

SAMAB
Executive Committee Meeting
September 16, 2013



In Attendance

Rick Durbrow, Adam DeWitte, Jeff Troutman, Jenn Thompson, Susan Schexnayder, Charlie Van Sickle, Neil Giffen, Pat Parr

Action items are in **RED**

Notes of Interest

- Rick sent out a new version of the vision statement to the group with input from Monica, Scott and himself. He led the group in explaining his thought process in developing this revised vision. ***Please see his version for exact details.***
- Pat explained Discover Life in America as a non-profit that supports the Biodiversity Index in the Smokies. There's a yearly conference, and the Executive Director has expressed an interest in meeting with SAMAB.
- **Action Item: The group should continue to talk about which organizations and conferences or lectures would best benefit SAMAB and create sustainability. These ideas should be finalized by the November meeting for the coming year.**
- **Action Item: Pat will put together a format that we can use to get in touch with organizations, priorities for SAMAB for other conferences, goals and objectives for those conferences as it pertains to our group.**
- Need to have more examples and specifics for each bulleted item, and this will take work by each individual, along with strong commitment.
- **Action Item: What will you as an individual be able to provide when it comes to taking SAMAB to another level of communication outreach? We would like to increase our presence through "web-site postings, blogs, news articles, twitter, and other social media outlets that convey information critical to the long term sustainability of the region". What can you do to help in these areas?**
- Pat – Recognize these resources that will take financial commitments.
- Adam suggests redesigning the website to begin the process of a "facelift" for the organization. Adam has suggested that he can maintain the website if everyone agrees.
- **Action Item: We'll need to have dollar amounts for redesign and should outline exactly what we'd like to do by the November meeting.**
- Jeff – We won't be able to do it all at once as we move forward. We should keep in mind the things that we can immediately do.
- Jenn – We could possibly post past accomplishments on the website that she's working with so it could be viewed by a wider audience and it wouldn't have a cost associated.

- Adam suggested that d. from #1 could be consolidated into #2 task to bring the education component all together into one format. Rick agrees that they could be compiled and shaved down.
- The group decides to have a November sit-down meeting and chose dates that we could arrange this – possibly November 7 or 8 or the following week of November 14 or 15.
- **Action Item: Adam will send out a Doodle poll to find out what the best date would be for a November sit-down meeting (completed on September 16).**
- Because of SAMAB's 25th year, we will check on locations in Gatlinburg where it began.
- **Action Item: Jeff will check on using Twin Creeks location in Gatlinburg for the November meeting.**
- **Action Item: Jenn will compile a list of 25 accomplishments for website portals to commemorate the anniversary.**
- How can we engage the Biosphere Reserves managers in promoting management activities that are going on? What does it mean to “engage the Biosphere Reserve managers” and how do we do this? What is our vision for this piece?
- Rick suggested that we have one meeting prior to the October 21st meeting. He suggested October 7th for the Revitalization Team at 10:00am.

Adjourned at 11:49am

Recordings of the meeting can be sent to you if you need more information.

Next meetings via conference call:

October 7 at 10:00am

October 21 at 11:00am