



NRC President's Message August 28, 2020 Board Call

Administrative transition

As I mentioned in my August 14th email to the NRC board, Sarah DeSouza has decided not to renew the contract between Sowby Consulting and the NRC for her services as executive director. Mick Barry and I had a call with Sarah to discuss the transition.

We also established a NRC transition team to work through some of the issues addressed below. I want to thank the NRC board members and past board members who are assisting in this effort, Mick Barry, Stephen Bantillo, Susan Collins, Gary Liss, Bob Gedert, Mark Lichtenstein, and Bob Hollis. I also want to thank Sarah DeSouza for her hard work and dedication to the NRC and its members.

As part of the transition, Sarah will be providing Bob Hollis and I with a list of her access information for various NRC accounts and email addresses. She will also be providing a list of issues that need to be addresses during the transition, so things do not slip through the proverbial "cracks". She will be shipping any files and equipment to my home address for storage until we find alternative administrative assistance. Susan Collins and I have already made changes to the passwords for the NRC's Paypal and Bank of America Checking/Savings accounts due to our ongoing issues with our bookkeeper.

Bob Hollis has offered to assist with the monthly board calls. He is also willing to train a new person who will be taking over some of the administrative duties in the future. Bob Hollis is not charging the NRC for his efforts during this transition. Thank you, Bob.

As I have mentioned, I have been working with Mark Lichtenstein to establish a permanent mailing address at his university. Here is the new permanent mailing address for the NRC:

National Recycling Coalition, Inc.,
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry,
1 Forestry Drive, 203 Bray Hall,
Syracuse, NY 13210

To provide the NRC with some options for its staffing needs in the near future, Mark has been working with the SUNY-College of Environmental Science and Forestry to arrange for the NRC to utilize their internship program to provide administrative support similar to the program that the NRC utilized in the past. Mark is trying to get the NRC the best rate on the hourly compensation rate and the additional overhead percentages which the college must charge for its oversight of the interns. The NRC should be able to enjoy some substantial savings on the expense of these administrative services. Mark hopes to get the issues finalized by next week so the process of finding an intern can begin soon. In the meantime, I will be monitoring the NRC executive director and administrative assistant emails.

The transition team has suggested that we work with SUNY-ESF to develop a statement which frames the NRC move to the SUNY-ESF as an addition to its recently announced far reaching sustainability initiative. While many may see this

move as a step backward for the NRC, I believe that it is a prudent move to make during this time of uncertainty. I also think it can be a springboard for the future of the NRC.

Virtual NRC Members Meeting on October 20, 2020

The NRC virtual members meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 20, 2020. I am looking for board members who are interested in assisting in the development of the program for the NRC virtual members meeting. The organizing committee will need to determine which platform we should use for the meeting. The agendas and presentations from past NRC members meetings will provide some guidance to the organizing committee.

Pete Adrian and the slate committee met yesterday to discuss the promotion and development of a slate of candidates. The election process and candidate information will be the center piece of the NRC members meeting.

The work of awards and scholarship committees also need to be incorporated into the program for the NRC members meeting. At the annual RRC, the awards and scholarship presentations were given out at separate event. The inclusion of all three topics; elections, awards, and scholarships, should make for a robust program for the NRC members meeting. Lisa Skumatz is once again leading the NRC awards program. As usual, Jack DeBell will be leading the NRC scholarship program.

Please let me know if you are interested and available to assist in the planning of the NRC annual member meeting.

While there are other issues to discuss, I will wait to hear the reports of the committee chairs so I do not report out of turn. I look forward to our monthly call tomorrow.

Respectfully Submitted,
David Keeling, NRC President