

Flathead Audubon Society Monthly Meeting
October 5, 2005
Location: Prudential Bldg, Kalispell, MT

Present: Bob Lopp, Chair; Bruce, Brent, Linda, Kaye Mitchell, Shirley Harrison, Ansley Ford, Paula Smith, Lisa, Linda deKort, Gail Sullivan, Jill and Mike Fanning, Leo Keane and Leslie Kehoe, Rochelle Pope.

Potluck at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting was called to order at 6 p.m.

Welcome to Shirley Harrison to the Board!

Committee Chairs that would like to participate in the discussions and voting on the board, are asked to accept a one-year appointment to the board. A motion was made to elect Brent Mitchell, Mike Fanning and Linda Winnie to one-year appointments. Ansley seconded. Unanimously passed. A motion was made by Linda deKort to elect Leo Keane and Leslie Kehoe to accept one-year appointments to the board. Unanimously passed.

Minutes and Finance Report

The September minutes were approved as presented. Bruce will be gone for next meeting so will have to meet with Finance committee sometime prior to his leaving. Finance Report. The rental of weed cutter will be taken out of Owner Sowerwine Fund. The Prudential grant will mostly be deposited in the Owner Sowerwine Fund. Mike motioned that the report be approved. Unanimously passed.

Kaye Mitchell handed out and discussed the audit report of the FAS financial records that she was requested to do because of good business practices. Bruce's record keeping is immaculate. There were no problems. Mike moved that the report be accepted, Linda Winnie seconded and unanimously passed.

Membership

No national roster has been accepted. There was good response to the request for Flathead Audubon membership renewals during the one-time renewal in October from the last Pileated newsletter. There will also be a reminder at the next general meeting.

Mike introduced Michelle Carbery as a possible person to hire to get the FAS website running again. Michelle discussed the possible advantages of a website. Mike sent out emails of some of Michelle's examples of website work that she has done. There was discussion among the board of what we would want on a website. Michelle will submit a proposal to the board, including charges, to be considered by the board.

Seed Sales

Delivery is October 22. Please see newsletter for times in each location.

Program

Rob Ford has volunteered to help Leo with some of the Program responsibilities. The October program is Lou Bruno presenting the Birds of Mexico. The November program is Mike Schwitters, from Choteau, will be doing a program on Alaska or Tom Ulrich's presenting his photos. Mike Schwitters may do the January program. We will ask Rob to write up the information on programs and send to the Publicity Committee and they will send out the information.

Owen Sowerwine

About 35 people showed up for the Prudential Work Day on September 24. Lots of work was accomplished, including two new trails. Thanks to Prudential and Bob and Jane Lopp for the generous grant, again. The fencing has been put on hold until next year because of one complaint. The county rightaway will be fenced and delineated. Jean Crow from DNRC is our contact with the state, and she asked us not to talk to the neighbors; she will contact them. Walkers should be careful where they park on Treasure Lane. Linda Winnie has been working Janet Ellis and discussed the possibility of buying a conservation easement on Owen Sowerwine. Fish, Wildlife and Parks have agreed to pay for an appraisal; Montana Land Reliance will put together a draft to submit.

Conservation

Lewis was not in attendance and but is working on a letter on how to support the high lakes project. DIL printed the Tiger Muskie letter. Linda Winnie discussed a proposed development just south of Smith Lakes, with airplane runways and houses. Linda will keep us up-to-date on this project.

Conservation Awards. Linda W. handed out a list of previous awards and a list of possible future candidates. Nominations needed for one award for November and two in the spring. Leo will find out more information on a Kalispell nomination. Mike moved that Flathead Land Trust and MT Land Reliance be our November awardee. Brent seconded it and it was unanimously passed. Shirley will work on this presentation.

Education Committee

On October 29 will be Teachers Who Don't Work in the Classroom Workshop at Lonepine. The Owen Sowerwine board is on hold until later in the season until committee figures out the best way to make project weatherproof. Ansley Fork talked with Kim Mitchell about participating in Project Feeder Watch and she is interested. She has a very small class (4 students) and will submit a letter proposal. Some of the board members completed cards for Rochelle to take to Dave Landstrom of Fish, Wildlife and

Parks to support the 1.3 million proposed renovation of the Lone Pine Center. There was an article in the DIL on October 5 about the proposed renovation.

Publicity

There will be a Publicity meeting on October 6 with the committee, DIL and Mike Moffat from Prudential.

Refuges

Refuges will be discussed at the November Board meeting.

Field Trips

Jim Swab will be unable to do field trips this year because he will be traveling most of the year. Leslie Kehoe said she would take this up again and Bob Lopp, Bob Rost and Ansley will be on the committee.

Newsletter

November issue deadline is October 18 for articles and includes program, calendar, work day report from Owen Sowerwine, Bruce "From the Board", Linda deKort-Bird of the Month, new board members, etc. Linda Winnie is co-editor with Kaye and discussed the possibility of offering the newsletter the option of newsletter online as a .pdf file. People will need to have an adobe. There will be trial online copies sent to anyone interested on a trial basis and they would still receive the paper copy. People would receive their copy 2 weeks earlier than the paper copy and would save FAS money. The online version will be tried on a trial basis with feedback to the newsletter committee appreciated.

Sales

June Ash said that the calendars are in and will be available for the October meeting.

Hospitality

Lisa will continue to bring the beverages. Shirley Harrison will bring treats for the October meeting and ask her friends to also bring something. Judy Spence and Ansley will bring for November. December board members should all contribute holiday treats.

Janet Ellis will be in town on October 14 to present a program on 404 permits to Kalispell, Whitefish and, hopefully, county commissioners.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Filed at C/flathead Audubon society monthly meeting_100505

Respectfully submitted, Gail Sullivan, Secretary

