS national meetings
 - a. 2016 – Kansas City, MO
 - b. 2017 – Oklahoma City, OK and Tampa, FL
 - c. 2018 – Puerto Rico & Atlantic City, NJ
 - d. 2019 – Texas & Reno, NV
 - e. 2020 – Arkansas & Columbus, OH
 3. Consider NC AFS members to donate money to NC AFS and SD AFS from their estates
 - d. NC AFS Past-Presidents in Attendance – Mike Abney, Greg Cope, Dave Coughlan, John Crutchfield, Lawrence Dorsey, Brena Jones, Tom Kwak, Wilson Laney, Jim Rice, Christian Waters, and Chris Wood
4. February 2015 Business Meeting Minutes, Kim Sparks, President
 - a. Motion to Approve – Mike Swing
 - b. 2nd Motion to Approve – Ani Popp
 - c. Vote to Approve – Unanimous
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Program and Arrangements, Mike Gangloff, President-Elect and Chair
 - i. Sponsors – thanks to all sponsors (read list of sponsors)
 - ii. Attendance – 68 Chapter Members, 21 non-Chapter Members
 - b. Education and Outreach, Chris Wood, Chair
 - i. Future workshops – need new ideas and a poll will be conducted to determine members interest
 - c. Nominations, Brena Jones, Chair and Past-President, report to be published in the 2016 Spring newsletter
 - i. 42 paid members voted for President – Corey Oakley vs. Jake Rash
 - ii. President-elect – Corey Oakley

- d. Newsletter, Kevin Hining, Chair, report to be published in the 2016 Spring newsletter
 - e. Environmental Concerns, Ben Ricks, Chair, report to be published in the 2016 Spring newsletter
 - f. Webmaster/Communications, Brena Jones, Member and Past-President, report to be published in the 2016 Spring newsletter
 - g. Finance Committee, Bryn H. Tracy, Secretary/Treasurer, report to be published in the 2016 Spring newsletter
 - h. Awards, John Crutchfield, Chair, report to be published in the 2016 Spring newsletter
6. Secretary Treasurer Report, Bryn H. Tracy, Secretary/Treasurer
 7. Finance Survey Results, Bryn H. Tracy, Secretary/Treasurer
 - a. PowerPoint presentation was made (see attachments)
 - b. Solicit information/opinions from Chapter members using specific/targeted e-mails rather than surveys
 - c. Discussion on survey: suggestions from membership
 - i. Use money for travel grants for undergraduates and graduate students
 - ii. Use money in matching grants for land acquisitions
 - iii. Use money for retirees to attend national meeting (this option is already in place)
 8. NCSU Student Fisheries Subunit, Tiffany Penland, Co-President
 - a. Summary of activities that took place in 2016 -- stream clean-ups, Shad in the Classroom, Yates Mill Pond, Snorklepallooza, fish identification workshops, and social events
 - b. Upcoming events for 2016 -- Family Fishing Fiesta, Project Wild, and working with a high school in Wilmington on boat electro fishing
 9. Little Tennessee Snorkeling Project Proposal, Fred Harris, North Carolina Wildlife Federation and NC AFS Member
 - a. Funding proposal hand been distributed via e-mail to members prior to annual meeting for review and discussion
 - b. Fred gave an overview of the proposal requesting full funding (\$6,385) for the project which will buy wet suits and other equipment for 30 participants and fielded questions.
 10. Proposal Discussion and Vote
 - a. Motion to fully-fund the project at \$6,385
 - i. First motion – Dave Coughlan
 - ii. Second motion – John Crutchfield
 - b. Discussion
 - i. Request is a little high for the Chapter
 - ii. Suggest partial funding, ~ \$2,000
 - iii. Are wet suits needed?
 - iv. Suggested 50% funding the first year, then after the 1st year and after a status report is submitted to NC AFS the remaining 50% can be funded
 - c. Friendly amendment to the original motion to fund the project at 50% (\$3,218 for the first year with the remaining 50% to be funded the second year after receipt of a status report and review of the project)
 - i. Dave Coughlan agreed to the amend the motion
 - ii. John Crutchfield agreed to the friendly amendment
 - iii. Vote was unanimous; there were no No or Abstention votes
 11. Awards Presentation, John Crutchfield, Chair Awards Committee
 - a. Jerry Finke Distinguished Service Award Recipient – Kevin Hining
 - b. Fred A. Harris Conservation Award Recipient – Andy Wood

12. Installation of Newly-Elected Officers, Kim Spark, President
 - a. Brena Jones steps down as Past-President, but will remain active as the Chapter's webmaster and participant on the Communications Committee
 - b. Kim welcomed Corey Oakley as the President-Elect
 - c. Kim stepped down as President and will be the Past-President, turning the office over to Mike Gangloff

13. Remarks by Incoming President, Mike Gangloff, President
 - a. Mike made comments as new president
 - b. Bryn H. Tracy asked members to sign the 2016 NC AFS Chapter Committee Sign-up Sheet
 - c. Mike asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting
 - i. First Motion – ????
 - ii. Second Motion – Chris Goudreau
 - iii. Vote was unanimous
 - iv. Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Secretary/Treasurer Report
Bryn H. Tracy

1. Publicity to Chapter Members via the NC AFS Newsletter
 - a. Spring 2015
 - b. Summer 2015
 - c. Fall 2015
 - d. Winter 2015/2016 -- "The Financial Health of the Chapter"

2. Income
 - a. Annual dues – Not Raised in Past 24 Years
 - b. Sponsors for the Meeting
 - c. Expenditures
 - i. Annual Meeting
 - ii. PayPal (2.9% + \$0.30 per transaction)
 - iii. AFS (certificates and plaques) = \$100
 - iv. SE Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies Sponsorship = \$500
 - v. AFS Skinner Fund Contribution = \$500
 - vi. Friends of state Parks (Family Fishing Fiesta, 04/02/2016 at Jordan Reservoir) sponsorship= \$1,000

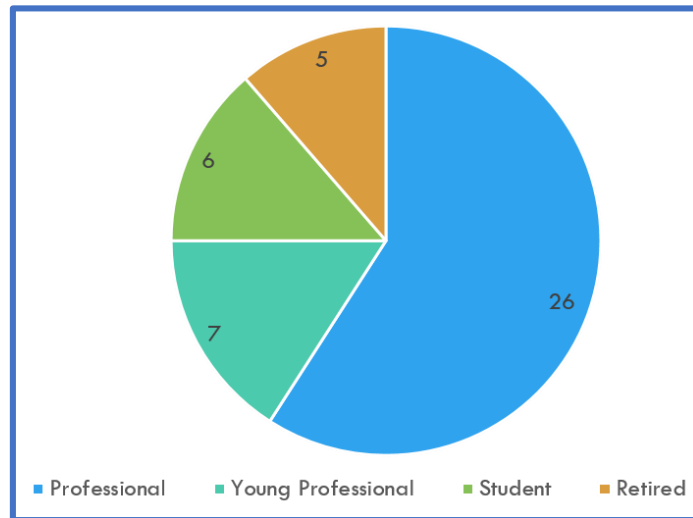
3. Treasurer's Report (as of March 2016)
 - a. Checking Account -- \$12,209.81
 - b. PayPal -- > \$400
 - c. Robust Redhorse Conservation Committee -- \$7,175.07
 - d. Ichthus Fund -- \$29,820.46
 - e. General Fund -- \$39,915.68

4. Finance Committee Meetings
 - a. Members – Brian McRae, Mike Swing, and Bryn Tracy
 - b. December 22, 2015
 - c. Financial Review
 - d. Financial Survey
 - e. Meeting with financial advisor -- February 29, 2016
 - f. Financial Audit with Dr. Jim Rice, NCSU -- March 02, 2016

5. The Ichthus fund
 - a. Performance
 - i. As of 02/2014 = \$33,687.39
 - ii. As of 02/2015 = \$33,164.71
 - iii. As of 02/2016 = \$29,820.46
 - b. A conservative fund that is performing well.
 - c. With ca. \$1,000 spent annually on Student Best Paper Award and Travel Award(s) the cash reserves will be depleted within five years. Then, we will have to sell some of the other investments in the Ichthus Fund to replenish the cash reserves.
 - d. Doing nothing (i.e., spending ca. \$1,000/year and replenishing the cash reserves periodically) the fund will last ca. 25 years.

6. The General Fund
 - a. Performance
 - i. As of 02/2014 = \$38,306.67
 - ii. As of 02/2015 = \$42,657.37
 - iii. As of 02/2016 = \$39,915.68
 - b. Without periodically adding any surplus money to the account from the Checking Account, if we spend ca. \$2,000 per year and with a conservative 5% growth, the fund will last indefinitely.

- c. Without periodically adding any surplus money to the account from the Checking Account, if we spend ca. \$5,000 per year and with a conservative 5% growth, the fund will last ca 11-12 years.
7. Finance Committee believes
- a. the Chapter is in a very unique and envious position (contrasted to that of other Chapters) in having such a healthy financial bottom line.
 - b. NC AFS needs a financial strategy from the EXCOM and the Members on what to do with the General account.
8. 2016 NC AFS Financial Survey Results
- a. No. of NC AFS Members = ca. 115 ±
 - b. No. of respondents = 44 (~ 38% participation)



- c. Questions No. 1 & 2 -- Funding Requests
- i. Were you aware that NCAFS Chapter Members could submit funding requests for projects?
 - 1. Yes 18
 - 2. No 26
 - ii. If you were aware, have there been obstacles that have prevented you from submitting a request?
 - 1. I am unable to work with a non-profit or 501(c)3 organization -- 5
 - 2. I am unable to coordinate the timing of my work with the NCAFS Annual Meeting -- 1
 - 3. Other
 - a. change the 3rd funding requirement to say: "the funds must not be used for profit".
 - b. I only found out we could request funds in the recent newsletter.
- d. Questions No. 3 & 4 -- The Ichthus Fund
- i. Should we take actions to sustain the Ichthus Fund?
 - 1. Yes – 41
 - 2. No – 3
 - ii. If you are in favor of supporting the Ichthus Fund, which options would you be in favor of using to support the fund? (check one or more)
 - 1. Increase annual dues from \$7 to \$10 and contribute the \$3 increase to the Ichthus Fund – 21
 - 2. Set a minimum amount below which we will not distribute funds from the Ichthus Fund – 17

3. Contribute annually to the fund from the Chapter general funds - 16
 4. Tie funding of awards to the previous year's losses or gains - 13
 5. Other – 4
 - a. increase annual dues to \$10, but only contribute to the Ichthus fund when spending exceeds annual gains from the the market.
 - b. Use procedures similar to a university endowment fund.
- e. Question No. 5 -- The General Fund
- i. How would you like to see the chapter spend the money in General Fund? (check one or more)
 1. Fund fisheries or aquatic resource oriented projects in North Carolina - 24
 2. Provide additional travel grants for students to attend Division and Parent Society meetings - 22
 3. Education and Outreach Initiatives like Shad in the Classroom and the Shoreline Brochure – 22
 4. Provide travel grants for professionals to attend Division and Parent Society meetings – 19
 5. Contribute to Professional Meetings or workshops for related organizations such as the Southeast Fisheries Council or SEAFWA - 12
 6. Contribute to Division or Parent Society initiatives like the Skinner Fund - 9
 7. Other – 3
 - a. Support Continuing Education opportunities for NCAFS, both in & out of meetings, as well as supporting general Chapter activities
 - b. Money from the General Fund should almost entirely be used to fund Chapter (Committee driven initiatives) and not be used for research or other similar activities. Limited support of other related professional meetings from this fund is appropriate, but should not be excessive. No funds should be given to the Parent Society--they have plenty of dollars to work with.
 - c. Use to keep annual meeting registration costs low.
 - f. Questions to Ponder
 - i. Should we keep the Ichthus Fund as it is today as a conservative, well-performing fund?
 - ii. Should we periodically add to the Ichthus Fund from the General Fund or surplus from the Checking Account to prolong its longevity?
 - iii. Should student Travel award recipients should be encouraged to present the results of their research at the annual chapter meeting?
 - iv. Should the Ichthus fund also support undergraduate students (e.g., travel, meeting support, supporting Research experience for undergraduates), vs. our more traditional graduate student support?
 - v. Should the General Fund have a reserve Below which the fund is not spent?
 - vi. Should funds be competitively spent for professional(s) to attend AFS meeting?
 - vii. Should we raise dues?
 - viii. Should we revise the procedures manual regarding funding (i.e., Criteria No. 3)?