MPFC Steering Committee Minutes

10 December 2014

In Attendance: Ryan Koziatek, Darwin Schultz, Lee Osterland, Michele Richards, Jim Fisher, Mark Sargent, Andy Henriksen, Forest , Jack McGowan-Stinski

Chris is out on assignment, Ryan is filling in for him.

Jack discussing Burning Issues Symposium, need to run money through. 21 people to register to cover expenses. Likely to get way more than that. Jack is making the motion to approve fiduciary through MPFC, Darwin seconds, no one opposes. MPFC gets extra money from the event.

Craig will try to join some steering committee calls. Feb 17-19 Midwest Fire Conference, last time 350 people there, had some last minute folks backed out of speaking, if anyone wants to submit something, they can. Craig send their promotional material to me, I’ll get it up on MPFC website.

2 S130/190 courses through KVCC and GVSU, filled with students. GVSU at PCCI Paul Rogers lead Darwin cadre lead, Jack, Brian Russell, Darwin Schultz GVSU 9-11 Jan and 16-17 2015, KVCC 12-16 Ray Cole lead at KVCC. Can Jim or Chris designate one person for one of those sessions. Michele can do one day one weekend. Ryan can help out during the week. Jim will talk to Chris. Chris emails Jack on who he can send, Darwin and Jack communicate about setting up a cadre call.

Lots of questions asked, and students were very interactive. Set up scenarios to give people some more interactive pieces of instruction. Students really love this and value it. Said to do it again at other trainings.

Ed and outreach committee will come up with a way to record student experience. Just do S290 as a university course, hold S131 as a stand-alone that isn’t a university course. This would keep the integrity of the course. Will do RX310 as a university course. 310 is more useful as a university course. These are more applicable to what the students will be doing, even without a biology background. In effect doing a 110/210/210 course. What would the university want? 290 would be a good one to offer. If students won’t have an opportunity to apply their knowledge, they should do 290. Can’t understand fire effects if you don’t understand fire weather and behavior. Eventually you could develop a class that for a whole semester would cover those things. Targeting week before school starts, but will move to, potentially, a semester course. 290 is available online and in person. Have done online with a two day long CFFDR intensive that students brought their certificates to. 290 with CFFDR is a week long course, will be what GVSU offers in August 2015.

212 course? Big demand, even outside of the prescribed fire community. 212 might be out of our realm for the MPFC. Go through industry and MPFC just coordinates, relieves us of responsibility/liability. Not actual sawyer certificates. There’s a 1-2-3 system, and a task books. Agency specific qualifications, not consistent throughout NWCG system. Hybrid training with industry training with the fire saw component of 212. Stihl has industry training module. Lee will check with parks division and get info to us. Chris was going to put an S212 course up for certifiers. USFS and MDNR could cooperate with MPFC to have bigger courses. Chris on training group, Ryan will get with him and we’ll try to coordinate.

Crew boss academy 2016? Is there interest? Could we get Lara? Incorporate engine boss things like DNR.
M will contact Lara. Will host at FCTC. August 2016. Mark would help. Barry and Allegan wildlife areas could be in the mix. Plan for courses. Discuss at next meeting. Michele will contact Lara.

No budget report, but we’re in the good

Survey monkey for what topics we would like to do for next year would be a good idea. Darwin got thoughts from Stevens Point people. They thought it was good. universities good target audience, promoting this to them. Darwin and Jack will work together on this to get it out.

Annual meeting. 10-11 September for next year. Let’s try somewhere else. Potential locations on survey. Marquette for sure is a good locale to put on there. Equipment expo on second day is good, though we wouldn’t want to hit it too often as we’d lose interest from vendors. Different twist each year for the equipment expo. Have high tech one year, low tech next. Put on survey should we do CFFDR on in the AM on second day. If anyone has high tech connections for teaching outreach at the equipment expo, bring them to next meeting. Presentation topic? Using drones/opticopters for fire monitoring, where are we with this (NMC)? Infrared flight for hot spots. Maybe on survey see if there are people who want to teach the techie stuff? Aiming for collegiate populations really emphasizes the need to bring in the technology piece.

Ed and outreach activities? We went over what had been started but not finished. Including canned presentations, outreach business plan. Michele will send these docs to Darwin.

Jim has outline of duties he gave to Darwin. Dropbox might be a better place to store stuff instead of just thumb drives. Chris has one set up, we just need to use it. Chris, put up all the thumb drive stuff on dropbox. Make a separate publically available section for presentations from meetings.

 How to proceed with MPFC coordinator position. Andy would talk to Lori, we’ll ask after Steve Cross and what he’s doing. Jack has list of Lara’s duties, will send to Jim and Andy.

**Next meetings**

11 Mar Roscommon

10 June in Ann Arbor (Dave, you have a spot for us?)