



Kentucky Environmental Education Council (KEEC)
Council Meeting Minutes
November 28, 2018

Meeting Location: 300 Building, 300 Sower Boulevard, Room 418, Frankfort KY

Meeting Time: 1:00 p.m. Eastern

Council Members in Attendance: Chair Billie Hardin, Vice Chair Marcus Norton, Lona Brewer, Gordon Garner, Karen Reagor

Absent Members: Karin Ceralde

Staff in Attendance: Billy Bennett, Wesley Bullock, Ashley Mike

A. Introduction

1. The meeting was called to order by B. Hardin at 1:20 PM. W. Bullock confirmed that public notice of the Council Meeting was given, as required by Open Meetings law.
2. W. Bullock called roll. Of the six Council Members, five were present, constituting a quorum.
3. Action: Motion to Approve July 2018 Council Meeting and Council Retreat Minutes, and September 2018 Special Council Meeting Minutes: \iff At 1:23 PM, G. Gordon moved to approve the minutes of the July Council Meeting and Council Retreat, and the September Special Council Meeting. K. Reagor seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. The motion passed.
4. Action: Motion to Approve 2019 Schedule of Council Meetings: \iff At 1:24 PM, L. Brewer moved to approve the 2019 schedule of Council Meetings. G. Garner seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. The motion passed.
5. B. Hardin reminded the Council that discussion at this Special Council Meeting is limited to items on the agenda, as required by Open Meetings law.

B. Communication and Marketing

1. Update:

- B. Bennett noted that he sent several colleges and universities a proposal for their marketing department to help KEEC with its re-branding process. He received one reply—from Kentucky Wesleyan. He needs to check if the state already has a contract requiring the agency to work with a particular vendor. L. Brewer asked him to send a reminder to other colleges and universities for them to respond.
- The Council then discussed conferences that KEEC staff and Council Members have attended in the past quarter. M. Norton enjoyed attending the KAEE Conference, and he and B. Hardin agreed it is a great outreach opportunity for the Council.
- M. Norton asked the date of the North American Association for Environmental Education conference in Lexington, which will be held October 16-19, 2019.

- W. Bullock said that attending the Northern Kentucky University STEM Conference was worth the money and effort because he was able to talk to a large number of teachers in a short time.
- B. Bennett reported that exhibiting and presenting at the Kentucky Association of School Councils was not worth it because of the limited engagement with conference attendees.
- Staff appreciated the North American Association for Environmental Education conference in Spokane, WA, because of the great amount of information about current trends in the field, including new instruments for evaluating environmental education programs, which will be needed for the Environmental Education Leadership Corps.
- L. Brewer and K. Reagor reported that the Governor's Conference on Energy and the Environment went well, with good networking, despite not as much activity.
- B. Hardin, G. Gordon, and B. Bennett reported that the Louisville Sustainability Summit had great sessions and speakers, and a diversity of attendees, and exhibiting was worth the cost.
- W. Bullock reported that attendance at the Kentucky Science Teachers' Association Conference was down this year, possible due to cuts to teacher professional development funding.
- B. Bennett reported that the KY EXCEL program's Sustainability Spirits Summit was good for business contacts, but the discussion was very technical.
- L. Brewer asked what conferences are coming up for the agency. B. Hardin noted that upcoming season has few conferences.
- B. Hardin asked when and how the Report to the General Assembly would be distributed. She requested that staff make this a priority and get advice from cabinet leadership on how to distribute it.

C. Budget

1. Action: Motion to Approve Quarterly Budget Report: ⇨ G. Gordon moved to approve the Quarterly Budget Report. K. Reagor seconded. All were in favor. None were opposed. The motion passed. L. Brewer requested that B. Bennett task G. Taylor with drafting the final report for the Environmental Protection Agency grant. B. Hardin asked staff to provide this final report for the February meeting.
2. Information: B. Bennett requested an increase in the budget for the Master Plan to pay for a facilitator for the public meetings. L. Brewer requested to know the amount of the personal service contract before approving it. W. Bullock requested using some of the money approved for grants to Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools for teacher professional development instead. B. Hardin asked for staff to submit a proposal at the February Council Meeting.

D. Environmental Education

1. Information: B. Bennett reported that KEEC staff created an application based on templates and advice from Andrea Falken, the US Department of Education contact for the Green Ribbon Schools program.
2. Action: Motion to Create Green Ribbon Schools Review Panel: ⇨ G. Gordon moved to create a Green Ribbon Schools review panel consisting of one KEEC Council Member, one KEEC staff member, and two out-of-state experts. K. Reagor seconded. After discussion, G. Gordon revised the motion to create a Green Ribbon Schools review panel consisting of one KEEC Council

Member, one KEEC staff member, and one other expert. All were in favor. None were opposed. The motion passed. B. Hardin asked if the Council could recognize all applicants, even those who are not nominated, in some way, given the difficulty of applying.

G. Gordon left the meeting

3. Update: G. Taylor updated the Council on the Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools program. He has presented awards at many of the schools that received them in 2018, and received dozens of submission from Allen County-Scottsville High School. Council Members proposed bringing together KGHS teachers regularly to communicate with each other, perhaps at the KSTA Conference or in a Skype meeting. Council Members expressed their heartfelt gratitude for all of the time and effort G. Taylor has put into the program.
4. Update: A. Mike reported on the Environmental Education Leadership Corps, which has 11 members enrolled, 9 of which are full-time, with recruiting ongoing for several sites. She reported on developing a social media presence for EELCorps. B. Hardin suggested asking sites for social media posts.

L. Brewer left the meeting

5. Update: W. Bullock updated the Council on the Professional Environmental Educator Certification course, which has held the first of four workshops and includes both EELCorps members and members of the public. He reported that the Kentucky Association for Environmental Education secured a grant from the Kentucky Colonels to partially pay for course curriculum books. B. Hardin expressed appreciation on behalf of the Council for KAEE's work on the grant.

E. Coordination

1. Update: B. Hardin asked B. Bennett to put together a plan for creating the Master Plan and send it to her and M. Norton before presenting it to the full council. B. Bennett reported that the agency is working with the Kentucky Center for Statistics to work on the survey. KEEC will post the Kentucky Environmental Literacy Plan for comment and use the Kentucky Department of Education to get the word out to involve all stakeholders. For the Master Plan, KEEC will hold a writing retreat with 10-12 members. B. Hardin asked B. Bennett to put this into the proposal with cost estimates for a timeline to finish before the legislative budget session, and one timeline to finish in June 2020. She said to consider 4 meetings for public input. B. Bennett noted that he has been invited to serve on the Heritage Land Conservation Board's environmental education committee.

F. Support – Public and Private

1. Update: B. Bennett updated the Council on grants he has applied for.

Motion to Adjourn: \Rightarrow At 4:10 PM, K. Reagor moved to adjourn. M. Norton seconded. All were in favor; none were opposed. The motion passed.