

Geological Society of Minnesota Board Meeting Minutes Nov 20, 2023
By Stephen Willging – Secretary Final version date: 12/1/2023

Meeting: Monday 11/20/2023, 6:30p, In person only
Location: U Garden Restaurant, 2725 University Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN

Board members present

Roger Benepe
Kate Clover
Peter Hesse
Stephen Willging
Deborah Naffziger
Dick Bottenberg
Patrick Pfundstein (late)
Dave Kelso (absent)
John Westgaard (absent)

Non-Board Members present

Dave Wilhelm
Steve Erickson
Lowell Hill

Meeting was called to order at 6:35p.

Agenda Topics:

1. Treasurer's report – Dave Kelso

Dave Kelso was absent due to a family commitment. The treasurer's report, Appendix A, was reviewed and accepted by the Board.

2. Lectures & Labs – Steve Erickson

The Nov. 27th Zoom lecture has been canceled due to an unexpected personal issue with the speaker. A colleague of the speaker will present a similar topic as a Zoom lecture on Feb 26th, 2024. So, there will be 3 Zoom lectures in early 2024. The Dec 6th Zoom lecture will have an early start of 6pm CST. The Winter/Spring 2024 lecture series has been set with the exception of the Spring Banquet lecture.

The 2023/2024 lecture attendance summary can be found in Appendix B.

3. Video/Zoom recordings – Dick Bottenberg

Dick's detailed report can be found in Appendix C. Dick reported there are quality issues with the videos taken to date. Deborah suggested adjusting the white balance on the camera using a white test card before the next in person lecture. Another suggestion was to look into a better-quality video camera. Possibly a rental camera. The video team could also look into advice from National Camera. The video team will look into these suggestions.

Dick made a motion that the board approve a recurring expenditure of up to \$50 per lecture. This expenditure to pay for a technician to process the lecture video and upload to YouTube. Deborah seconded the motion. The board vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

4. Video Library – Dave Wilhelm

Dave will send an update report. As of 12/1/2023, nothing to report.

5. Name tags – Dave Wilhelm

Lowell Hill, Stephen Willging and Roger Benepe need a name tag. Dave requested these individuals send him an email with their name spelling they want on the tag.

6. Proposed donation of geology books by Keith Relyea – Dave Wilhelm

Dave reported Keith Relyea has changed his mind about the donations. Therefore, nothing to discuss.

7. GSM Website – Alan Smith

Prior to the meeting Alan Smith indicated there was nothing new to report. He requested the next Board meeting be held in the U of MN lecture room so he can walk the Board through the GSM website.

8. Field Trips – David Wilhelm & Joe Newberg

Dave W. reported the Missouri field trip lead by Randy Strobel and Joanie Furlong during the 3rd week on October was very good. A total of 14 people attended. Three people have been requested to write reports for the next GSM Newsletter.

Potential 2024 field trips were also discussed.

David W. reported a potential Eclipse field trip was likely not possible due to cost and hotel availability.

Roger B. and Stephen W. are looking into the possibility of Montana trip during Labor Day week.

A possible 4- or 5-day field trip to Ohio was suggested by Deborah N. for April/May.

Stephen W. also suggested looking into a field trip to the old lead mining district in the Wisconsin/Iowa/Illinois tristate region. David W. thought there had been some work on setting up a similar trip in the past that would be a go starting point.

9. Election of 2024 officers - All

David Wilhelm was nominated as the next President and Deborah Naffziger volunteered to be the next Vice President. Dave Kelso offered to continue as Treasurer and Stephen Willging offered to continue as Secretary. No other nominations were made from the floor.

Roger made a motion that the slate of 4 officer nominees/volunteers be accepted. Kate seconded the motion. The Board vote was unanimous.

The 2024 GSM officers are:

President – David Wilhelm

Vice President – Deborah Naffziger

Secretary – Stephen Willging

Treasurer – Dave Kelso

10. New members, younger and diversity – Mary Helen Inskeep

Mary Helen was not able to attend the meeting. She has asked her discussion be moved to the next meeting. In her absence the group did some brainstorming (see below). The group should think it over for the next Board meeting.

Steve E. reported the GSM has gone through periods of “turnover” in the past. Some of the potential outreach ideas discussed were:

Do a fossil out reach.

Work with the Bell Museum or Science Museum of Minnesota on potential programs.

Put signs up at the rock shops around town like The Enchanted Rock Garden, ZRS, and/or Mo’r Design.

Publicize a “Walking Tour” of St. Paul.

Do a T-shirt/hat raffle at the State Fair. We need to check with Joe Newberg if we can get more T-shirts and hats made up.

Offer a local field trip that would be free of charge that nonmembers could sign up for at the state fair.

11. GSM logo modification - All

The question “Do we need to Change the Logo” was brought up but not answered. It was suggested that at the Dec 11th Zoom lecture a short presentation of alternative logos be made. Patrick P. will work on alternative color schemes for a future meeting.

12. Additional reports

See Appendix D for Patrick P. report on the Minnehaha Geological Marker, GSM’s U Tube Channel and Appendix E for the State Fair summary and post Fair expense summary.

Next Board Meeting was tentatively scheduled for Mon. Feb 5th, 2024 at the U of MN lecture hall.

Deborah N. moved this meeting be adjourned. The Motion was seconded by Patrick P. The Board vote was unanimous.

Appendix A – Dave Kelso

Treasurer's Report
GSM Board Meeting
Nov 20, 2023

1. Checkbook balanced for the months of Aug, Sep, and Oct 2023.
2. Income, deposits, for the three months = \$2930.00.
Expenses for the three months: Fall banquet & annual meeting facility rent = \$150.00.
Fall banquet speaker expense = \$25.
Lecture honorariums = \$250.
Tripod for lecture video recording = \$242.
Extra Space Storage rent = \$421.55 (\$143.05/mo.).
Total expenses for the three months = \$1,078.55.
Checking account balance as of Oct 31, 2023, = \$17,300.05.
Investment account balance (RBC Wealth Management) as of Nov 30, 2023, = \$5484.34
Financial spreadsheets will be uploaded to the GSM website at the conclusion of the Board meeting.

Submitted by Dave Kelso
GSM Treasurer

Appendix B – Dave Wilhelm

GSM Lecture/Lab Attendance

2023-2024

Summary for Fall 2023 to date: 5 lectures, 277 total attendance, 55 average attendance, 9 recorded new attendees

2023-11-13 57 Deciphering the Details of Dinosaur Worlds: Insights From 35 Years in the Cretaceous Rocks of Montana (3 new attendees – website, invited by friends/relatives)

2023-10-30 64 The Great Lisbon Earthquake in 18th-Century Philosophy and Seismology (4 new attendees – State Fair, invited by friends)

2023-10-16 45 Urban Micrometeorites and Everything You Need to Know about Them (2 new attendees – invited by friends)

2023-10-02 41 Making magmas: Experimental insights on magma depth and temperature beneath (did not poll for new attendees)

2023-09-18 70 Fall Banquet - The Deep Caves of Minneapolis and the Shock of the Anthropocene (did not poll for new attendees)

Appendix C – Dick Bottenberg
11/19/23

GSM video update: Joe Wright

Status:

Lowell Hill and Joe Wright are now both capturing the videos so we don't miss any due to one of us not being there. We are talking a couple meetings in advance to not be caught with the camera in the wrong place. Also using Dick Bottenberg to help transfer.

Having issues with video quality this season. Will see if we can improve in post-production. Will review camera settings and white balance to see if something had been changed from last year. Will also then lock in values in settings.

2023/2024 Videotaping:

9/18/23 The Deep Caves of Minneapolis And the Shock of the Anthropocene by Greg Brick

This was the presentation at U Garden to start the year. The video did not come out well though we did have the presenter stand down by the screen to improve video action. The lighting was not ideal and got worse when the restaurant shut off the lights. But the video itself was fairly washed out.

Won't be putting this video up.

10/02/23 Presenter did not want to be videoed.

10/16/23 Micrometeorites by Scott Peterson

The presentation was done at the U. We still had some problems with the video being a little washed out but will put together for uploading to the GSM website.

10/30/23 The Great Lisbon Earthquake of 1755 by Dr. Anna Graber

The presentation was done at the U. Video again was very washed out.

11/13/23 Presenter did not want to be videoed.

Will see if I can improve the video quality in post-production. Will also adjust white balance and see if the other adjustments were changed without knowing about it. I'll bring my computer with me at next presentation at the U and do some real-time review of the video before the actual presentation starts.

Logo: Using old logo.

Previous:

Meteorites: The History and Mystery of Falling Rocks By Craig Zliman

Video has been up on YouTube for a couple months with 691 views and 24 likes.

Appendix D: Patrick Pfundstein

From: Patrick Pfundstein
To: Stephen Willging
Cc: Lowell Hill, Joe Wright, Roger C Benepe, Kate Clover, Peter Hesse
Mon, Nov 20

I'll be there when I can; unlikely 6:30, but hopefully pre-7pm.

Attached is the Fair Report, which is the main thing I have to add.

On the YouTube front, status quo since August; no new postings by me.

On the Minnehaha front, we have a proof to pick up, that I haven't gotten to yet. Hopefully I can get it quick and send an update before the notes to this meeting are final. Not sure what it looks like since I didn't get an e-version.

Patrick

Appendix E: Patrick Pfundstein

State Fair and MMC Report 2023

We had 40 volunteers work over 306 hours at the State Fair and MMC with no last minute cancellations. About 1400 Lecture Brochures and 900 Marker brochures were picked up at the State Fair and another 400 Lecture brochures and 300 Marker brochures were picked up during the two days of MMC. I recycled the remaining Lecture brochures, but we have a few hundred Marker brochures remaining (they don't "expire" like the Lecture version). Not sure if it was the new booth arrangement or the print-on-white, but the recent-for-me trend of 2 Lectures for every Marker didn't happen this year; the ratio was more 3:2.

Main feedback was to get a big mounted version of the Mineral Key back in the booth; I'll get that done for next year.

19 free admission tickets were distributed to volunteers for working more than one shift. This proved a great incentive, and we needed the repeats to staff the booth, so I recommend we do this again in 2023.

Appendix E continued

Post License Fair Expenses (need to send Dave K a bill for this)

Transportation:

Load in delivery Uhaul van:	\$44.77
Load out 10' Uhaul Truck:	\$161.38

Total	\$206.15
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Printing (FedEx Office):

8/21 1500 Lect Broch	\$600.05
8/23 500 Marker Broch	\$217.10
8/28 500 Lect Broch	\$200.92
9/1 500 Lect Broch/500 Marker	\$401.83

Total	\$1419.90
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MSF Admission tickets:

19 @ \$15.00	\$285.00\$
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Total	\$1911.05
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Patrick