WSWS Officer and Committee Report
Boise, Idaho
August 2020

Office or Committee Name: Chair Local Arrangements 2021
Officer or Chairperson Name: George Newberry,
Date of Preparation (include year): July 31, 2020

Activities during the year:

1. Board meeting in Hawaii. I attended the meeting and started my tenure as chair. I was updated on the meeting location. Little did we know what was about to happen in the world with Covid-19.

2. Meet with Program chair and discussed space requirements for a socially distant hybrid meeting. As this is going to be a socially distant meeting we will be running at 50% capacity. The program chair and I spent time determining room needs for WSWS, as well as the aquatic group under these requirements. The poster session will be especially challenging and there is a plan in place to minimize exposure at this session.

3. Sent out participant email to local WSWS members. I had four responses back with symposium ideas and volunteers for LAC subcommittees. Symposium ideas were forwarded to the program chair.

4. Attended Potato Association of America virtual meeting. This was a full virtual meeting and the Program chair and I were impressed with the format and pleasantly surprised with the questions asked after the presentations. The prerecorded presentation format worked well (and was cheaper) and allowed for discussion via Zoom and cell phones during the presentations. We found the meeting to flow smoothly and not be cumbersome and it forced some notorious problem speakers to keep their presentations within the time allowed. Section, business and board meetings all went well and had good participation and discussion.

5. PPE for board meeting. I have a thermometer and disinfectant wipes purchased for the board meeting.

Recommendations for Board Action:

1. At this time what kind of meeting we have will be determined by Covid-19 restrictions in the City of Boise. Currently we are planning both a hybrid in person/virtual meeting as well as a full virtual meeting.
2. Current trends indicate to me that the Boise meeting has high potential of being a full virtual meeting. We can't determine what is going to happen at this point but we need to be ready for both meeting formats. We need to understand the cutoff dates for the hotel so we can modify the meeting plans with the least amount of cost to the society.

Budget Needs:

TBD depending on the type of meeting.

Name of Person Preparing This Report:

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