

## Minutes of 2015 Annual Meeting (January 28-29, 2016, Washington, DC)

**NE 1962 project members in attendance:** Peter Fix, Xinyi (Lisa) Qian, Taylor Stein, Fred Servello, Ben Amsden, Bill Siemer, Ingrid Schneider, Kathy Scholl

**Guests in attendance:** Alia Dietsch, The Ohio State University; Bob Ratcliffe, NPS and Federal Recreation Council; Dorothy Morgan, BLM – Recreation and Visitor Services; Joe Starinchak, Fish and Wildlife Service; Anna O’Neill, NPS; Tom Fish, CESU Network

### Thursday, January 28

9:10: Welcome & Meeting Charge

9:15: Introductions

9:30: NE1962 Administration

1. Completing the Annual report for 2015
  - ✓ Due 60 days after the meeting (March 30, 2016)
  - ✓ Use template that Erin Developed from earlier year
  - ✓ Send communication to all NE1962 participants and direct them to submitting their reports to Bill Siemer.
  - ✓ Submit report to [Barbara\\_Harrity@umit.maine.edu](mailto:Barbara_Harrity@umit.maine.edu)

2. Renewing the NE1962 Project (which will expire in FY2017) - Create a timeline for writing proposal during project year 5 (Fred Servello)

*Process:*

- Request to write – timeline 1-2 page – submit for MAC review in September 2016. MAC reviews request at the Sept 2016 NERR multistate activity meeting.
- Full proposal - submit in December 2016
- Proposal external review in Jan-Feb 2017
- MAC review - March 2017

*Fred’s observations about Multi-state groups:*

- Faculty appreciate the new colleagues and networking gained from the group, which come from different disciplines to engage in a focused conversation.
- Co- PI work opportunities are formed out of the group interactions.
- Larger integration work on emerging issues. Outreach application, in addition to research projects, included into proposals are also common.
- Inviting an economist to participate in NE1962 makes sense and would be a good addition.
- Current NE1962 objectives are excellent. Carrying these objectives forward is not a problem for renewal of the project.

### **Discussion on NE1962 Topic Objectives (NE1962 overall successes and achievements, gaps & challenges)**

*Example successes of NE1962 meetings*

- ✓ Good generating ideas, but then how to fund the work is the sticking point. At this time, member are going back to institution and working on smaller, independent projects.

- ✓ Objectives align well with agency needs – Networking and Community of practice – Where locally are things happening – Also interested in generating opportunities for graduate student job placement.
- ✓ This group is focused in on the good things that outdoor recreation is doing for community. Sustaining the backbone network. NPS – new draft of social science research – all objective of NE1962 project is part of the NPS current work and NE1962.
- ✓ My university supports me in this project. NE1962 membership affords eligibility to mini grants at my university. If I start something small at my university, I come together with others to expand the project.
- ✓ The original proposal is one of the best literature reviews written on this topic
- ✓ NPS does not have the bandwidth to do this type of work. Universities helping to facilitating information to community
- ✓ Networking at the annual meeting especially with Agencies representatives.

### ***Moving Forward***

#### *Continued Focused Product Development*

- ✓ *Two parallel tracts. (a) product development, (b) developing the NE1962 group –*
- ✓ *Define the outcomes of the group*
  1. Research Directions (e.g., proposal development, linking current research)
  2. Securing Grants
  3. Application/Education/Engagement (e.g., informing cities, parks, etc. on results; developing practice information for communities)
  4. Networking/Outreach (e.g., conferences, networking – allowing people to know what is available)
- ✓ *One original goal of the project's is to put heads together and have a project that all working on together. More clarity needs to be about what should the project look like? Then identify the specific funding source should be. NIH? Smaller sources?*
- ✓ *Having a proposal to pitch to agency vs asking them what they have. We come to agencies with proposal.*
- ✓ *Clarify we want to have happen for future –*
- ✓ *Would having a mission help facilitate activities. Practice- oriented activity. Identify what kind of fish are we fishing for.*
- ✓ *Help communities with the application piece of work being done*
- ✓ *Challenge of defining and measuring resiliency of communities.*
- ✓ *Need to define the research projects outcomes.*

#### *Continued Membership – Discussion on stimulating engagement*

1. Development of an FAQ (what is NE1962 (multistate grant research), what is NE1962 accomplishing? what's in it for new members?)
  2. Spread that FAQ to others to generate new interest
  3. Organize that larger team to understand the “bounty” of research occurring within that team
  4. Then facilitate new directions with those teams
- ✓ *Think strategically thinking about another bigger network with combining with another groups.*

- ✓ *How do we leverage what we already doing? – meet every year, meet at conference, couple of conference calls through the year, meeting at a conference. Meeting with agency representative every three years. What is the right balance?*
- ✓ *Improve the communication between all NE1962 members throughout the year.*
- ✓ *Land-grant agencies have HATCH funding, do academics know how to access these resources to attend NE1962 Annual meeting?*
- ✓ *Networking at other meetings–Have a designated slot at the meeting that represents the research NE1962 members. By presenting their own work at these meetings but putting a plug, helps people link their ideas with other NE1962 groups.*

*Outlets for Future Meetings*

- SORP (May? Boise)
- ISSRM (June in Houghton, MI)
- NERR (April) <http://www.esf.edu/nerr/>
- Others (perhaps George Wright, NACCB?)
- Locations may even include Fort Collins, which has many national level offices

10:00: Break

10:15: Project updates & review of prior year activity

- Health & Physical Activity group
- Environmental Literacy group
- Community Vibrancy & Resilience group
- Bob Radcliffe – NPS & Fed Recreation Council

12:15pm: Lunch

1:20pm: Individual / Group presentations

- A. Peter Fix (Univ. of Alaska, Fairbanks) and Dorothy Morgan (BLM, Recreation & Visitor Services)—Update on *Outcomes Focused Management within BLM*
  1. Updated BLM Recreation Planning Manual, updating tools available through OMB (still in review) that apply with OMB requirements and field offices make decisions on actual data yet still consistent across sites, that the monitoring component is in place, and also link between different BLM planning sites. Project also desires to establish a metadata warehouse.
  2. Peter explained survey characteristics and structure of data collection. Have surveys and focus groups in review at OMB, and working on a systematic process to gather the data.
  
- B. Taylor Stein (Univ. of Florida) — *Assessing the impacts of an Outdoor Based Learning Program on Students' Attitudes Toward Outdoors*. - Integrating and researching the use of nature in Florida's schools
  1. Shared survey results from two outdoor youth programs, primary minority youth. More data collection needed on youth experiences needed. Taylor would love to have another NE1962 researcher collaborate on this type of research.
  
- C. Kathy Scholl (Univ of Northern Iowa) - Recognizing campus landscapes as learning spaces.
  1. Shared concept paper and current work on college campus green space effect on student learning and well-being.

2. Define nature; define landscape, Kaplan and Kaplan's Attention Restoration Theory.
  3. Paper will be presented Sept. 2016 at the 3rd World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities that explores the communication mechanism between the ecological and human dimensions of sustainability.
- D. Bill Siemer (Cornell University) – Revealing the Potential of National Wildlife Refuges to Foster Conservation Recreation and Resilience in Local Communities
1. Assumption of the research: Nature based recreation fosters pro-environmental attitudes and behaviors.
  2. Conservation-Recreation Research Model to look at relationships between wildlife recreation, place attachment, etc.

3:00: Group Discussion: Identify information and resource needs for future research projects

4:20: Adjourn (dinner on your own)

## Friday, January 29

8:00: Reintroduction participants (for new day 2 participants)

8:15: Synopsis of day 1 discussion (for day 2 attendees)

### 8:30: **Information and resource priorities overview with Agency representatives**

#### *Project Development*

- Anne O' Neill: Continue to look for the right alignment with agencies. Being smart for how NE 1962 and Agencies can work. Helium Act Funds possible but need to match with dollars. Also Recreation Fee Funds should be considered.
- Joe Starinchak: Tap into the Outdoor Recreation industry trade associations (OIA) – Outdoor Recreation 3<sup>rd</sup> largest economic sector in US—that includes private sector, Big Gov, NGO as well as NE1962. There is a paradigm shift that is desperately needed. Look at the emergence of “impact investing” – Invite them to the meeting.
  - Patagonia – Healthy Business, Healthy Planet Initiative.
  - Cascade Engineering – out of Grand Rapids
- Connect and tap into non-profits and the emergence of social enterprises: obtaining funds for project via “Kick-starter” – NIOB? Going to Donors for ask, e.g. Patagonia.
- Taylor Stein – Next proposal needs the research proposal actions steps to be successful. Going after proposal that are realistic to meet the needs of Agencies.
- Tom Fish: Invite National Park Foundation. Understand the Project Management System to align with agency project approval process. Must have conversations ahead of time with the right principle people to make sure that proposal is what is needed in order to insure that we are not proposing projects they are covered in-house or by someone else.
- Anne O'Neil: Understand Agency timelines – Projects are being reviewed up to 5 years out. Submission of Projects proposal to Fed Agencies need to be before Dec of each year. Make sure that NE1962 is on the right cycle and plan 2-3yr advance to submit proposals.
- Target new partners to the subgroups to help target the larger issues.

#### *Agency Staff Development Needs*

- Anne O'Neill - NPS is to have many retirements. Need for the older guard to teach the new people coming. Guiding the older agency staff in the new role of how to communicate and build collaborative partnerships with the community.
- Tom Fish – identifying work force development needs of the agencies – What are the business skills, and organization skills that are needed within the recreation agencies? Capacity development. Need to have workforce reflect the demographics of the community. – Bill Siemer is interested and will to work on this as an outreach aspect of the next proposal.
- Anne – Older Polices no longer fit the needs the community mindset.
- Need to help agency staff in the methods to develop effective communication pathways between the unity and the community that will allow each site or region to solve individual community situations.
- Convene workshops about collaborations about capacity to help with the research needs.

#### *Available Resources*

- Anne: NPS Common Learning Portal – new way for making network and training opportunities easier to find and to enroll in  
<http://www.nps.gov/training/clp/html/index.cfm>
- National Call to Service Action Document -  
[http://www.nps.gov/calltoaction/PDF/Directors\\_Call\\_to\\_Action\\_Report.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/calltoaction/PDF/Directors_Call_to_Action_Report.pdf)
- Key Urban Initiative -  
[http://www.nps.gov/subjects/urban/upload/UrbanAgenda\\_web.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/subjects/urban/upload/UrbanAgenda_web.pdf)
- Healthy Parks & Health People.  
[http://www.nps.gov/public\\_health/hp/hphp/press/1012-955-WASO.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/public_health/hp/hphp/press/1012-955-WASO.pdf)  
[http://www.nps.gov/public\\_health/hp/hphp/press/HealthyParksHealthyPeople\\_eGuide.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/public_health/hp/hphp/press/HealthyParksHealthyPeople_eGuide.pdf)
- Green 2.0- <http://www.diversegreen.org/>
- Department of Interior Strategic Plans 2014-2018 -  
<https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/migrated/bpp/upload/DOI-Strategic-Plan-for-FY-2014-2018-POSTED-ON-WEBSITE.pdf>

#### 9:15: Anne O'Neil and Attila Bality—**Park RX and related NPS health initiatives**

- Research Question – Do people complete Park RX? Is there a need for Health Buddies to increase compliance with prescription? What role to parks and park staff play in Health Promotion?
- *Additional Research*  
Structural Constraints on the environment –  
Diversity and physical activity Constraints.
- Park Rx group has quarterly calls and meeting once a year. Can NE1962 have representative included in the call and attend meeting. After Natural Prescription Day launch will be a good time to figure out – Myron Floyd currently on committee. If Myron can't make it, who can call in?
- Ingrid Schneider Health Update - Last Spring a number from the health group met with Anna regarding collaboration. Had good meeting but did not lead to funded research.
- Ingrid connected the NPS St Croix & MiSS with a local non-profit and they are now partnering to provide a couple of different NPS experiences for communities of color in the St Croix Valley. Her work is indirectly related to health in terms of constraints to

health benefits from outdoor recreation related to terrestrial invasive species--data analysis in process.

10:15: Break

10:30am: Action Items & Post-Meeting Charges

- A. *Compilation of 2015 annual accomplishments from NE1962 individual members*
- Participants instructed to send in report document to Bill Siemer using past template that is available on Dropbox.
  - This year's reporting period is Sept 30, 2014-October 1, 2015
- B. *Create a writing team for submitting a new pre-proposal to extend NE1962 in 2017*  
Objectives don't have to change, but need to be sensitive to Parks and Green Spaces terms. Bold connection – city, local, regional, with natural environments. What are the relevant terms or perspectives? Are there varying perspective about or images of parks among different social groups? Among the different Agencies?

Peter sent the Alaska EPSCoR 2015 Midcourse Report – as a possible template for how we can integrate our individual research projects. This report (that takes a few minutes to down load due to its size) can be found at:

[http://www.alaska.edu/files/epscor/pdfs/2015\\_Midcourse\\_Report\\_EPSCoR\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.alaska.edu/files/epscor/pdfs/2015_Midcourse_Report_EPSCoR_FINAL.pdf)

Have a working document located on Google docs

- Bill Siemer will to serve as the contact for Resiliency on the proposal writing team
- Taylor Stein – Environmental Literacy
- Health ???– Talk to Michael who wrote the white paper Kendall Shores, ECU, who might be a good addition to the group.

Also Consult with UVA – collation of professors. Contact suggested by Anna – O'Neil. Kathy Scholl will look into this contact.

*Initial activity timeline related to extending/renewing NE1962*

- *May 2016:* Bill will put a 2-page draft together and put out in May – also send to Agencies to get their feedback
- Schedule specific conference calls throughout the year with regular writing deadlines for getting full draft completed. Start by having each project objective representative compile a list of most recent publications to be sent out to entire groups to get suggestion of other reference to include or at least review.
- Create Outline of full proposal
- Delegate assignments related to extending/renewing NE1962 process

C. *Co-Chair election (to share duties with 2016 Chair Kathy Scholl) – Possibly Peter Fix*

D. *Chair-elect election for 2016 -- Taylor Stein agreed to be Chair for 2017*

E. *2017 Annual meeting:*

**Date set:** Jan 26 & 27, 2017

**Location set:** Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, Washington, D.C.

1. Discussed potential agenda for next year's meeting (e.g., have the significant portion of the meeting as a review and finalization of NE1962 proposal renewal).
2. Talked to Fred S. about having our full proposal sent in mid-Feb so that all NE1962 members can have input.
3. Discussed strategies to expand agency and researcher involvement in next meeting (e.g., have NE1962 members provide names of others to invite to the meeting, include FAQ with invite).