

**PACD Education and Outreach Committee Meeting
Ramada Conference Center, State College, PA
Wednesday, July 27; 11:15am-12:15pm**

MINUTES

Committee Chairperson: Laura Anderson, Wyoming County Conservation District Educator

Welcome and Introductions (Laura Anderson)

Chairperson Laura Anderson welcomed Jessie Albright, Multimedia Coordinator at the Allegheny County Conservation District to the Committee.

Committee members in attendance: Laura Anderson, Bob Robinson, Jack Hanish, Ben Vaupel, Hank Webster, Trudy Alexander, Jessie Albright, Ted Veresink, Cathy Yeakel

Guests in attendance: Shannon Wehinger (notetaker), Shane Kleiner, Sharon Pletchan, Larry Butler, Suzanne Black, Tom McClure, Paul Semmel, Mary Ellen Snyder, Jim Shaner, Mike Price

It was determined that a quorum was present.

Approval of February 2016 minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting on February 9, 2016 were provided to members for review.

It was moved by Bob Robinson and seconded by Ben Vaupel to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on February 9, 2016. Motion carried.

Act 48 Credits – Survey Results (Laura Anderson)

Two handouts of the results from a survey sent to the conservation districts was provided to attendees. There were 29 responses. Provider status is a three year term then you re-apply for certification. Northampton's first renewal was difficult but the most recent renewal was easy. It was suggested that PACD keep in touch with the Dept. of Education to keep them informed about district's work. Laura said DCNR Bureau of Parks will partner with districts to offer teacher workshops and offer credits jointly. This is a good alternative to districts that can no longer offer credits themselves.

Conservation District Brochure Quote (Shannon Wehinger)

PACD spent \$250 to produce a general "What is a Conservation District" brochure. There was not \$2,000 in the budget for a conservation district brochure template as discussed at the February 2016 meeting. Copies of the brochure were presented to attendees. The electronic version will be provided to conservation districts to print on their own and include their contact information on the back panel.

PAEE Participation (Shannon Wehinger & Laura Anderson)



The Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators (PAEE) board unanimously approved a resolution that gave approval for “Porcupine” Pat McKinney (Schuylkill Conservation District and PAEE Treasurer) and PAEE President Ed McCrea to continue discussions with PACD to develop some specifics on PACD’s involvement in PAEE. Last week, it was announced that Scott Cope is the new president. Laura and Shannon plan to contact him to introduce themselves.

PAEE is beginning to plan their 2017 conference. The committee would like Laura and Shannon to continue to talk to PAEE about possible involvement.

Shared Photo Database Update (Shannon Wehinger)

Shannon is working with Sonia Wasco from the Lancaster County Conservation District who offered to help with choosing software and determining costs for a conservation district shared photo library. Jessie offered to help Shannon with this effort.

Guest Speaker: Holding a Successful Conservation Camp

Chairperson Laura Anderson introduced Michele Kittell, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Institute for Conservation Education, to speak to the committee about their Wildlife Leadership Academy. The Institute is shifting their organization name to Wildlife Leadership Academy in the next year. Running five statewide, one-week, camps for 14-17 year olds is what they do. Michele had several tips for coordinating a successful camp.

New Business

It was moved by Ted Veresink and seconded by Hank Webster to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

