



ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER ORGANIZATION

Asian Pacific Islander Organization

APIO
POB 25936
Eugene, OR 97402

Peter Bautista
President
(509) 323-2941
Peter.bautista@wa.usda.gov

Jay Mar
Executive Vice-President
(307)-233-6757
Jay.mar@wy.usda.gov

Gina Schworm
Vice President
(740) 452-8618
Gina.Schworm@oh.usda.gov

Nick Vira
Treasurer
(541) 465-6443 x 125
nick.vira@or.usda.gov

Cheryl Morton
Secretary
(808) 541-2600 x105
Cheryl.Morton@hi.usda.gov

A professional employee group of
NRCS

Visit us at www.apio.org

Non Profit Status
#DLN 503150066

APIO National Council Teleconference October 27, 2010 Minutes 3:00pm PST

Attendees:

Peter Bautista, Gina Schworm, Nick Vira, Angela Biggs, Mani P, David Fischer, Jacqueline Padron, Kent Matsutani, and Pamela Sablan Aguon

1. Old Business

- a. Minutes were presented and approved. David Fischer 1st motion, Nick 2nd.
- b. Return Rights letter status: Peter has not heard back about this letter yet.
Action item: Peter will follow up with Eloris Speight to get status.

2. New Business

- a. Treasurer Report
 - i. Joint Conference 2010 Update: closing out next week
 - ii. Louie Dick payment has been made to reimburse him for payment of auction items that he never received, along with a letter of apology and a dried fruit basket.
 - iii. Conference 2011 Marriott Hotel Contract: there are a couple of revisions to be reviewed or made. Right now there are 150 room nights for Tuesday and Wednesday night, which might pose a problem. There are going to be arrangements made for an overflow hotel, which the hotel said to just make plans 90 days before, but Nick suggested that we finalize our plans significantly sooner so we don't get stuck without an overflow hotel. Angela also suggested listing alternate hotels and encourages early booking.

Action Item: Nick to follow up with the hotel tomorrow to try and negotiate the terms of the contract, and report back to Yuri and Peter.

- iv. Nick had no treasurer's report to present to the Council. There are no changes other than what was mentioned above.
- b. Officer's Report
 - i. President- Peter
 1. 2010 Joint Conference close out: things should be settled within the next few weeks.
 2. CR Award bulletin: this is the chief's award; there are basically two categories of nomination, group and individual. The three groups that put the Joint Conference together are going to be nominated. (Thanks to Kent for this suggestion)
Action Item: if there are any other suggestions for nominations, please forward them to the National Council or Peter for consideration. Deadlines are coming up soon.
 3. APIO Updated Brochures: Phuong Ly did an excellent job updating the APIO brochures, they are okay to distribute. A poster board has also been developed, intended to be used for promoting the APIO. This poster board is to be shared nationwide, where requested.

4. Yi Kum - recently started in VA, hired as a budget or financial assistant.
 5. ABC reporting- reminder that time spent participating in APIO activities should not be reported unless you have the approval to do so on gov't. time from your supervisor. However, if you are an SEPM, you may count time towards those duties.
 6. AAPI-SEPM- reminder that the National AAPI SEPM position is still open and the deadline is by COB Friday, October 29th.
Jacqueline reported that she hasn't not heard of anyone that has applied. There was some discussion regarding this position, as follows: There are some concerns with this being a collateral duty position. The issue has been brought to NHQ many times, and still is offered as collateral duty. Council suggested that maybe we should join forces with the other employee organizations and pursue this issue still. Maybe even send a letter to the Chief?
- ii. Executive VP- Jay: not present, no report
 - iii. VP- Gina: no report
 - iv. Secretary- Cheryl: not present, no report
- c. Regional Reports
- i. PIA-East – Dave Fischer: (report has already been sent to Cheryl). He has forwarded the National SEPM vacancy announcement to the Pac Basic.
 - ii. PIA-West – Pamela Sablan Aguon: Outreach activities going on throughout the area. Pete asked what the reaction was to the return rights letter; she reported that there was a 50/50 reaction.
 - iii. West – Phuong Ly (CA): Not present, no report
 - iv. Great Plains- Dan Curtis (KS); Not present, no report.
 - v. Midwest- Mani Phengrasmy: Outreach activities going on, some EQIP/WHIP applicants.
 - vi. South- Nga Watts (FL): Not present, no report.
 - vii. East – Yuri Plowden (PA): Not present, no report.
- d. National AAPI-SEPM report (Jacqueline, Acting): Encouraged to find individuals to apply for the national SEPM vacancy.
- e. Committee Updates: (these were put on hold because of time constraints and will be presented at the next teleconference)

Meeting Adjourned at 4:00pm - PST