



SWCS–NCC Meeting Notes
March 19, 2009
Teleconference

Participants: Tom Hebert, Larry Holmes, Ross Braun, Bill Boyer, Tom Fedewa, Michele Laur, Jan Surface

Election of President-Elect: Ross motioned that the board elect Marvin Brown to the President-Elect position. The motion was approved by unanimous vote and Ross will notify Marvin of his new position.

2009 SWCS NCC Plan of Work: A discussion was held on the 2009 SWCS NCC Plan of work. Ross Braun submitted additions to the draft plan. Larry suggested that an additional item “File Tax Form” needed to be added in March. The plan (including Ross’s and Larry’s additions) was approved by the members of the board with the caveat that items that don’t require a large workload may be added to the plan without board approval.

Action: Jan will incorporate the updates and distribute the final plan to the board.

Treasurer’s Report: Larry Holmes provided the following report:

	Checking	Savings	Total
Beginning Balance	\$570.40	\$14,423.91	\$14,994.31
Receipts (Dues)	\$338.86	---	
Balance on 2/28/09	\$909.26	\$14,423.91	\$15,333.17

Forum and Seminar Topics: The members of the board decided to have the spring tour on May 15, 2009 (all plans are tentative at this time). The current plan is to line up a tour of the Congressional Research Service and get a briefing from some of the staff who prepares issue papers and analyses for Members of Congress on soil and water conservation as well as natural resources and environment issues. From CRS the tour would walk down the Hill back to USDA and on the way tour the multiple exterior exhibits at the National Botanical Garden and Smithsonian American Indian Museum that highlight various environmental and conservation practices as well as ecological settings. When the tour returns to USDA there will be some soils and gardening work to be done in the Peoples’ Garden.

Action: Jan will contact Megan Stubbs at CRS to see if they are willing to host the tour.

Action: Tom Hebert will contact SFA events committee to see if SFA would like to have this as a joint tour.

Action: Ross will contact Mike Manale to see if he wants to help with the tour.

The members of the board also discussed seminar topics. It was suggested that Sally Collins, Director of the Office of Ecosystem Services and Markets (OESM), be invited to speak on USDA’s role in environmental credit trading. The board would also like either someone from the Chicago Climate Exchange or one of the local aggregators to give a presentation as well.

Action: Tom Hebert will contact Sally Collins to see if she’s available on May 15th. **Tom** will also contact Suzy Friedman to see if Britt Lundgren may be interested in participating.

Sponsor a NCC member to the Washington Academy of Sciences: It was decided that NCC will sponsor a NCC member to the Washington Academy of Sciences.

Action: Tom Fedewa will seek out members who are interested.

Annual Report, Outstanding Chapter and Sustained Performance Award Nomination:

Ross briefly discussed that, as outgoing chapter President, he submitted the annual report and nominated the chapter for both of the awards. Bill Boyer indicated that the National SWCS has made their awards selections which will be announced in the near future.

On-line Chapter Conversation: Tom Hebert suggested that NCC may want to start some dialog with the entire chapter membership through an on-line tool. Ross suggested that we could use the National SWCS site social network tool instead of creating a new list-serve or yahoo group.

Review Membership Recruitment Plan: This item was tabled for now.

Next Meeting April 23, 2009, noon to 1:00 pm, Call-in 888-764-9167, Passcode: 4679073

Meeting Agenda: TBD