

**2018 National ESP Conference Steering Committee**  
**May 16, 2017**

Present – Jennifer Wilson, David Dunn, John Forshee, Trudy Rice, Laurie Chandler and Stacey Warner

Theme:

After some discussion the group decided to recommend “Vast Prairies – Endless Possibilities” as a theme. The national board will make the final decision. We will work with the Communications staff on a logo that will incorporate the ESP logo in addition to prairie grasses and a horizon.

Speakers:

The speakers we will recommend to the national board include:

Jim Richardson (National Geographic from Lindsborg) – recommend for the keynote speaker on Oct 1. (John is contacting)

Dr. Michael Wesch (Kansas State University) – recommend for mid-conference speaker on Oct 2. (Stacey is contacting).

Dr. JoAnne Owens-Nauslar (University of Nebraska) – recommend for the capstone speaker on Oct 3.(John is contacting)

Stacey and John will also contact those they previously visited with to let them know others are being recommended for speakers.

President Myers will be asked to give the welcome (his office isn't scheduling that far out). If he isn't available Provost Mason will be asked.

Marketing at the Oct 2017 National Conference:

Stacey will work with the Communications staff on a postcard to hand out at the 2017 meeting to encourage members to “save the date” for 2018. This might include photos of scenery, the hotel, the speakers, tours, the early-bird registration deadline, etc.

Jennifer will contact the Manhattan Convention and Visitors Bureau about a video. The group discussed adding brief videos of speakers to the promotional video. David said he could assist with this.

Fund Raising:

Funding so far includes:

KACAA – pledge of \$1500

ESP – requested \$2000 from Extension Endowment

KAE4-HA and KEAFCS – have discussed pledges, amounts not yet known

KACDEP – may ask members to make individual contributions

Other ideas:

Ask the new Associate Director if Extension Administration could help to fund a speaker.

Ask some trade associations to fund a break.

Hospitality Committee – ask the Kansas Department of Agriculture about “From the Land of Kansas” foods for an event.

Tours:

John and committee will review the tours in the proposal. Bob Ohlensehlen suggested only two to three tours to make certain there are enough participants.

The Manhattan Convention and Visitors Bureau helped prepare the tour suggestions that were in the proposal.

Coordinate with Jim Lindquist as there will also be a mid-conference tour for life members.

Miscellaneous discussion:

Cody Miller, agent in Phillips-Rooks might be an idea for an auctioneer.

Jennifer and Stacey will send theme and speaker ideas to national board before June 1 (be sure to let Doug Jardine know our plans so is informed before meeting with the board.)

Jennifer will request a budget from the 2017 conference from Bob.

The group will meet again in August. Stacey will send a Doodle poll.

Notes recorded by Stacey Warner