June 12, 2020 Board Meeting

In attendance:
Jeff Birchler
Laurie Duncan
Karen Keck
Lesli Moylan
Laura Seger

BUSINESS ITEMS

Note, didn't have a quorum so we need votes two more yays on the highlighted item below

1. Site Ground, web hosting, renewal due. Save 30% by re-upping for 3 years. We are staying with it for new website platform (a wordpress site, test site on siteground). $240 fo r1 year, $502 for 3 years. Ok'd by group.
2. Hiring Committee--needed one more person, Jeff Birchler volunteered
3. Guidestar and Facebook Donations set up--ok'd to go ahead on this
4. Would we like to have another Gateway Greening staff member join the board in Lucy's spot? Matt Schindler, their ED asked about it. Motion to approve Matt's idea and fill Lucy's spot with a GG representative: LS Second: JB Yays: KK, LD, EG Need two more votes to pass - MB votes yes, CW votes yes Motion passes

CONFERENCE DISCUSSION

When Board decided to do virtual conference format, Laurie and Jeff met with their conference committee and brainstormed

Idea that rose to the top--choose your own EE adventure format
- could be some pre-recorded demos/workshops to select from
- 4-day mon-thurs, themes for each day
- Fri afternoon a live session, 5-7 pm networking event w/ kahoot trivia game w/ content from the sessions; opportunity to network, geared toward implementation
- points for logging in, a way for getting prizes
- breakout sessions--allow participants to break out by subject matter, grade level, etc.
- teachers doing great EE things, could they create a demo lesson w/ some mini how-to sessions (10-15 min. Pre-recorded sessions) -- could be available later as part of our PD library
- stopping points in a pre-recorded session to encourage people to stop and go/do/find something (participation points could be built in)

Other thoughts--

Sponsors a biggie
Will people pay for a virtual conference?
Virtual Burnout--what will that be like in the fall??
CEUs connected? Def need to look into that (Laura may have to do that for the Zoo, so she'll keep MEEA in mind when learning about it, if so)

Notes from meeting with Katie Navin from Colorado about their spring conference and lessons learned
Only had two weeks to turn it to virtual
- Didn't require registration, bad idea--def want to require registration
- All live
- Had a keynote in the morning (125 people) and used breakout room (encouraged presenters to use interaction) (85 people in breakouts)
- Two tracks going at once all throughout the day; did 15 minute breaks in between
- FB Live is tricky, copyright issues
- Recommended making breaks just breaks; networking just networking
- Morning sessions better attended than the afternoon
- Did feedback survey at the end of each session
- At beginning of each session, posted a cell # for technical difficulties
- Need to have plenty of helpers to: let latecomers in from waiting room, monitor the chat, tech help, etc.
- Breakout rooms, have a facilitator assigned to each room would be helpful to monitor the chat if people don't have audio
- If doing breakout within sessions, close it out between sessions (N/A, we can solve that by using a unique link for each session)
- Collection of things they're looking at for possibly a fall conference (which will have a fee)
    - Keep it to one day
    - Encourage watch parties
    - Considering a $50 fee
    - Viewing tips, will encourage participants to use speaker view function
    - Set up breakout rooms to be a larger # than you actually want because of dropouts
    - Might want to use the annotate feature, for participant interaction
    - Use polling more
    - GA is using PearDeck, a good collaboration tool compatible with Zoom
    - Use downloadable materials w/ the option to mail packets to people prior to the conference

MEEA Board comments 6/12:

Maybe the timing is going to be fine re: digital burnout, and people might be ready to get some new ideas about virtual learning (could we pitch this as "new ideas for e-learning" and solicit ideas for that in our call for proposals?)

Should e-learning become the theme? Or at least a strand?

Partner with other Affiliates? Are there others doing something like this in the fall? What about the NAAEE conference presenters?

Zoo and other orgs have had luck with the noon webinar. Could we have one live session each day?

Need to set aside dates soon to book with the zoo's zoom rooms. PEEPs has a Zoom account that can do webinars as well. (Not multiple rooms like the zoo has though)

What about a 1-day thing? could be better for teachers. Districts could encourage watch parties. Offer incentives for watch parties too?

INCENTIVES will be important.
- CEUs Would it work to add some kind of a time balance add-on which could be a) plan for implementation alone or in conference breakout sessions or b)actual implementation.
- Trivia prizes.
- Raffle.

Like the guiding theme of EE in a digital world.

Not sure what is best, the week long things or a weekend. Pre-recorded sessions should be 20-30 minutes. Maybe 2-3 tops.

We should include registration, and charge a fee.

Happy Hour Trivia on Friday night a fun idea. Could encourage EE themed drinks, and people have ability to share their concoctions.

Could we "ping" people with a reminder to attend a session if they haven't?

Could a podcast be one of the daily offerings? Anchor is an app you can download and try out.