



IAN Business Meeting  
Thursday March 13, 2014

Dickinson County Nature Center

**I. The meeting was called to order by President Kelly Dix (Pottawattamie) at 5:00 PM.**

**II. Secretary's Report**

1. Karen Phelps (Benton) made a motion to approve the Fall '13 business meeting minutes with a correction of the spelling of Lora Kanning's name, seconded by Jen Meyer (Jackson), carried.

**III. Treasurer's Report**

1. Ann Burns (Jackson) made a motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Charlene Elyea (O'Brien), carried.

**IV. Committee Reports**

1. Professional Development- Miriam Patton (Palo Alto) presented awards to 2013 participants. In 2013, there were 31 participants in the program; four of the participants were new. They are listed as follows:  
Lyndsey Anderson, Katherine Brakeville, Ann Burns, Katie L. Cantu, Victoria DeVos, Charlene Elyea, Chelsea Ewen, Sunday Ford, Diane Hall, Abbey Harkrader (5 years), Emily Herring, Rebecca Horton, Lilly Jensen, Lora Kanning, Jess Lancial (new), Jennifer Meyer, J. Dave Murcia (5 years), Cari Nicely, Michele Olson, Miriam Patton, Karen M. Phelps, Tina Popson, Kent Rector (new), Christina Roelofs, Missy Smith, Dawn Snyder, Sarah Subbert, Katie Van der Linden, Ashley VanSpeybroeck (new), Jessica Wagner, Emily Warren (new).
2. Fundraising- Annette Wittrock (Wapello) mentioned that the fundraising committee would welcome any additional help that they could get.
3. ICEC/IAN Awards- Mark Roberts (Clinton) presented the IAN/ICEC awards to the following:

**Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award For Outstanding Efforts by an Environmental Educator**

*Christina Roelofs Shelby & Audubon County Conservation Boards*

**Outstanding Environmental Education Program (2 or less naturalists)**

*Washington County Conservation Board*

**Outstanding Environmental Education Program (2.5 or more naturalists)**

*The Linn County Conservation Board*

**Ada Hayden Conservation Education Award For Outstanding Efforts to Educate About Preservation, Land Management, or Natural Resource Conservation**

*Tammy Turner, Black Hawk County Waste Reduction Educator*

**“Ding” Darling Environmental Education Award For Outstanding EE Program or Event which Informs and Educates the General Public**  
*Lee County Conservation Board*

**Sylvan Runkel Environmental Education School Award For Outstanding Whole-School EE Program**  
*Central Lutheran School, Benton County*

**Chris Holt Youth Environmental Education Award**  
*Outdoor P.E. Program of the Wapsi River Environmental Education Center, Scott CCB*

**Non-Print Media Award**  
*Okobaji Osprey Web Camera, Dickinson CCB*

**Outstanding Volunteer**  
*Andy and Pam Stone, Jasper County*

**Aldo Leopold Environmental Education Award For Lifetime Achievement in EE Excellence and Leadership**  
*Chris Adkins, Dallas County Conservation*

4. Junior Naturalist- Diane Hall explained the Junior Naturalist program for those that were not aware of it and mentioned that Joel Van Roekel should be contacted for patches.
5. Joe Halbur Scholarship- Lora Kanning mentioned the March 14 deadline. She also mentioned that the committee will be discussing the possibility of making a \$150 scholarship available for past winners.
6. Scholarships- Jessica Steines reported that NAI scholarships are available for up to a \$100 reimbursement. They will also be updating the application.
7. Membership- Logan Roberts (Warren) reported that membership is at 135 people. She asked that members send in their picture for the membership list.
8. IAN Mentoring Program- Heather Hucka (Story) explained the mentoring program and asked for new naturalists to contact her for more information.
9. IAN Website- Cari Nicely (Henry) explained that there was an IT problem with the IAN website and that it had been fixed. She mentioned that committee leaders need to inform her of new information that needs to be changed or added to the website and to explain precisely where it needs to be in order to operate efficiently.
10. Traveling Exhibits- Ann Burns (Jackson) reported that the IAN travelling prairie exhibit is still travelling around the state and has been since 2010. She also mentioned that the committee is looking for new members to help finish the “Wade into your Watershed” exhibit. She also reported that part of the National Mississippi River Museums turtle exhibit is available by contacting the NMRM and that there are exhibits available for swapping on the IAN website.
11. REAP Alliance Liaison- Logan Roberts reported that the environmental lobby day is coming up the week following the Spring 2014 IAN workshop and that they would be looking for \$25 million in funding for REAP on its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

12. Wilderness Trips- None to report

**V. Administrative Reports (3 minutes each)**

1. IAN Grants- President Dix mentioned that criteria for these grants is listed on the IAN website and that no applications had been received.
2. NAI Liaison- Heather Hucka thanked those who brought stuff for the IAN basket for NAI scholarships. There will be an NAI Regional meeting in the Spring of 2015 in Ames and they could use help for planning, the auction, and programming
3. DNR Liaison- Shannon Haffner (IDNR) reported that there are brochures available for upcoming trainings. There is a new FISH IOWA 'book' available in CD format. She also mentioned that they are working on Next Generation Science Standards.
4. IACCBE Rep.- Christina Roelofs (Shelby/Audubon) reported that Winterfest planning meetings are ongoing and ideas are welcomed for keynote presenters.
5. ICEC- Linda Zaletel (retired) would like to get one naturalist on the planning committee for ICEC.
6. REAP-CEP- Charlene Elyea reported that changes have been made to the report form. Meetings: Spring- May 15; Fall-October 15

**VI Upcoming Workshops**

Workshop coordinator Annette Wittrock (Wapello) reported the following dates. She also mentioned that she would take any hosts for unclaimed future workshops.

1. Summer 2014 – Mahaska County August 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>
2. Fall 2014 – Iowa County November 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>
3. Spring 2015 will be NAI in Ames.

**VII. Action/Discussion Items (5 minutes each)**

1. “Water Quality and Biological Diversity in Stormwater Wetlands: Enhancing Environmental Knowledge and Stewardship in Urban Areas” Project Discussion by Rebecca Christoffel

Christoffel (ISU) mentioned that there may be grant funding available to help naturalists and teachers work on monitoring urban wetlands (to test water and biodiversity). Past data will be compared and they will find out in April if funding is available. It would start in Polk and Story Counties before moving to other counties.

2. NAI Sponsorship- Victoria DeVos (Plymouth) asked if IAN would be willing to be a sponsor for the NAI Regional Workshop in Ames in the Spring of 2015. She listed off benefits of being a sponsor such as advertisements and acknowledgement in their program and a link via

website. Karen Phelps (Benton) motioned for IAN to put forth a \$1000 sponsorship, seconded by Miriam Patton (Palo Alto), carried.

3. Newsletter Items- President Dix asked for help for the following listed items for the upcoming newsletter: Grapevine News, “Can you top this?” stories, Favorite Green Things.
4. Carpooling Efficiency Award- The award (not present, still possessed by ISU students as far as we know) was given to Scott County who travelled about 6 hours with 5 people in one vehicle.
5. Host County Recognition- Wittrock gave a certificate to Dickinson County for a great job hosting.
6. Rare Sightings- Sarah Subbert (Cedar) mentioned a moose sighting, Frozen Coyotes were found in Scott County
7. Other- Laura DeCook (Mahaska) mentioned that she has old trophies that could be converted to the IAN carpool trophy.

Pam Holz (Washington) mentioned that DVD copies were available of the Ding Darling movie and that profits would go to the Friends of Lake Darling.

Heather Hucka mentioned that Story County would be hiring for a new naturalist position in the near future.

Linda Zaletel mentioned that the Kindernature site will die in 2015. She is looking for someone to set up a new website with additional materials such as assessments.

Clay Steele mentioned that the Ecology Bus would be at the final day of the current workshop.

## **VIII. Adjourn**

Karen Phelps motioned for adjournment at 6:00 PM, seconded by Jess Wagner (Jackson), carried.