

Minutes from February 27th SWCS-NCC Monthly Call

Participants: Andy Manale, Larry Holmes, Rich Iovanna, Skip Hyberg, Noel Gollehon, Doug Lawrence, Chris Hartley

Election

- 2015 Election Results: Erika Larsen was elected to a 2-year term as the SWCS-NCC Secretary. Congratulations Erika!

Events

- February 5th AWRA/NRCS event hosted by AWRA/NRCS. Ann Mills (USDA) and Kelly Shenk (EPA) spoke. Thank you Noel for coordinating SWCS-NCC participation.
- Potential SWCS Spring/Fall Farm Tours: Andy contacted Alicia Goldstein of Eco City Farms re: potential locations for a Spring tour of urban farming in April. Andy will follow up. Larry Holmes will check to see if we can arrange a farm visit to his family's farm in the late summer or early Fall (October? It's a 2 hour drive south of the city so will need to organize transportation). SWCS-NCC will offer lunch to everyone who attends.
- Andy will check with with Laura and Erika re: potential SWCS-NCC Earth Day events – film selection, and proposed Natural History Museum social event.

Presentation

- Principles, Requirements and Guidelines- and Why We Care. (Discussion facilitated by Noel) CEQ posted final PRG on WQ project evaluation and interagency guidelines. (Link: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/PandG/>) Agency specific procedures are being developed by each agency/Department by June 15. CEQ felt other agencies (not only Ag, Interior, USACE, and TVA) should be involved, and added EPA, NOAA, FEMA and others. Previously needed economic justification benefit were greater than the cost, now environmental or social benefit may be considered as well.

Chapter Business

- How can we increase membership? (Rich and Doug) Doodle poll of membership and discussion in coming months.
- Norm Berg Award nomination solicitation process to move forward. (Chris)
- Andy to compile 2014 report of activities. He will send draft out for comments/additions.
- Treasurer's Report: (Larry) \$994.55 received from National HQ based on NCC dues. \$1,571.38 in checking, and \$11,004.74 currently in savings for a total of \$12,576.12 in NCC funds. Larry will prepare IRS reporting at end of April. March meeting will include discussion of opportunities for sponsoring ongoing activities – scholarship, etc