

Approved Minutes
Board Meeting of the Geological Society of Minnesota
Feb 23, 2023

1. Opening and Welcome:

- a. The meeting was held on Zoom at 7:00 p.m.
- b. Harvey has moved his office to the Geology department on campus. It is unclear whether Harvey is still part of the Survey or will continue his involvement with the GSM.

2. Administrative Items:

- a. Minutes for the Nov. 17th, 2022, Board meeting were previously approved.
 - i. Dave Kelso will post the minutes to the website.
- b. Review and agree on the agenda for the Feb 23rd meeting.
 - i. The agenda was agreed to.
- c. Future Board Meetings.
 - i. Tentatively set for May 11, 2023. We may have to find a new location. If anyone has ideas for possible locations, please let Roger know.
- d. Steve Willging is willing to help Dave Kelso with the secretary and/or treasurer's duties.
- e. Board members present: Kate Clover, Dick Bottenberg, Steve Willging, Roger Benepe, Deborah Naffziger (via phone), Dave Kelso, Pete Hesse, Patrick Pfundstein, John Westgaard.
- f. Non-Board members present: Joe Newberg, Dave Wilhelm, Mark Nupen, Randy Strobel, Steve Erickson, Theresa Tweet, Joanie Furlong.
- g. Board Status – Information only:
 - i. Current Board Membership.

1. Kate Clover	2023-2026
2. Dick Bottenberg	2023-2026
3. Steve Willging	2023-2026
4. Roger Benepe	2022-2025
5. Deborah Naffziger	2022-2025
6. Dave Kelso	2022-2025
7. Pete Hesse	2021-2024
8. Patrick Pfundstein	2020-2023
9. John Westgaard	2020-2023
 - ii. Current Officers:
 1. President – Roger Benepe
 2. Vice President - Patrick Pfundstein
 3. Treasurer – Dave Kelso
 4. Secretary – Dave Kelso

3. Items for Board consideration:

- a. Treasurer's report – Dave Kelso
 - i. Due to internet issues the financial reports were not submitted to the Board for review. The reports will be submitted as soon as possible.
 - ii. The GSM savings account at Huntington Bank has been closed with the balance transferred to the checking account. The account was closed to avoid service charges for lack of activity.
- b. GSM Website – Alan Smith
 - i. Alan was not available.
- c. Lectures & Labs – Steve Erickson and Dave Wilhelm
 - i. Lectures have been well attended.
 - ii. The next two lectures are via Zoom.
 - iii. Steve outlined what the upcoming lectures are and indicated that he would like to have at least two lectures per semester via Zoom. The Board agreed that this is a good idea.
 - iv. Please see attachment “a” (GSM Lecture/lab attendance) attached to these minutes.
 - v. Contact Steve with your ideas and recommendations for lecture topics and/or presenters.
- d. Membership – Joanie Furlong
 - i. Membership is good at about 130 which is about the same as last year.
- e. Newsletter – Kate Clover, Mark Ryan, Harvey Thorleifson (MGS)
 - i. The Newsletter came out last week.
 - ii. The next newsletter submittal deadline is the middle of April.
 - iii. It is unclear whether Harvey will continue his involvement with the newsletter due to his re-location. More information to come.
 - iv. Comment added by Dave Kelso: Harvey normally prints the newsletter at his office (MGS) at no cost to the GSM. Harvey paid for the last newsletter himself but was reimbursed.
- f. State Fair – Patrick Pfundstein
 - i. Working on the volunteer website in order to get volunteers signed up earlier in the process.
 - ii. Our space will again be in the education building.
 - iii. Please see attachment “b” (State Fair) attached to these minutes
- g. Geological Markers – Rebecca Galkiewicz
 - i. Rebecca was not available.
- h. Conferences & Resources- Dave Wilhelm
 - i. ILSG will be in Eau Claire Monday and Tuesday April 24 & 25, with field trips the day before and the day after. This has been publicized to GSM membership; Dave will continue to do so as more info becomes available.
 - ii. We have contributed to the “Student Travel Scholarship” fund in the past. Should we continue to do so?
 - iii. **M/S/P (Patrick/Kate) to contribute \$300 to the fund. Unanimous vote.**

- i. Field Trips – Dave Wilhelm and Joe Newberg
 - i. Joanie is organizing a field trip to Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy in Newport on March 22. This has been publicized to members; over 20 have expressed interest.
 - ii. Proposals for two 2023 field trips were presented at the last Board meeting.
 - iii. Last October Joe Newberg was looking into a possible trip to Tower Soudan Mine; this is still ongoing.
 - iv. The next total solar eclipse in the US will be April 8, 2024, tracking through Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, & Ohio (among other states). We would like to organize a field trip, but no planning to date.
- j. Zoom socials - Randy Strobel and Dave Wilhelm
 - i. Zoom socials are held every Monday when there is no lecture. 10 +/- 2 is typical attendance, including as far away as Rhode Island.
- k. Video Library – Dave Wilhelm
 - i. No rentals or returns over past month (although there was a request for a title I could not find). I no longer bring boxes into lectures, but members can order through the online catalog before live lectures.
 - ii. With my OK, Joe Newberg bought 6 disc collection of 36-30minute lectures “Wonders of the National Parks: A Geology of North America”. Dave Wilhelm will individually package and add to the online library before next live lecture March 27. Joe to be reimbursed for the cost.
 - iii. A procedure needs to be developed addressing how to obtain and how to retain authorizations to publish lectures to the YouTube channel for public viewing.
- l. GSM Marker project – Becky Galkiewicz
 - i. Becky was not available.
- m. Minnehaha Marker project – Patrick Pfundstein
 - i. Please see attachment “c” (Minnehaha Marker) attached to these minutes.
- n. Scholarships and Grants – Dave Wilhelm
 - i. This item was covered earlier under item 3.h.iii.
- o. Rock Hammer awards – Theresa Tweet
 - i. Normally these are presented every other year however, it has been 4 years since the last one given.
 - ii. Dick B., Dave W. and Theresa will meet to decide who should receive one of the two hammers available. Any suggestions may be sent to any of these three members.
 - iii. Please see attachment “d” (GSM Hammer recipients to date) attached to these minutes.
- p. ASK GSM activity – Theresa Tweet

- i. With no available GSM Student Outreach program, and few questions, there is little to report. Dave W. has answered some of the questions – Thanks Dave!
- q. GSM Student Outreach – currently inactive
 - i. Dick B. and Theresa T. will look-into whether Macalester would be interested in this program and perhaps revamping it.
- r. GSM Operations Guide – Patrick Pfundstein
 - i. Patrick will be sending out, to all officers and committee chairs, various sections of the Operations Guide for review and updating.
 - ii. As a reminder, Patrick will not be the vice-president next year as he will be leaving the Board.
- s. Geological Materials – Dave Wilhelm
 - i. Taylor Pearson of the Science Museum of Minnesota was looking for specific minerals, which are not in our rock box raw materials. I sent a request to membership in case anyone had any to contribute. She also would like some rock boxes.
 - ii. Discussion regarding rock boxes. How many do we have, should we update them, build more, donate some to the Science Museum of Minnesota. No definitive action was taken but it appears that we will replenish our supply and make a donation to the SMM.
 - iii. Please see attachment “e” (SMM request for rock boxes) attached to these minutes.
- t. YouTube Channel – Patrick Pfundstein
 - i. A lengthy discussion took place regarding re-starting live lecture recordings and how to handle older live recordings. Dick indicated that he will start recording live lectures starting March 27.
 - ii. It is unclear as to the “consent to broadcast” the older lecture recordings. These recordings have been edited and saved as MP4 files. Dave Kelso will send a list of the recordings, by date and lecturer, to Dick B. and Patrick P. Patrick indicated that these recordings may be able to be uploaded to our YouTube channel but not released for viewing until appropriate authorizations have been obtained.
 - iii. Please see attachment “f” (You Tube) attached to these minutes.
- u. New Topics
 - i. Kate is proposing that we purchase one or two table skirts or banners with the GSM Logo and name. These would be used for GSM events including the state fair. Kate feels that the banner approach would fit our needs best. Perhaps Patrick, with his graphic skills, can quickly mock-up a design.
 - ii. **M/S/P (Dave K./Patrick P.) to approve a purchase of banners for up to \$500.**
 - iii. Dick Bottenberg reported that he has three new members on the video recording team.

1. A new tripod is needed for the team-Dick will look-into this and get back to the Board with a recommendation.
- v. Goals for the next few years
 - i. Install new big-picture marker at Minnehaha Falls during 2023.
 - ii. Develop a plan and prioritize marker installation/repair for Minnesota's geological markers based on the current marker survey. Continue developing a GSM marker database and survey the markers – ongoing.
 - iii. The third goal “Develop video recording crew...” has been removed from the Goals list.
- w. Adjournment
 - i. **M/S/P (Patrick P./Dave K.) to adjourn.**

4. Attachments:

- a. GSM Lecture/lab attendance
- b. State Fair
- c. Minnehaha Marker
- d. GSM Hammer recipients to date
- e. SMM request for rock boxes
- f. You Tube

Attachment “a”
GSM Lecture/lab attendance
Submitted by Dave Wilhelm

GSM Lecture/Lab Attendance

2022-2023

Summary for winter 2023 to date: 2 lectures, 82 persons total attendance, 41 average attendance, 2 new attendees

Summary for 2022-2023 to date: 9 lectures, 481 persons total attendance, 53 average attendance, 15+ new attendees

2023-02-18 40 SATURDAY LAB: Rock Cycle (Hand-identification) (~ 8 new attendees: invited by parents or by Jeff; ~7 school-age children; not included in average)

2023-02-13 48 Ongoing Geological and Archaeological Investigations at the Pedersen Site in SW Minnesota (1 new attendee: recommended by friend)

2023-01-20 34 Minnesota's Major Aquifers – An Introduction to Groundwater Provinces (1 new attendee: recommended by grandparents)

Summary for fall 2022: 7 lectures, 399 persons total attendance, 57 average attendance, 13+ new attendees

2022-12-12 68 Hunting for Dinosaurs: The Search for Ancient Giants (5 new attendees: from Mineral Club rock show & recommended by friends)

- 2022-11-28 77 Ice Age and more recent extinctions: first signs of human impacts on the Earth system (4 new attendees: found online & recommended by friends)
- 2022-11-14 55 Southern Spain: Tectonic Collision, Geoparks and Fabulous Vacation Spots (2 new attendees, recommended by friends)
- 2022-10-31 45 What's New with Plate Tectonics? (Did not note new attendees)
- 2022-10-17 55 From Sparta to St. Paul, the Roles Earth Processes Played in Our Past (did not note new attendees)
- 2022-10-03 38 Minerals and Microbes and Mining...Oh My! (2 new attendees, from Rock Show & U of M website)
- 2022-09-19 61 Geologic Highlights of the Sioux Quartzite in the Pipestone Basin: Rock, Pipestone & Nobles Counties in Southwestern Minnesota (The Fall Banquet, Annual Meeting, and first lecture)

Attachment "b"
State Fair
Submitted by Patrick Pfundstein

State Fair

The old postcard is now an emailed invitation to indicate interest in the coming year. I responded positively, and GSM is in the system, and we have a new website. (I'm tracking these changes as I rewrite the State Fair section of the manual.)

I have also started to build a new Sign-Up Genius site, so we can recruit this year during the lecture season. If I get it debugged before the weekend, I'll mail a link to the Board and attendees to the meeting to give you all a chance at early sign up. (Really early!) I'd like to start pitching membership at lectures soon, and assuming I can make a lecture in person, bring my iPad so I can sign peeps up at the meeting if they wish.

At the same time it would be good to recruit some new members for the State Fair Committee, which has dwindled through attrition to tiny numbers. (Me, Roger?, Deborah?)

Attachment "c"
Minnehaha Marker
Submitted by Patrick Pfundstein

After the December Debacle (Park Board reverting to their design of 4? years back), Kate and I met online with MaryLynn Pulscher February 2nd. Upshot is the designer will start work putting the design of November 2, 2020 (when we essentially finished our work) into publishing format and in the standards of the Park Board.

We talked about a couple minor editing details, and will print a full-size mock up of the design to figure out final edits. Not sure of a timeline, but under the old bid, manufacturing/shipping was a 6-10 week process, and that comes after final design. Probably not early spring, but maybe 2023?

MaryLynn sent me a bit of information to start pursuing new bids as the old one is at least 4-5 years old. In the past they had a set vendor; now the Park Board is open, so I may send it out to a few options. I can only assume cost has gone up, but hopefully will have details either by the May meeting, or if they come in before then, we could possibly vote on cost approval in an online session. (My understanding is the vote was held once for the old bid, but I have to assume that is as expired as the bid by now.)

Attachment “d”
GSM Hammer recipients to date
Submitted by Theresa Tweet
GSM Hammer Recipients to Date

If I recall correctly; 2010/ 2011 were strictly “everybody” recognition events and Silent Auctions, with certain people being given small “GSM” geology loops for their volunteer efforts – with Roger receiving the first hammer with a GSM disc on it. Two noteworthy recipients also received beautiful pewter Tankards with the same type of “GSM” engraved discs on the handles.

Roger Benepe 2011

Harvey Thorleifson 2013 A Hammer was given acknowledging the long-standing partnership between the Geological Society of Minnesota and the Minnesota Geological Survey. Harvey had also served on our Board of Directors for 4 years, helped with the Legacy Grant, given us a place to hold our Board Meeting, works with Rich Lively on our Newsletters, worked to scan all of our newsletters into digital / online form, and helped with items for the Silent Auctions.

Dick Bottenberg 2013

Rich Lively 2015

David Wilhelm 2015

Randy Strobel 2016

Bill Robbins 2016

Steve Erickson 2016

Janet Hopper 2017 Janet was given a gold and genuine stone necklace identified at Macalester Lab.

Alan Smith 2017

Theresa Tweet 2017

Joanie Furlong 2017

Mugs created by Tom Cody (5/6/2013): Bill Robbins, Steve Erickson, Doug Zbikowski, Joanie Furlong, Katie Paul, Randy Strobel, Alan Smith, Ed & Sandy Steffner, Fran Cochran, and Alan Bowles.

Hammers for 2019 –

Doug Zbikowski: Past President, Vice President, Publicity & Public Service (for Student OutReach- Doug purchased the supplies – some of which we still use, MESTA, etc.), fundamental in setting up the original Marker Project, also reviving the project in 2012 along with Ed. Steffner.

Katie Paul: Past Vice President, State Fair Chair, Membership Chair, and GSM History Chair and is currently a Newsletter Contributor.

Ed and Sandy Steffner: were responsible for the Hospitality, State Fair, Social Committee, Holiday Celebrations, the original Marker Project, and helping with the Silent Auction.

Jeff Thole – A hammer to be given acknowledging the long-standing partnership between the Geological Society of Minnesota and Macalester College from 2010-2020.

Attachment "e"
SMM request for rock boxes
Submitted by Dave Wilhelm

Summary:

- We are looking for 8-12 rock boxes
- This would most likely be a donation, but I will be reaching out to Karla Ollanketo to ask what the Library's budget is
- You mentioned that March was likely the earliest that the kits could be assembled, and that is just fine!
- We're mostly looking for golf ball sized samples, something kids can hold easily and manipulate

Snippet:

The Science Museum of Minnesota's Lending Library is looking for a few specific samples to help complete our "Rocks and Minerals of Minecraft" set. These sets are available to teachers around the state who want to borrow them for use in their classrooms or to supplement lessons.

Attachment "f"
YouTube
Submitted by Patrick Pfundstein

YouTube

All of the currently available GSM lectures have been published on YouTube.

In the past 28 days we've had 1554 views with 497.3 hours of watch time. Brief Geologic History of Colorado has the most views during the month. Average watch time for the top videos is between 9:35 (Nevada), and 31:10 (Black Hills). Peak viewing time is generally Noon to 7:00pm.

(There are a bazillion other ways to look at data in case we want to explore that.)

We can still add links to other similar groups, and maybe make an intro video, but adding major content means we'll need to either add the upcoming Zoom talks, and/or edit in-person recordings.

These minutes were compiled and submitted by Dave Kelso