

NFMS Organizational Meeting Minutes Saturday, October 21, 2017 Lewiston, Idaho

President, Keith Fackrell opened the meeting with a welcome to approximately thirty attendees. The microphone was then passed around so everyone could introduce themselves.

First Vice President, Ronna Watkins then led the Pledge of Allegiance

Pastor, Evan Day offered a prayer for the day.

We began the discussions with the topic of vacant Chair positions: Juniors, Bulletin Aids, Endowment Chair, All American Awards, PLAC and Resolutions. It was suggested that attendees ask their individual club members if they would be interested in any of the positions.

Endowment Funds Chairman

Happily, at the onset of our meeting, as Jim Brain introduced himself he introduced **Jack Edwards** as the new **Endowment Funds Chairman**. Jim had previously sought out Jack as a worthy candidate, and Jack accepted. Thank you, Jack.

Public Lands Access Committee

Second Vice President, Ken Zahn spoke to the position of PLAC stating it should be an attorney or someone who understands and enjoys the Laws of Government. He has written a lot related to this position and suggested that clubs try to identify local or regional groups that are vocal on trying to keep our Federal Land Access. There are different regulations for collecting on BLM and National Forest lands. Each area can change for access and collecting regulations. Find a regulating agency or group and join them as an organization and get access by shirt-tailing onto those who are larger. Then you can send in comments mirroring the larger group. The position may be difficult to fill as it is time consuming to research and keep abreast of all the legislative proposals, but individual clubs could be vocal by the previous idea.

Ken pointed out a "good decision" with the Secretary of Interior announcing that a previous withdrawal of two years of ten million acres in the West from any activity has been rescinded. There is a twenty year draft, but it was withdrawn. Maybe now is a good time for clubs to file a claim if there is a site to their interest.

Linda Barlow pointed out the Interior Secretary asked for another analysis to be done. Idaho falls under the 1892 Mining Act, so people are clear to hunt anywhere in that state now. Ken cautioned that the sage grouse will end up on the endangered species list, with the strong possibility of many closures. Look at the state and regional plans. They are still a work in progress.

Evan spoke to the travel plan of BLM in the Southwest corner of Utah. There was an open house meeting with four-wheelers in strong attendance. The wishes of four-wheelers and rockhounds go hand in hand. The four-wheelers have a stronger voice, thus shirt tailing with them is a prime example of what Ken was talking about.

Junior Chairperson Position

Audrey Vogelpohl addressed the description of the Junior Chair Position stating it is not what the OP's and By-laws say although what she does complies with the By-laws. Audrey sends out

information for Juniors to earn money and a certificate under a Junior Achievement Award. The webmaster and Newsletter editor both advertise such. The essence of the Chairperson's job is to advertise the awards, giving a deadline for return of the applications. The President, 1st Vice Present, and 2nd Vice President are the judges. They are judged in four areas: hobby related, educational achievement, community achievements and work related. Based on their scores, the Chairperson will decide on the individual awards. Presentations are made to the Juniors at the annual meeting. Three-hundred-seventy-five dollars were given out last year. Lyle then spoke to the financial reports for the Junior Achievement Program. Sandy Hansen of the Magic Valley Gem Club has donated \$1250 to the fund this year through value added money provided by a program through Walmart, where she works. Lyle suggested others might check this out if they work for Walmart.

Audrey then announced that **Gayle Butler** has agreed to become the **Junior Chairperson**. **Audrey**, in turn, has volunteered to fill the **Resolutions Chair** position. Thank you, both.

Bulletin Editor Aids Chairman

Judi Allison reiterated the need for a Bulletin Editor Aids Chairman because of the time constraint and backward aspect of the NFMS and AFMS Shows. The AFMS Show will be April 6-9 and the NFMS Show will be April 27-29.

(A temporary solution has been developed so that member Clubs can submit their works for the coming year. Ronna Watkins will act as receiver and reviewer for this contest without being declared as a chairperson. {As an executive officer, she cannot officially hold this position.})

If you know of anyone willing to chair this position, please let us know. Ronna is doing this out of pure dedication: Not only will she be installed as the President at the 2018 Annual Meeting, she is co-chair for the Show and Convention as well as striving to regain her own health and help maintain her husband's. Adding the extra work of this contest is yet another burden she is willing to bear. This lady shows true dedication, so if you could help her out by taking this one responsibility off her plate, it would be wonderful.

All American Awards

This position is not addressed in the bylaws or operating procedures other than being part of the duties of the Education Committee; which in essence has become the committee above. That being said, the primary duties for the All American Awards Chairperson is to encourage clubs to submit to the AFMS a yearbook highlighting their year. The rules and instructions can be found on the AFMS website under the heading of the same name.

Manual – Guidelines for Hosting a Federation Show

Judi introduced the resurrected, retyped, and revised copy that she had completed. She pointed out that all the parts in red were either questions she had that she wished answered, additions she had made or rewording for clarification.

Larry Ferguson suggested it be emailed to all the directors. Ken commented that some might feel the task of hosting a show was too much when viewing the number of pages. He felt the charts showing the responsibilities of Host Clubs and the Federation and one showing a division of roles and responsibilities would be helpful for all to read. He spoke to the benefits to a club

for having hosted a Federation Show. During the show, and continuing into the future, clubs report more morale and volunteerism. Others felt that the manual simply clarified many things and if one looked at it closely, they would find that many of the things in the book are done for the clubs' regular annual shows.

Larry suggested that the copy be sent to all the directors and others who have knowledge of validity of the contents, then create the amended copy without any red lines in it by having the Directors vote to adopt it as an Official Manual for Hosting a Show.

We then spoke to the need for a host in 2019. **Mary Lou Northrup** kept the copy to use in showing her club what additional things would need to be done if they took on the task of hosting a show. She felt the club could readily do this. Lyle pointed out that the Butte club had a catered dinner at a restaurant. Judi reminded attendees that the Senior Center put on the Banquet in Centralia and the Eagles Lodge did so in Hermiston. It simply takes some creative thinking. Linda and Evan suggested piggy-backing on your regular show and negotiate with the Federation on things of importance to your club. Larry stated fourteen people put on the combination AFMS/NFMS show in Albany. Judi suggested that everyone remember to remind their individual clubs that it is not "us and them". We are the Federation.

Keith then took a moment to thank Jack, Audrey and Gayle for volunteering to fill the particular positions.

Jack Edwards – Endowment Fund Chairman, Audrey Vogelpohl – Resolutions, Gayle Butler – Junior Chairperson

Issues and Discussions

Evan read a proposal being made by the Golden Spike Club for some Operation Procedure changes to clarify the Memorial Trophies given out for displays. He also added there would be a request that stated the judges be reimbursed their entrance fees.

Lyle clarified information about the Linder Award for Junior Achievement. The award was a pen set given out for petrified wood. With a previous change in Junior leaders, and the inability of the Federation to locate and retrieve a great deal of Junior inventory, the sets no longer exist. He also stated the Darrell Dalton award was rescinded because the same people were receiving it all the time.

Lauren Williams identified himself as the ALAA Vice President and President of the American Federation Scholarship Foundation. In reference to hosting a show and creative thinking, he then recalled one awards banquet held in a tent. He thought there was probably a contest for an award for the most flies in a case at a show in the Tri-Cities. He also reminded all that we are becoming "old folks who need trails where wheels can go. Write and talk to your government officials. The Local Sherriff might be one possibility.

Larry spoke to the letter Jim Bosley wrote to the WAMS Club as well as had published in the NFMS Newsletter. Members were disgruntled because of the fact the Endowment Fund kept growing and seemingly, nothing could be done with it because of regulations. The letter did much to add good will with the club. When it was announced that each member club would have its dues reduced by one dollar per each adult member for the 2018 year that hit a positive

note with the WAMS Club. Larry said their club helps fund their Field Trip Chairs by reimbursing them to the trips. The savings can be used to help with those reimbursements and may even allow additional trips. The WAMS Board will be presenting this information to the club at their next meeting.

Jim Brain, Financial Advisor for the Endowment Fund stated that over the last twelve months, the fund has shown an 11% increase. He stated the question has been asked before; how do we spend our money. He suggested that clubs can think about ways to spend the endowment funds for the benefit of the Federation.

Audrey shared a thank you note for the members of the group receiving the stamp money for “Knitted Knockers”. She said a value added deal has come from this. The group is also now saving their stamps. Paul Heesacker also donated a large amount of the fiber filling needed for the project.

Linda reported as Historian. The inventory is done with twenty two pages. There are newsletters and nomenclature of very old things with many duplicates. She suggested getting rid of the duplicates by bringing them to the Federation Show to see if anyone wants them, and possibly putting them on a sale table. Those present agreed that would be a good idea. She said she is missing information for Past Presidents and shows since 2006 and in 2001. There is a video about a topaz that she requested permission to make into a DVD. There was a discussion about the video and other artifacts. It was believed the video shows information about a double terminated topaz that was donated to the Smithsonian in 1941. It came from an estate sale where past presidents went together and bought it. Lauren mentioned a cut piece of quartz faceted by the Intermountain Faceters Guild that is at Echols Park in Ogden.

Ken stated he was intrigued by the idea of Sandy Hansen being able to designate the Federation as a recipient of in-kind monies. He suggested everyone should check with their members to see if any of their employers have such a plan. Evan mentioned the commission of the USS Salt Lake City and the possibility of Boeing having money in their budget that nobody has asked for so one might check.

Judi reminded all of the AFMS Endowment Fund Raffle and the fact we will not have the opportunity to sell them at the mid-year meeting since the AFMS Convention falls before the NFMS Convention. She stated she forgot the tickets at home, but she could still sell them to any takers. Ken and Keith both contributed for five tickets. Judi will let the Clubs know the tickets are available if they would like some.

Ronna spoke about the 2018 NFMS Show to be hosted in Yakima. She named a number of things to look forward to: the Turner Collection, Two Medicine Dinosaurs, the Mammoth Foundation, North American Research Group, Rice Museum, and Central Washington University to name some. There will be silversmith classes, wire wrapping and knapping classes. She apologized for “stepping on” any dates of any other clubs. They thought they had found a clear

date. She encouraged people to bring competitive cases. There will be articles appearing in the newsletter. Ronna also had tickets available from their own club raffle. She asked if folks could possibly help in various areas, especially security.

The meeting then moved to casual discussion and adjournment.

After the meeting there was a request to help bring Diamond Dan to the show. The Federation will work out the details with the host club. (It is my understanding that it was agreed upon that some of the Junior funds could be used to accomplish getting him here.) If folks don't know who he is; his name is Darrell Powell. He used to publish the Mini Miner on line, and he continues to do a great deal in helping further children's' knowledge and understanding of, predominately, the mineral world.

Judi Allison, Secretary