



42nd Annual Business Meeting
Atlantic International Chapter
American Fisheries Society
September 13, 2016
Rockywold Deephaven Cabins
Holderness, New Hampshire

1. Call to order - Scott Decker was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms and determined that there was a quorum.
2. Acknowledgement of Past Presidents in Attendance - Kathryn Collet, Ian Kiraly, Jud Kratzer, Graham Goulette, Mike Bailey, Christine Lipsky, Scott Decker.
3. Secretary's Report (Lipsky) - Kratzer made a motion to approve the 2015 annual meeting minutes, Goulette seconded, motion passed.
4. Membership Report (Gries) - Handout showed 201 members in 2016, down from 271 in 2016. AFS currently counts only those who are in the geographic area. Tally of membership is still inconsistent within the parent society. Discussion on this was tabled to Old Business.
5. Treasurer's Report (Lipsky) – Handout showed account balances (rounded to nearest dollar) on 9 September 2016 as follows: US: \$19,912 CAN: \$4,901 PayPal US: \$9,428 PayPal CAN: \$2,283.
6. Update from the Northeast Division of AFS (Decker) - NED is holding their annual meeting at the SNEC 50th Anniversary meeting in Mystic, CT, since NEAFWA is being held outside the NED geographical area. The 2018 AFS Meeting will be held in Atlantic City, NJ.
7. UMaine Sub-unit Report - UMaine Subunit received the Subunit of the Year award from the parent society!!!!
8. Student Assistance - In 2016, nine Chapter Meeting stipends were awarded. The award included room and board for the meeting, student registration fee, and a one-year student membership to AFS. Recipients were: Nathalie LeBlanc, Faith Penny, Danielle Quinn, Lita O'Halloran, Emma Carmichael, Sean Landsmen, Travis James, Jenna Rackovan, Tyson Morrill.
9. Newsletter and Website (Magee for Leach) - No newsletters were published this year, since we now send out bulk emails. Suggestion was made to post a monthly journal on the AIC website

(a paragraph on research, for example). This could be a requirement for future stipend recipients. In the future, to inform Chapter of activities and news, we can either send an email stating that info is on the website or we can just email the info (details of a publication; upcoming conference; award; etc).

10. Archives Committee (Magee for Atkinson) - All has been received and duly archived. We have a need to update the AIC website (history on the website is out of date, Magee will update this - Kathryn volunteered to help with this (with assistance as requested!)).

11. Old Business

Membership tally issue - The parent society has reverted to using members' addresses to determine who is in the Chapter. This omits people who live out of the area who want to be included (note there are several at this meeting). Glitches in the AFS website have not always allowed the option to make any Chapter or Committee selections. At this time, it would not be a good idea to charge a nominal fee (say, \$1) in order to "opt in" because we might inadvertently lose membership. Decision was made to maintain status quo until things settle out.

- Continuing Education – Suggestion was made to provide some type of training/education to earn credits for Fisheries Professional status. A one- or two-hour course on Sunday night at the Chapter Meeting would be ideal. By keeping it within the meeting, people won't need to make choices about which to attend (travel budgets are tight!).
- Term of Secretary-Treasurer office - NED has a two year term for the treasurer position, which makes sense due to the amount of time and effort needed to change names on accounts and make the transition. Lipsky noted that it took four months for the bank to make the transition. Issue was tabled for future discussion.

12. Nominating Committee (Ex Comm)

- Request for nominations - Vice President – Trevor Avery was nominated, and he accepted the nomination. Secretary-Treasurer – Christine Lipsky was nominated, and she accepted the nomination. Scott Decker moved that nominations be closed and that the Secretary cast one favorable ballot for the slate of officers. The slate was elected as nominated. The new ExComm was ushered in by past AIC Presidents and photos were taken.

13. New Business

- Location for next meeting: Nova Scotia.

- John Magee read aloud the Resolution for the meeting.
- Funds in accounts – AIC accounts are currently non interest-bearing. AFS has an investment vehicle, with a \$10K minimum, suggested timeframe of at least 3 years (not hard and fast, no penalty for early removal). 10-year annual return has been 8.8%. The interest could be used to fund a research grant (would need a selection committee and criteria). Point was made that we don't want AIC to sit on the money, but rather it should benefit the members (student stipends; continuing ed). AIC currently has \$20K in the US account, but most was derived from hosting the Parent Society meeting. Question: How will the AIC manage financially without the Parent Society meeting money for another 10 years? It would be helpful to have AIC financials for past years to provide a long-term view. Question: How much does the AIC make from the Annual Meeting? Lipsky and Magee will put together a simple spreadsheet of the annual income over the last few years.
- UNH Subunit – has been conducting meetings as a provisional unit since Spring 2016. There are 15 members, and they hosted weekly speakers (will move to monthly speakers in Fall 2016). Jenna Rackovan is currently President, and is planning winter activities, such as ice fishing and field trips. John Magee made a motion to accept AIC bylaw changes to add the UNH group as an official subunit. Graham Goulette seconded the motion. Discussion noted that the AIC proposed bylaw changes to add the subunit are posted on the website and were sent to the membership 30 days before the meeting. John Magee summarized the bylaw changes. Vote was unanimous in favor of the bylaw changes.
- Best student presentation awards were given to Jenna Rackovan and Faith Penny.
- Lita O'Halloran received the Lunger Award, and Emma Carmichael received the Soggy Boot Award.

Motion was made to adjourn and was seconded. Motion carried unanimously.