

**Mid Atlantic Chapter SWS
Mid Year Meeting Minutes
5:00 pm October 29, 2008
Ocean City MD
Submitted by Sharon Yates**

Attendees

Amy Jacobs	amy.jacobs@state.de.us
Ellen Hartig	ellenihartig@parks.nyc.gov
Tennile Rubin	trubin@wrallp.com
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Sharon Yates	syates@admarble.com
Jeff Thompson	jthompson@mde.state.md.us
Ralph Spagnolo	spagnolo.ralph@epa.gov
Frank Reilly	Freilly@lmi.org
Charlene Parker	charleneparker@ccl-eng.com

Meeting Summary

Chapter Budget

Current chapter funds are approximately \$10,483. The chapter contributed \$20,000 towards the 2008 annual meeting in Washington DC and expects to get \$2000 back from the proceeds of the meeting. The chapter also provided a \$1,000 sponsorship of the Wetlands & Watersheds meeting. At this time the only source of funds for the chapter are dues from members, estimated at \$2,000 annually. .

Upcoming Events

February 20, 2009 – The chapter will be hosting a trip to the **Dig It! The Secrets of Soil** exhibit at the Smithsonian in Washington DC. Dr. Patrick Megonigal of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center will be our host and will be available to answer questions after the tour of the exhibit. SE Chapter members are also invited to attend. We may offer lunch following the exhibit for a small fee. Contact Ellen Hartig with questions or for more information.

April 7 and 8, 2009 – Our chapter will sponsor a social or part of the program at the **New York State Wetlands Forum in Poughkeepsie NY**. We hope to see members from the northern range of the chapter at this event.

June 22-26, 2009 – The **SWS Annual meeting** will be in Madison WI in 2009. This will be a joint meeting with the International Symposium on Wetland Biogeochemistry. Abstract submissions are due by February 27, 2009.

Chapter Website

Our chapter is in need of a volunteer to update the website. The website can be accessed remotely and the effort required is only a few hours each month. Frank Reilly offered to post content to the website if needed. It was suggested that the chapter budget be posted on the website. Amy Jacobs has been sending a quarterly newsletter to all chapter members by email. If you have information to share with other chapter members please forward to Amy.

COPUS

The Coalition of Public Understanding of Science is looking for interesting and effective programs that provide scientific information to the public. Contact Amy Jacobs or Dennis Whigham for more information.

Suggestions for activities or training

Field training for the manual supplements was suggested as a future event. Ralph Spagnolo and Lenore Vasilas have provided this training for federal agency staff and agreed to help organize a training session for the chapter. The following offered to form a committee to organize this training for May 2009: Amy Jacobs, Ralph Spagnolo, Lenore Vasilas, Ann Reardon, Sharon Yates.

The location for the Wetlands & Watersheds conference for 2009 and possibility of the MidAtlantic chapter meeting were discussed. The location has not yet been determined.

There was some discussion of changing the chapter bylaws to change the terms of the officers. The chapter will select a president-elect at the Annual meeting in June 2009. If anyone is interested in being nominated contact Amy, Sharon or Ellen.