



AIANEA Interim National Council Minutes

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

1:00 pm Pacific, 2:00 pm Mountain, 3:00 pm Central, 4:00 pm Eastern

Respect, Harmony and Beauty

Interim Council Present: **President** - Roylene Comes at Night
1st Vice President – Vacant
2nd Vice President – Tanya Meyer-Dideriksen
Treasurer – Sherry Cosper (absent)
SE Regional Rep – Cameron Clark
NE Regional Rep - Cassius Spears
W Regional Rep – Felix Nez (absent)
Northern Plains Rep – David Pesicka
Midwest Regional Rep – Blythe Koyiyumptewa (absent)
Secretary - Catherine Cannon

The meeting was called to order by 2nd Vice President Tanya Mayer-Dideriksen at 1:00.

- 1) **Welcome.** No additions or changes to minutes from October 19 or agenda. Cassius moved to accept the minutes, Tanya seconded. Approved.
- 2) **Treasurer's Report:** Sherry emailed report to Council due to absence. Tanya reviewed. See *Financial Minutes for specifics (not public)*. David moved to approve, Cameron seconded. Approved.
- 3) 1st VP Vacancy: Topic and how to move forward held for later meeting. *Current bylaws require officer to be NRCS employee. New bylaws, once approved, would allow officer to be employee of any agency under USDA.*
- 4) **AIANEA as SAIGE Chapter:** Roylene discussed idea of AIANEA becoming a SAIGE chapter, referred to presentation by Heather Dawn Thompson earlier in year. SAIGE chapter would be for entire USDA. Tanya spoke to checking if non-profit status would allow it; what, if any, changes would need to be made to constitution and bylaws. Roylene has meeting with SAIGE to discuss.
- 5) **Possible auction items:** Roylene and Tanya spoke to the specific items, history, and ideas of time, place, and method to auction off. Cassius & Cameron spoke to holding off and gathering more items for a time with a well-attended meeting and when AIANEA is more stable and have direction for any funds obtained.

- 6) **IAC student travel scholarships:** Roylene spoke to question of AIANEA being able to assist in future with travel scholarships to IAC annual conference for students in IAC leadership program. Would it overlap with National NRCS-IAC internship agreement? Could it overlap? How would students be selected? Cost? David spoke to needing more information and dollar amounts that would be needed, but overall supports the idea. Roylene will reach out to IAC for average travel cost, etc.
- 7) **501c3 Status & Taxes:** Roylene spoke to 501c3 status has been renewed. Working with Ron (accountant) to finish filing 2021 taxes and prepare for 2022 tax filing.
- 8) **Constitution & Bylaws Update:** Tanya went through 1st set of comments received on Section 1 of new C&B and need to complete Sections 1 & 2 to allow for membership review. She will resend comments received to council along with additional background/clarifying information. It is requested Council review comments on Section 1 and verbiage in Section 2 to allow for finalization at next meeting (January 3).
- 9) **Next meeting:** January 3. Tanya will be absent, Roylene will send email requesting confirmation of availability.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00

10) **Action Items:**

- Tanya to send out C&B Section 1 comments and Section 2 verbiage with clarifications.
- Roylene to meet with SAIGE to discuss potential chapter.
- Roylene will reach out to IAC for costs and information on student travel scholarships.
- Roylene will send email to confirm availability of Council members for January 3 meeting.
- Reminder for All – Send Tanya picture and brief intro for Facebook page

11) **Held Over Items:**

- 1st VP vacancy – how to proceed.
- Auction items – time and place.
- Annual business meeting – needed? When, How?
- Hiring Ron to conduct audit.
- Roylene will continue to pursue STCs re: Tribal Scholarship Program.
- David to follow up and clarify “set up fees” for welcome package items.
- Sherry to work with WiN to purchase Kahoot account.
- David to follow up with Listening Circle cadre about partnership.