

OKRA Board Meeting Minutes - May 29, 2015

OU Schusterman Center - Tulsa

Meeting called to order at 11:15 by Traci Phillips.

In attendance: (in person) - Ilda Hershey, Michael Patton, Christine Allison, Ellen Bussert, Daniel McCune, Lynn Malley. (On WebEx) -Traci Phillips, Sara Ivey, Jim Bologna, Ian Groshong.

Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the 4-1-15 minutes by Ilda Hershey, second Michael, motion approved.

Committee Reports

Membership –Ilda reported to date we have 65 paid members. Over half are at the \$75.00 level. Ilda sent an invoice to anyone that was a 2014 member that has not yet renewed. Ilda talked to Gail Ederer about being the membership chair and Gail is interested. Ilda proposed that OKRA pay Gail a consultant fee to handle membership in a professional manner. Ilda asked for Board permission to inquire with Gail and come up with a detailed plan regarding number of hours expected and estimated fee. Michael motioned. Ellen seconded. Motion passed.

Finance – Michael reported it was quiet this period. The income was all from memberships. Expenses were for WebEx, PayPal fees, website work and survey monkey yearly subscription. New balance \$28,914.02.

Michael said he wants to step down from the treasurer role after we achieve 501(c)(3) status. Ilda suggested perhaps OKRA ask Gail Ederer to volunteer to be treasurer when Michael steps down.

Ellen reminded the board that she has the third key to the mail box that she is willing to use in emergencies.

Advocacy Daniel McCune – Daniel said in his visits to the state capitol he has learned that what OKRA needs is a message, and it can't just be "we exist". We need to decide what OKRA's priority is. Daniel heard from our elected officials that they want one contact person that they can go to and get an answer quickly when they have questions or concerns. Ilda said our info@recycleok.org is the best avenue for getting answers to the wide variety of questions that this organization receives to ensure that the person best suited to answer that question can generate a proper response. Michael thought a good message for OKRA to promote is the creation of jobs from the use of recycled materials in industry. Ellen likes the idea of one idea and knows that would be helpful and the idea needs to be something new and different not just container legislation.

Daniel will send an email to the board and advisory council to call a meeting for anyone interested in talking about what OKRA's message at the capitol will be.

Education Ian Groshong - Ian has reworked the contest rules to clarify the prizes as discussed at previous meetings. He's working on a new theme and has someone working on some graphics that can go out to schools and be used on the website. Ian wants the information available the first of August so that schools will have lots of time to work on their entries. Michael suggested we really pay attention to the words selected for the theme.

Sara – presented check to Clyde Boyd Middle School. Information will be sent to Trudi for the next newsletter.

Michael – the person at the Owasso 8th Grade Center is not there anymore. Michael suggested we change the structure of this program. He suggested that OKRA select an amount, perhaps \$1000.00 per year, and have schools apply for the funds. They we can select ten schools to distribute \$100.00 each per year. Consensus was that in order to get participation we need to make it as easy as possible to apply. Michael said “100 words for \$100.00”- Tell us how you will use the money to help your recycling program. Ian will head the details of this effort. Sara and Lynn will assist Ian.

Workgroup Reports

Market Development no report

Materials exchange no report

Communication

- Facebook – Tracy has done a great job posting on Facebook. Thanks Tracy!
- Website – Ilda updated the homepage with the new members and next she will update the conference page.
- Newsletter – Trudi emailed saying she will send an email next week with a call for articles. The next deadline will be June 15th. Lynn said we should let Trudi know what a great job she continues to do on the newsletter. Thank you so much Trudi!
- E-Mail Inquiries – Ilda reported she fielded 7 inquiries since the last board meeting. Ilda said the majority of the emails were relating to Abitibi school bins. Abitibi was sold and schools are being notified that they will now being charged for hauling service rather than receiving money for the paper. The Tulsa area bins are being services by Robert Pickens. OKC and rural areas are being hardest hit by this change from a free service, with monetary incentives, to a paid service. The message needs to be that recycling is still cheaper than trash service for most schools, so it will probably be advantageous (depending on area and fee) to recycle rather than put the paper in with their regular trash.

•2015 Conference – Ilda sent out draft program ideas. The date has been confirmed: Tuesday, October 20th at the OU Schusterman Center in Tulsa. The Keynote speaker has been confirmed, Scott Cassel, Product Stewardship Institute. Ilda has asked the C3 group to handle the registration again. Michael motioned to authorize the conference planning committee to go forward and make all decisions regarding the conference. Ellen seconded. Motion passed. Lynn volunteered to head the conference planning committee in Ilda’s absence. Ilda asked if the board would approve \$350.00 deposit for the OU Schusterman Center. Michael moved. Lynn seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business

Bylaw revisions – Garmon emailed saying there is no change.

501(c)(3) status - Michael is meeting about this today and will hopefully be signing papers and filing the application. Traci asked Michael to send a short email to the executive committee after today’s meeting with an update.

Update list of recyclers statewide- Lynn said the old way was that when someone went to a particular area, they would check to see who the current recycler were. But she says this method is not working. Lynn said she will try to prioritize this higher on her to-do list and perhaps get some help from student interns she will have this summer.

Workgroup descriptions – Michael, no update.

New Business

Christine Allison said the Oklahoma Manufacturing Conference will take place at the Embassy Suites in Norman on October 7th. She said they still have some vendor space available if OKRA would be interested. www.Okalliance.com Michael motioned to authorize the booth fee of \$385.00. Ilda seconded. Motion passed.

Items for the next meeting:

- Discuss who can work the booth at the OK Manufacturing Conference. Lynn has the “Close the Loop” display materials that can be used at the booth.
- Discuss OKRA Officer positions

Next Meeting

Friday, July 24th from 11:00-1:00 in Stillwater (location TBD) or via WebEx.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:13 pm. Those in attendance took a tour of the OU Schusterman Center following the meeting and reported it will work very well for the October 20th OKRA conference.