



## Georgia ANREP

### Spring Board Meeting Minutes

*Zoom - April 27, 2021*

**Call to Order:** Bryan Fluech called the meeting to order at 02:02 pm

**Members Present:** Jessica Warren, Kim Toal, Heather Kolich, Richard Evans, Yanni Chen, Bryan Fluech, Kelli Cody Brookins, Jessica Brown, Ashley Hoppers, and Alicia Holloway

**Introductions:** Alicia Holloway – New NE Area Director (Joined later in meeting)

**Approval of Minutes:** Bryan emailed minutes of the October 2020 meeting to board members on 04/22/2021 for review. Richard Evans made motion to approve; seconded. Motion approved by membership.

## BOARD MEMBER UPDATES & REPORTS

### Kim Toal - Financial & Membership Report (Fayette County)

- April financial report emailed to members on 04/27/2021 for review.
- Secretary of State Registration Fees/Dues and taxes were completed.
- All state and national association dues have been paid.
- Bank account fees have not been assessed yet – Kim will send a copy to the board.
- The Georgia membership spreadsheet have been updated – Kim will send out an updated list to board. Current paid membership is 44 people.
- ANREP listserv has been updated with current membership.
  - There may be some issues with receiving e-mail for non-UGA e-mail addresses.
  - Kim will send out listserv members to board for reference.
  - The number of members and the number of those on the listserv differ because of additional state office staff e-mails are included.

### Jessica Warren - Past President (Camden County)

- Won the Forward for the Future Award
- Has completed various virtual county-based programs.
- A joint ANR position for McIntosh & Glynn counties will be opened soon – Glynn looking for a candidate with a horticulture and turf background.

### Yanni Chen – Northwest Program Director (DeKalb County)

- County office is still closed due to COVID – currently working from home.

### Kelli Cody Brookins – Secretary (Columbia County)

- Many 4-H programs are up and running in-person with limited capacities.
- Planning several environmental/science based summer programs for students.
- Working with Master Gardeners to complete veggie & pollinator gardens at the office.

### **Ashley Hoppers – (Fannin & Gilmer Counties)**

- Completed research trials and dealing with storm damage from the prior month.
- Hosting programs relating to streambank stabilization and erosion issues.
- Will host a Forestry Field Day in the fall.
- Help establish certified Monarch Waystation at local schools and vineyards.
- Completed natural resource and pollinator programming at local elementary schools and assisted middle school with landscape design & native and non-native species.

### **Heather Kolich – President-Elect (Forsyth County)**

- GA Green Into Issues Programming with Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists
- Won Georgia Green Landscape Stewards Award
- Hosting Master Naturalist training online and programming with local bat habitats.
- Since January, county has dealt with freezing temperatures, drought, & storm damage.
- Cumming was awarded Tree City USA

### **Kim Toal – Treasurer (Fayette County)**

- Working on county budgets and dealing with tornado damage from previous storm.
- Working on MGEV programming as well as summer 4-H programming.

### **Richard Evans – Southeast District Director (Bryan County)**

- Working with local landscape crews and timber companies.
- Currently hiring a 4-H agent in Liberty County

### **Bryan Fluech – President (MAREX, Associate Dir)**

- Dealing with storm damage in garden.
- Planning day camp and online programming.
- MAREX is hiring a new economist.
- Will chair the National Tourism Conference in October 2021.
- Discussion about list of Senior Professionals able and willing to serve on promotion committees and provide recommendations for those going up for promotion.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Georgia ANREP Strategic Plan Update**

- Yanni completed promo video.
- Bryan will send out copy of the strategic plan to board.
- Kelli will put a copy of the plan and the promo video in ANREP Google Folder.

### **GA ANREP Webinar Series**

- Discussed previously mentioned monthly webinar series brought forth by Michael Abney – could be used as in-service training hours.
- Many members are already creating monthly virtual programming – board decided to table the webinar series.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Current Phrasing in By-Laws Regarding Travel Commits of the President**

- Funding issues for travel and conferences if the President is with MAREX rather than UGA Extension – funding not provided by MAREX like it is with UGA extension.
- Heather & Bryan will work on looking at and rewording by-law regarding requirements/commits of the president if he or she is part of MAREX.

### **GA ANREP Google Account & Folder - Kelli Cody Brookins**

- Discussion about creating a GA ANREP Google folder to house meeting minutes, agendas, financial reports, etc.
- Kelli will create folder and subfolders & work with Jessica Brown to set up a UGA e-mail to link to Google account.

### **Recruitment & Engagement with Fort Valley State Extension**

- Discussion about reaching out to FVS ANR extension faculty about joining ANREP
- Richard mentioned he would try to reach out to some people he knew.
- Other possible contacts FVS Specialists, Joshua Dawson (FVS ANR Agent - Lowndes Co.) & Brandon (Clayton Co. ANR) might have some contacts.
- Possible UGA staff to reach out to about joining GA ANREP – Donna and Beth in Glynn County, Maggie Van Cantfor in McIntosh Co. & Lauryn Gilmer in Wayne County

### **Clemson Extension ANREP Chapter – Heather Kolich**

- Possibly engage with new Clemson chapter through upcoming state meeting.
- Chapters could help each other-similar programming due to shared state border

### **Summer 2021 Newsletter Material Requests**

- Published by July – Canva is used to current newsletter.
- Apply for a free Non-Profit/Educator Canva Pro account.

### **Georgia ANREP 2021 Virtual Conference Planning**

- Dean Nick Place confirmed as speaker.
- Theme: Adaption & Response to Pandemic
- No charge for conference and no awards will be given - program will be 3 hrs. each day
- Registration will be done via Qualtrics, county also use new Destiny program.
- Bryan, Heather & Yanni will create a survey via Qualtrics about conference presentation and topics to send out in mid-June, call for presentations will follow around the same time using Qualtrics
- Ashley Hoppers and Jessica Brown will make a call for presentations via e-mail as well as coordinate Zoom rooms for presentations.

### **Conference Agenda Development & Timeline Input**

- Day 1 - September 29
  - Dean Nick Place – Speaker
  - Breakout Rooms for Discussion – Challenges and Opportunities
  - Live 15 Minute Zoom Presentations (Possibly 5 total)
    - Extra time leaves room for Zoom/Technology Hiccups

- Day 2 - September 30
  - Two speakers or a panel – Potential speakers: New specialists, Kasey Bozeman
  - 11 to 12 pm - General Membership Meeting
    - Share strategic plan & promo video, mention help with newsletter and educational programs.
- Will wait to formulate official schedule after survey results are & presentation proposals are in.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- None

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

*ANREP National Conference - May 23-26, 2021 Virtual*

*GA ANREP State Conference - September 29-30, Virtual*

*GA ANREP Fall Board Meeting - Nov 17 Location, TBD*

*2022 GA ANREP State Conference - April 26-28, Athens*

## **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Kelli will set up GA ANREP Google Drive folder and work with Jessica Brown to contact UGA about setting up a new UGA e-mail address to link to Google account.
2. Everyone – contact anyone you may know at Fort Valley State who would be interested in joining ANREP.
3. Heather & Bryan will work on looking at and rewording by-law regarding requirements/commits of the president if he or she is part of MAREX.
4. Kelli & Bryan will work on applying for free Non-Profit/Educator Canva Pro Account

## **ADJOURN**

**Meeting adjourned at 3:40**

**Minutes prepared by Kelli Cody Brookins, May 7, 2021**