

**NSAC  
Great Lakes Chapter  
Board Meeting  
March 17, 2017 8:00 A.M. Central**

***Minutes***

Molly Costaris called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. CST.

The minutes of the October Board meeting were provided by Molly Costaris via email. After allowing for review, a motion was made by David Loyd and seconded by Rebecca Smith to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ty Lein provided the treasurer's report. Ty indicated the deposit has been made on the June 2017 annual meeting for the conference center, last year's annual meeting there was a gain of approximately \$2,600. The board meeting expenses from last year are down. A motion was made by Andy Jones and seconded by Nick Ajster to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

**Education Committee Report:** Jeff Brandenburg did an update for John Tuttle. April 26<sup>th</sup> is the basic cooperative accounting session, which will be at CLA office in Madison. Depending on the amount signed up will determine if the session is a go. There will be 8 hours of CPE and the registration fee is \$225.

**Membership Report:** Andy Jones indicated as of February 2017 there were 116 members for the Great Lakes Chapter and NSAC national total membership is 1,496. Our chapter, as well as national membership, is down. New members for the chapter: Amy Gallagher (FarmFirst Dairy Coop), Michelle Hester (Oryana Food Coop), Brian Dahlk (Wegner), Christy Sommers (Maner Costerisan), and Tracy Grosskreutz (Wipfli).

**National Director Report:** Jeff Brandenburg indicated the national director's board met in January 2017 and had a strategic planning session. The following were discussed: reviewing mission statement, revised goals for an experience through technology, various outreach programs, increasing opportunities for networking, and increase membership involvement. Overall, there was a review of the NSAC's focus and the target audience. Next meeting will be in August 2017 in Salt Lake City.

**Newsletter Report:** Keith Arnold will get the 4 newsletters in, one after this meeting and then one in April.

**Board Terms:** Reviewed Board terms for everyone. Jeff Thompson and Andy Jones of Wisconsin will be replaced at the June 2017 annual meeting. Julie Luedtke and Mark Juedes are being considered.

**June 2017 Annual Meeting Discussion:**

June 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> in Grand Rapids, Michigan

Our Time and Place Chair is Kristin Emming. We are at the Holiday Inn downtown Grand Rapids and the conference and meals are at the Eberhard Center. Discussed the items time and place chair is responsible for including the following: save the date, hospitality rooms, name tags, drink tickets, and possible shuttle. Room blocks planned for approximately 40 rooms, pricing is \$149 per night. Those are for Wednesday and Thursday night. Kristin will see if she can get another night for those that want to stay longer. Room block ends May 23<sup>rd</sup>. For meals we have the following: Thursday continental breakfast, Thursday lunch on own, Thursday Break (Soda/Coffee/Treat), Thursday night dinner, and Friday breakfast. Dinner buffet \$27.50 per person (Gourmet Blend Garden Salad, Chicken Marsala, Bistro Steak, Broccoli, Green Beans with Pesto, Rosemary Garlic Redskin Potatoes, Penne Pasta with Marinara, and a dessert). Kristin will inquire about a kids buffet. Cocktail reception includes house liquor and wines, domestic/microbrew beers. Two drink tickets per person, cash bar after that. Lunch and breakfast are in a different room.

Options for entertainment: Escape Room, Planetarium at Museum (295 feet) \$450 for group, Gerald Ford Museum, John Ball Zoo Twilight Tour (1.4 miles) \$8.00 per person, Frederick Meyer Gardens, Grand Lady Riverboat (River Cruise), Beer/Wine Tours. The group decided on the John Ball Zoo Twilight Tour and transportation will be arranged.

Our Program Chair is Keith Arnold. The tentative schedule is as follows:

Registration from 8 to 12:30 on Thursday

Thursday morning plan to start at 9 a.m. Employee engagement session including Strengths Finder test; ranks strengths and attributes and what that means.

*Thursday Afternoon session:*

Ag Economic Update – Tanner Hemke (Co-Bank)

Tax Update – Becky Smith (CLA)

Open Session – Need a topic (Strategic Planning, Political Climate/Environment Update, Todd may know someone in Grand Rapids and some potential topics, Trends in Agribusiness technology, Change Management)

*Friday morning:*

Legal Update – Employment Law/Dusting off the bylaws – Todd Hoppe (Foster Swift)

Audit Update – Speaker to be determined (Ty to check with Brian, otherwise Randy with Wipfli)

IT Security/Fraud Risk Update – Speaker to be determined

Save the Date – No later than March 24<sup>th</sup>

Registration – Target is End of March

**Next Board Meeting:** Phone meeting will be set up by Molly for the last week of April, 1<sup>st</sup> week of May. Target date is April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Adjourned at 10:46 a.m. CST.

**Attendees:** Nick Ajster, Keith Arnold, Jeff Brandenburg, Molly Costaris, Kristin Emming, Andy Jones, Ty Lein, David Loyd, Rebecca Smith, and Jeff Thompson

**Not in Attendance:** John Tuttle and Kent Erhardt