 MineXChange 2020 SME Annual Conference & Expo

WAAIME Division Meetings

Phoenix, AZ

February 23-25, 2020

**Minutes**

**WAAIME Finance Meeting**

**North Mountain Room**

**Tuesday, February 23, 2020**

**9:00 AM to 12:30 PM**

**Attendees:**

**Jean Davin, Chair, Eastern Representative**

**Blanche Blattner, International Representative**

**Winnell Burt, Western Representative**

**Lydia Hull**

**Katherine Pinochet**

**Iris Owen**

**SME Staff:**

**Bret Wichert, SME CFO**

**Chris Klessens, SME Accounting Supervisor**

1. Introductions

Ms. Davin made introductions around the table. Ms. Davin reviewed the notes from the previous meeting and they were accepted.

Ms. Davin addressed the agenda for the meeting. The motion passed to not add an addendum to the meeting.

2. Skype Presentation with UBS Representatives

Mr. Wichert began his finance presentation to the WAAIME Board, but was put on hold for the UBS call. UBS addressed the WAAIME accounts and projections for the upcoming year. Mr. Wichert completed his presentation and entertained questions about accounting practices.

Mr. Klessens described how WAAIME funds would be collected during booth sales at the Exhibit Hall during the Annual Conference. A demo hands-on training would be given prior to the booth opening for credit card sales on the iPads.

The group agreed that SME would send the WAAIME Chase bank statements monthly for January and February, at the time the February financials were released and monthly thereafter.

Ms. Davin indicated that she would like funds to be withdrawn as they are incurred, but agreed that quarterly would be appropriate going forward. It was agreed that SME will initiate a $8,212,.03 UBS transfer from WAAIME to the SME account.

A discussion about the loan recipient payments followed. The group agreed that the loan payments should continue to be collected but no resources should be utilized to ensure payments are made.

Meeting adjourned.

**WAAIME Scholarship Meeting**

**North Mountain Room**

**Monday, February 24, 2020**

**9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

**Attendees:**

**Jean Davin, Chair, Eastern Representative**

**Blanche Blattner, International Representative**

**Winnell Burt, Western Representative**

**Lydia Hull, Scholarship Chair**

**Katherine Pinochet**

**Iris Owen**

**Eugenia Lomelin**

**Rebecca Siwale**

**Margie Mansanti**

**Charlie Zimmerman, Guest**

**SME Staff: Tanya Kriss, WAAIME Division Liaison**

1. Ms. Hull opened up by thanking the volunteers by name who helped review scholarships. When reviewing the numbers, there was $325,000 in the budget, and there would have to be some cuts in order to stay within budget. It is up to the Board to determine where to make the cuts. Other obligations and costs are factored in, as well as considerations about the market. Some of costs considered from the $350,000 budget include $1,000 in gift cards for student reception, $1,000 in prize money for the Selfie Tag, trophies purchased for Young Leaders, donation to Colorado Mining Association teacher program, Second Century Fund, travel budget, and personnel costs.
2. Special situations: some recommendations were made on an application needing clarification.
3. Review of current process: The SME Board has not yet responded to Ms. Davin’s request to grow international sections to expand scholarships to different countries. WAAIME had to reject 77 applications because there are not WAAIME sections in some of the countries where applicants attend school, most commonly India. Mr. Kanagy will be presenting it to the Board. Ms. Davin met with Ms. Filas in January about some of these topics, but will table the issues until they get some feedback from the Board. Is was suggested that in order to open new sections, either national or international, there would have to be a change to the merger agreement. There is a difference in the timing of SME scholarships and WAAIME scholarships, and that creates some confusion.

Charlie Zimmerman presented to the group about the World Scout Jamboree held in July 2019. He thanked the group for their $10,000 donation that helped to fund the event. He gave a video and slide show presentation highlighting the two-week long event, and asked if the WAAIMEs would be interested in a longer-term partnership, with smaller contributions over time, rather than large ones on Jamboree years.

The group adjourned for lunch

**WAAIME Membership Meeting**

**North Mountain Room**

**Monday, February 24, 2020**

**2:00-4:00PM**

**Attendees:**

**Rebecca Siwale**

**Lydia Hull**

**Winnell Burt**

**Kathy Pinochet**

**Eugenia Lomelin**

**Blanche Blattner**

Membership review: According to the group, WAAIME members who are also students are encouraged to be members of an association, but it is not a requirement.

Ms. Siwale recommended that new members have introductions to sections, and provided with a membership booklet to encourage participation and engagement. Currently, Ms. Hull sends an acknowledgement for each request for membership, and she will continue to do so.

The group provided ideas to grow membership. The selfie tag and games seem to help people interact with WAAIME members and under the WAAIME name. Other ideas included to subscribe to a leads capture service at the next annual conference to gather information of interested people, start a campaign to invite former scholarship recipients to join, use their testimonials as a point of interest to engage future WAAIME members.

In using the website in a new way, members may be attracted to the WAAIME group and feel more connected. The WAAIME group needs a clear definition of who they are on their website and the site could have different “areas” to serve the needs of different users.

Ms. Pinochet and Ms. Siwale volunteered to take a closer look at how to go about formulating a design. Ms. Kriss will communicate with the website host company.

Membership booklet: Ms.Siwale will scan the 2012 version in order that there will be an electronic version of the booklet. Ms. Hull asks new members about their interests in the welcome email. This information, along with other details, will help to match new members with the appropriate section for their WAAIME membership.

**WAAIME Executive Committee Business Meeting**

**North Mountain Room**

**Tuesday, February 25, 2020**

**9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

**Attendees:**

**Jean Davin, Chair, Eastern Representative**

**Blanche Blattner, International Representative**

**Winnell Burt, Western Representative**

**Lydia Hull**

**Katherine Pinochet**

**Iris Owen**

**Nadia Miller**

**SME Staff:**

**Bret Wichert, SME CFO**

1. Welcome and introduction: Attendees introduced themselvesaround the table.
2. Review and approval of minutes: Minutes were reviewed from the midyear meeting, Ms. Burt moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Blattner, motion carried.
3. Motions needing approval from previous meetings: Ms. Burt moved to increase the scholarship budget from $425,000 to $450,000, Ms. Blattner seconded the motion, motion carried.

There was discussion about the Scout program and WAAIME support. WAAIMES donated $10,000 to the World Scout Jamboree in 2019. Members suggested that specific requests be made as opposed to general requests. The group may wat to fund the Scouts later in the year if there are positive budget variances.

Colorado Mining Association teaching funding of $1,500 for their summer program was discussed and the group wants to make sure they understand where the funding is budgeted.

1. Proposals/invitations to visit with sections: The group discussed midyear meeting in Peru. Ms. Blattner gave a summary of the activities of the meeting. Concerning midyear 2020, it was discussed they could partner with the Reno Section for the meeting. Jean reported there does not appear to be interest on their part. WAAIME Executive Committee will be in Las Vegas for midyear meeting.
2. Midyear Activities in Las Vegas during SME Midyear Meeting: Ms. Hull will be organizing activities for the midyear meeting. Her budget is $1,000.
3. Changes to the Merger Agreement with SME: Ms. Davin described her request for modification to the merger agreement. She has yet to hear back from the SME Board of Directors. Her requests are to increase the WAAIME Board members from three to five, and to hire a full-time employee.
4. Directory Update: Ms. Hull reported that this project is still in process. Ideally, the directory would be updated by the end of spring. There is a desire to have the ability to make this downloadable via cell phone.
5. Annual Meeting 2021 Denver – possible change of venue for reception: There were three items discussed regarding the Annual Conference
   1. Would changing the location of student reception help to keep costs down. There is some concern that there is not a sponsor for the WAAIME student reception
   2. There was discussion about the exhibit booth and that there is a need to have more items to sell
   3. The Monday morning WAAIME meeting can be eliminated in the future
6. Website updates needed: There was some discussion about the need to update the WAAIME website.
7. Other business: Ms. Davin mentioned that SPE had 18 requests for scholarships.
8. International Section Updates: Ms. Blattner reported that they give 18 scholarships each year and that they also offer coaching. There is an outstanding grant of $10,000 for Chile. Ms. Blattner confirmed with Joe Mow that this grant has not been sent because we are waiting for financial reports to be provided. Chilean sections are in the process of determining their scholarship recipients.

Ms. Burt moved to pay $1,540 plus $385 to pay for trophies. Ms. Blattner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Blattner resigned from the WAAIME Executive Committee. Katherine Pinochet was nominated to take her place. The Executive Committee unanimously approved this nomination.

Meeting was adjourned.