

**MINUTES: AMERICAN ELASMOBRANCH SOCIETY
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
Chattanooga, TN DATE: 2 August 2014**

Call to order 16:06

- I. Approval of minutes from 2014 General Business meeting (**Burgess/Morrissey, APPROVED**)
- II. President's Report (Lowe)
 - A. Continuation of Student Endowment Task Force with members Chris Lowe, Steve Kajiura, Mason Dean.
 - B. Updated by-laws with assistance from the Ex Comm to update policies and procedures, particularly in keeping with new record keeping requirements. Added Code of Ethics, Whistle Blower's Policy, and Document Destruction and Retention Policy
 - C. Website renovation under the guidance of Editor, David Shiffman
- III. Treasurer's Report (**Luer/Morrissey, APPROVED**)
 - A. Review general operating fund by category
 - B. Review of endowed funds
 - C. Review of 2015 AES Budget, approved during BOD meeting
- IV. Secretary's Report (Wyffels)
 - A. Membership as of 1 July, 2014:
 - AES has 356 paid members with 80.9% MGS, an increase of 9.9% from 2013
 - 78.5% completed online renewals, an increase of 33.5% from 2013
 - 46 (12.9%) are new members, an increase in 3.9% from 2013
- V. Editor's Report (Shiffman)
 - review of new website content and procedures/instructions for use
- VI. JMIH Planning Committee Report (Heist)
 - A. Recent changes to JMIH.
 - This is the first of the 4-day meetings. AES banquet and ASIH closing social Sunday night are the final events of the meeting
 - B. Meeting for 2015 -- Reno Grand Sierra Hotel/Casino.
 - July 15-19, 2015
 - Hotel costs \$79/night
 - Four day meeting (Thursday-Sunday)
 - More concurrent sessions, limited abstract submission
 - SSAR will not be joining us
 - U. of Kansas July 30-Aug 3
 - No hotel attrition in our contract with Reno
 - Free internet
 - Need to walk through casino to get from rooms to meeting space.
 - 1.5 miles from down town
 - C. Meeting for 2016
 - New Orleans Marriott
 - Hotels \$155/night including all fees
 - Food/beverage expensive
 - Free internet in rooms/lobby
 - Adjacent to French Quarter
 - D. Meeting for 2017
 - Waiting on societies to commit

- Site recommendation will come in the spring of 2015

E. SI Meeting in 2018

- Consider membership opinion about joint meeting via poll

VII. SAC Report (Kolmann)

A. 2014 Membership

- Matt Kolmann – Chair
- Cheston Peterson – Auction & Corporate Donations
- Jonathan Davis– Calendar
- Jenny Bigman & James Knuckey – Store
- Thomas Farrugia, – T-shirts
- Jo Imhoff – Workshop
- Christine Bedore - Post-doc
- Kelsey James- Webmaster

B. Workshop

- 2014: **Getting A Job: Preparing In Graduate School, Applying And Making The Transition**; panelists: Dr. Dean Grubbs, Dr. Chris Bedore, Dana Bethea and Sonja Fordham. Pizza on the menu for after.

C. Calendar

- 2014: ordered 100, selling for ~ \$17.00
- Submissions up from last year

D. Website & Newsletter

- Make webmaster a dual position – guarantees up-to-date website and research highlights
- Coordinate with Editor
- Help coordinate spread of information across media (Facebook, website, Twitter, etc)

E. Store

- Running smoothly
- Reordered classic items (bottle openers, wine-covers, etc)
- New and improved items!

F. Auction

- 2013 = \$6509 (total – live & silent)
- Microwave Telemetry, Plano, Wildlife Computers, Hammerhead Pool Cleaners, AES members
- Auctioneer: to chosen annually by students, Dovi Kacev

G. Future Plans

- Engage younger students in other labs to try and bring them into AES, mentor shadowing program with established student members

VIII. Nominating Committee Report (Cailliet)

Participation: 47.6% of MGS

Nominating Committee: Jeremy Vaudo, Dovi Kacev, Lindsay Harris, Andy Nosal, Kady Lyons

Grant Fund Committee: Toby Daly-Engel

Board of Directors: Carl Luer and Lisa Whitenack

Editor: David Shiffman

Secretary: Jen Wyffels

IX. Grant Committee Report (Vaudo)

- 5 student applicants for travel funded (1 post-meeting)
- 3 student applicants for research grants

X. Student Awards Committee (Luer)
XI. Publication Committee Report (Holman)

Our stock is as follows:

Skate Symposium - 21 copies
Nursery Volume - 6 copies
Age and Growth Symposium - 25 copies
Castro - 32 copies
Carrier et al. #2 - 28 copies

XII. Conservation Committee Report (Fordham)

- Resolutions presented to be included in 2015 election vote
- Thorny skate
- Smalltooth sawfish recovery
- US finning policies, state and national

XIII. Shark Attack File Committee Report (Burgess)

- 2013 125 incidents, 72 were unprovoked attacks also 51 earlier cases investigate and updated records
- 2014: 181 so far this year but many older cases not all new cases. Also hundreds of interviews just this am 3 calls. George has 1 ISAF person full time working on this as he has for 20 or more years. He thinks that new attacks this year will be similar to last year.

XIV. Other Business

- A. Elasmo-L
- B. Discontinue the list because not in our control and support alternative discussion methods including the forums and blog on the new website as well as Facebook
- C. By-laws
 - Updates to bylaws for clarity concerning past-presidents term on the BOD for a vote with 2015 election
- D. New Meritorious Teaching Award Announcement- call for nominations in future years
- E. Change research award requirements for students from 2 years as MGS to existing MGS at the time of application to encourage more applications. Travel award requirements remain unchanged at 2 years as a MGS.
- F. Sexism in AES
 - Adam Summers introduces issues within AES concerning sexism
 - Motion for Chris Lowe to form adhoc committee to gather information and propose solutions (**Burgess/Helfman, APPROVED**)

Motion to Adjourn – **Carrier/Goldman, APPROVED, 17:25.**