



**MINNESOTA LAND OF LAKES SWANA CHAPTER  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
August 5, 2010**

Meeting held at Rock-Tenn conference room.

Curt called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

PRESENT: Curt Hoffman, Maggie Mattacola, Don Chapdelaine, Gary Bruns, Kathy Osborne, Tom Halbach, Amanda Lloyd, Jason Haus, Ryan O’Gara and Michael Reed.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- **Membership:** On a state level, as of August 4, 2010, there are currently 92 members, up from 76, approximately a year and a half ago. Maggie reported that SWANA is experiencing a slow, yet gradual growth. From a national standpoint, it was reported by Gary that membership is down 5%, which is good in comparison to what other associations are currently experiencing. It was additionally discussed that all non-members that attend seminars are contacted and encouraged to register as a member. It was brought to the attention of the Board that if Maggie is in need of assistance, that she will be forwarding questions via e-mail to the appropriate Board members if they relate to their particular committee. Maggie brought forth the idea of organizing a networking event for members and non-members to attend. Ideas for the location were discussed, in addition to presentation topics that could be covered at the event. A date and location are still yet to be determined.

Networking ideas discussed included:

- Bowling
- Happy Hour
- Horse and Hunt in Prior Lake
- River Boat
- Summit Brewery Tour
- Broomball (in Winter)

Networking topics discussed included:

- Drudge/Storm Sewer Discharge on River
- Original City of St. Paul – Dump on River
- History of St. Paul (Curt to contact Steve Lee)
- Flooding on River/Tennant Preparation

- **Programs and Arrangements:** The next seminar will be held on December 2, 2010, on a topic currently undecided. Maggie stated that the Program Committee will be holding a conference call soon to discuss the details of the seminar. If there are any suggestions, they should be e-mailed to Curt. It was discussed that seminar/tour combinations tend to work best and are found to be the most successful.

Seminar ideas discussed included:

- East Side Co-Op – Collection of plastics without necks
  - Coon Rapids – Recycling plastics 1 – 6
  - Silgin Containers – Make cans/tin in Savage
  - Wal-Mart – Sustainability plans for corporations (include organics/recovery/recycling)
  - Benson Wood Recycling – tour of facility (provide group transportation?)/video presentation
- **Scholarship:** Maggie, Tom, and Gary met in late May and chose University of Minnesota graduate student studying PFCs in ground water, Feng Xiaio, as the recipient. He will attend SWANA's annual meeting to accept his award of \$3,000. It was agreed that with Maggie getting announcements out January-February to members, newspapers, and schools, it resulted in a much more competitive group of candidates. There was also discussion on how to increase younger professionals' involvement in SWANA and ideas on how to market to this younger audience.
  - **Conference:** So far, there is \$14,000 collected from sponsors, and Maggie encouraged all Board members to consider becoming a sponsor for the event. There is no quote on catering at this time, but it is assumed to be fairly higher than in the past. A sign-up sheet for the event was passed around to all Board members, and additionally they were encouraged to donate items to the "goodie bags" that are handed out at the event (typically 300 are given out). Maggie reported that they have met the quota for lap tops needed for the event. Currently, committee members are in the process of making calls for silent auction donations. There is a set goal of 50 items, and if there are any suggestions for donors to the auction, they should be e-mailed to Curt, as the Board felt there is a need for new and additional donors. Invitations have been sent, and the program printing is awaiting the biographies and confirmations from all speakers. Keynote speaker, Amy Klobuchar, will have a "hard" confirmation in approximately one month, with the back-up speaker set to be Laura Babcock, a researcher at the University of Minnesota. 30 people are currently registered for the conference, and those who have not done so, are reminded to register. Trees have been purchased and planted at the Hutchinson Vocational Center for carbon offset of the event.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Don reported the following financials as of July 19, 2010:

- \$23,817.00 balance in our checking account
- \$16,590.67 balance in our SWANA Investment account
- \$25,205.21 balance in our Certificate of Deposit assets

INTERNATIONAL BOARD (IB): Next week Michael and Jason will both be attending WasteCon in Boston. SWANA, however, will only be covering the costs of Michael, the IB representative, to attend. There was discussion about a formal application process being developed in the case that other Board members would like to attend the conference with sponsorship from SWANA. It was suggested to put together a small committee to work on this for 2011. American Public Work Association (APWA) have combined with WasteCon's efforts this year, and the event has an expected attendance of approximately 8,000. Additionally, Gary reported that if there are any questions about advocacy, SWANA national or Gary can be e-mailed.

NEW BUSINESS: Maggie reported that she now has the capabilities to update the website herself, and will be able to have a much faster turn around time regarding chapter announcements. Tom reported that a paper he has published has been chosen by International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), which SWANA represents, to be presented upon at the conference in Hamburg, Germany on November 17, 2010. His presentation will cover the development of a compost facility in Ho Chi Minh, Veitnam. If there are any messages that any members would like relayed to the ISWA, they should contact Tom. Lastly, the Board was reminded that comments are due August 31, 2010 for the PCA's rules governing compost facilities. Gary is preparing comments for another organization, and can prepare comments on behalf of SWANA. It was discussed that comments will be open to all members and will have the option to be posted anonymously in list form with no editing or collective opinions, regardless if opinions happen to differ. It was recommended that the Executive Board review the comments prior to their send-off to filter for discriminatory, profane, illegal, etc. remarks. All comments can be e-mailed to Gary.

ADJOURNMENT: Tom motioned to adjourn with a second by Gary. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Lloyd  
Board Member