

Central Iowa NWA Meeting – January 13, 2008

7:00 PM at ABC5 Studios, Des Moines, Iowa

Chris Maiers led attending members on a tour of ABC5 studios. Thanks for accommodating us.

13th Annual Severe Storms & Doppler Radar Conference

April 2, 3, and 4, 2009, Sheraton of West Des Moines

Agenda Team Update (Dr. Gallus)

Many of the invited speakers are setup and confirmed, it was decided for a lack of excitement to not bring in a Houston/Ike speaker. One speaker that we would have liked to also invite to increase our 'big name' speakers was Roger Hill. Currently he is in limbo on whether or not he will be able to attend, if he is not able to attend we could potentially bring in a co-owner of his company David Gold to talk about the economy of storm chasing. Other names that could also be of interest to bring to the conference include Reed Timmer, Les Lemon, Josh Wurman, Mike Sidel, etc. If you have any suggestions towards an invited speaker please let the agenda committee know.

The topic of Parkersburg is expected to bring in several talks, currently nearing 2 hours of presentations. We need to decide if we wish to limit the amount of time that we spend on Parkersburg, and may need to decide which talks to keep dependent upon their topics.

Travel Team Update (Brenda Brock)

The travelling needs of invited speakers are being completed, and are going well.

Vendor Team Update (Chris Maiers)

It seems like vendors are going to cut back due to the economy, thus it may be useful to begin focusing on local vendors and selling advertisements within the agenda.

Registration Team Update (Chris Schaffer & Ben Schwedler)

Registration is open and registrations have been completed by a few attendees, the flyer has also been sent out to previous attendees. There are a few supplies that will need to be ordered in the coming month, mainly folders, lanyards, etc. Member registration is also open, an email will be sent to members providing the link.

Registration rates for local NWS members that may only be able to attend a partial day will be discussed at a following meeting.

Scholarship Team Update (Dr. Gallus)

If you wish to join the scholarship committee please email Karl Jungbluth (karl.jungbluth@noaa.gov). The deadline for those interested is February 12th.

Registration Fee Waiver

In previous years the registration fees for conference committee chairs and cabinet members have been waived. A motion by Brenda Brock was made to waive all registration fees for conference committee chairs and cabinet members, seconded by Chris Schaffer. Motion Passed.

Promotional Item/Snack Discussion

Discussion on whether to provide a promotional item or to provide a snack during an additional break should come to a conclusion within the coming month. Feedback from previous conferences has been split on the idea of which to provide. Attending members at the meeting were split on the decision to provide a useful promotion item, or to provide a snack for an additional break with food. As mentioned, promotional items have often not been useful, however, snack/food prices through the hotel are outrageous. Additional emails can be expected to allow a decision to be made.

Budget Applications (Chris Karstens)

The treasurer has been busy at work, and has provided a budget calculator to provide details on how the budget may look once the conference is completed. This may be a valuable tool for committee chairs to estimate costs, profits, etc. If you wish to view this calculator, please visit: <http://www.meteor.iastate.edu/~ckarsten/nwa/budget.phtml>

Items from Previous Meeting(s)

A policy document has been created by Chris Maiers about the videotaping of the conference, and is available for comments.

Although complementary rooms have been decided upon, a priority list must still be established within the upcoming meeting(s).

Previous meetings have discussed the potential of an honorary membership or attendance at the conference. Discussions at the current meeting led to the thought to keep this a private gift towards the recipient, although asking how the recipient would receive this gift could also be done.

A motion was made by Melinda Albrecht to allow Johnny Mann to attend the conference at the member registration rate and for his grandmother's registration to be waived; seconded by Logan Karstens. Motion passed. Melinda Albrecht will contact Johnny Mann.

Motion by James Musal was made to allow the previous motion to be given as a private gift from the chapter to him and his grandmother; Seconded by Gallus. Motion Passed.

Amendments of the By-Laws

Emails have been sent within the team, and an outline of the proposed changes will be ready for the February meeting.

Fund Raising (Melinda Albrecht)

The chapter has been signed up for two conference basketball games, but may potentially have to be signed up for two additional non-conference games. An email will be sent out once the decision has been made with final dates and to allow sign-ups.

Treasurers Report (Chris Karstens)

The current balance is \$13,757.96, with 25 memberships being renewed. Existing members have thirty days from this date forward to renew their membership for this year.

The bank has suggested that we may change our account to allow additional interest, this shall be looked into with the current questions being whether this would change our non-profit status, and if we would ever be below the minimum balance the bank requires at any time during the year.

Secretaries Notes (Jayson Prentice)

All previous meeting matters were discussed, thus no additional notes were needed.

The next Central Iowa NWA meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 11th in Ames, Iowa.

*Any questions regarding meetings minutes from January 13, 2008 can be directed at the
Central Iowa NWA Secretary Jayson Prentice (jaysonprentice@gmail.com)
Previous meeting minutes along with a copy of the agenda for this meeting can be found on the
Iowa NWA web page at the following address: <http://www.iowa-nwa.com/minutes.php>*