***Present:*** Delyne Kirkham David Rowell

Monique Royal Margi Garner

Diane McArthur Hope Hasberry

Cheryl Latif Patricia Taylor

Jason Wright Shari Mutchler

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm Eastern Time, led by Dave Rowell. The following agenda items were discussed:

***Diversity Council Business:***

Dave noted the status of the **Training Team** …Todd Hall had given his team a deadline of May 1 to have all course reviews complete.

Hope reported on progress of the **Recruiting and Retention team …** the team is still working (fine tuning) the draft document.

In regard to the previous month’s council discussion on possible need to conduct a new NWS **diversity survey** … prior to this call Hope emailed to all council members a copy of a Survey Monkey survey she had. This survey was being put together by a team, of which Hope is a member, under the NOAA Education Council. Our council members were asked to review this proposed NOAA-wide survey prior to our next call to determine if it meets our own needs. Hope will also accept suggestions from our council to relay to the NOAA team.

**NWS Diversity Awards:** Pat had provided to the Council documentation from Sept 2010 about the then Diversity Awards program that has since lapsed. The question posed to the council on the last call was to consider whether the current Diversity area Cline award was ‘enough’, or if we should suggest going back to something similar to the awards that were in place around 2007-2009 of which we would be able to better tailor. It was decided that Hope would have a conversation with those involved in Cline selection, and with Laura, to better gage how the Council and OEODM can be more involved in diversity award nominations and selections, and ensure Diversity Awards are given due attention as a tool to better foster diversity principles.

It was reported by Hope that following the re-announcement of the Generations **Essay Contest** there have not been any submissions to date. The deadline for submissions is April 30.

Dave reiterated that a new editor is needed for the **Diversity Matters Newsletter .** All council members are asked to consider anyone who may be able and willing to help.

***Roundtable HQ and Regional Reports, and other activities:***

Dave reported that in conjunction with the NOAA Civil Rights office, he will be hosting an all-NOAA **town-hall** conference call concerning LGBT work/life issues to occur in June or July (date unsettled)

Hope reported she is working on the 2016 operating plan which includes the goal of establishing a **toolbox/toolkit for women, persons with disabilities, and minorities** to include brochures {e.g. recruiting}, PowerPoints etc… (and likewise a broader one for untargeted general diversity). Furthermore it is hoped that a new tool (**EEO training program**) will be developed for all employees to operate similar to the annual I.T. Security and Safety training.

Delyne reported that she and Hope continue to work together on items in support of the **Hard-of-Hearing Outreach Team**; as well as the work on bullying etc.. that will be part of the **LaCrosse workshop**. Jason also indicated he would be attending the workshop; and Diane McArthur expressed her gratitude for Delyne representing WR at the event.

Dave noted that he has been asked, and has accepted, to present a **Diversity Workshop in the El Paso WFO** for June 30.

Hope reported for Bill Parker that the **Shreveport Outreach Workshop** (primarily targeting girls) was a HUGE success with 200+ total participants.

Meeting adjourned with thanks given to Council members for their interest, efforts and their time / next call is May 20.