

## **Minutes from Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Flathead Audubon Society Board Meeting**

6:00 Meeting called to order.

~ **Minutes** from November board meeting passed

~**Treasurer's Report** (Bruce)- Dues came in from National Audubon. Local dues are approximately \$1,000 short. Prudential grant money was approved and should be here within the month. Assets are down due to market and paying education coordinator. We'll talk about fund raising in January.

### **~Development and Conservation Easement Issues**

~**North Shore Ranch** (Mike)- A development has been proposed for the North Shore of Flathead Lake area. A letter has been written by FWP stating issues with the proposed development. Comments from individuals are needed. Citizens for a Better Flathead is working towards better options for this project. They are in need of donations and letters of support. We discussed whether FAS should give money or just a letter of support. Barb Baxter Fund is mentioned. Brent moves we give \$500 to Citizens of a Better Flathead toward work on this project. Money will come from Barb Baxter Fund. Jill seconds. Motion passes.

~**Flathead Coalition** (Mike)- The Flathead Coalition is looking for support as they fight the proposed coal mine in the Canadian Flathead. Linda moves FAS join the Flathead Coalition. Rod seconds. Motion passed.

~**Conservation Easement on Siderius Property** (Linda Winnie)- Some members of Siderius family have proposed conservation easements on their property along Flathead River across from OSNA. Brent moves we write a letter to support this. Paula seconds. Motion passes.

~**Owen Sowerwine Natural Area** (Linda and Brent)- A recent committee meeting was held. December 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m., other groups will be meeting to support OSNA. Money is needed for fencing and handicap access. Bugs were released for knapweed control. Volunteer monitoring will occur again this year. No one has had issues with amount of parking space. A great new map has been created (Thanks to Susannah Casey!!!). Kiosk needs new map and rules posted.

~**Streamside Protection** (Mike)- Many letters from individuals have been written on behalf of streamside setbacks. Bob Lopp had a letter to the editor in the Interlake. Janet Ellis will talk to county commissioners.

~**Conservation Achievement Award** (Linda)- We discussed who should receive the award next. Rod suggested that awarding the Salish tribe & Dale Becker would be appropriate and timely. Recent topics that make them deserving are: Highway 93 work, Trumpeter Swan recovery effort, and Grizzly Bear management. Lewis will write the award speech. Brent moves. Rod seconds. Motion passes.

~**Hospitality** (Lois)- Board will bring treats for December program. Come early to help set up chairs. Keep right aisle wheelchair accessible.

~**Conservation** (Lewis)- **Peregrine Falcon topic**- We discussed that the FAS viewpoint wasn't included in the written statement about the taking of young peregrine. Neither was ABC's. There is a December 17 stakeholder's meeting in Bozeman. The issue is still not finalized. – **Fire Salvage Projects** coming up. Be aware.

~**Fieldtrips** (Leslie)- January- waterfowl February-?

~**Program** (Leo and Rob)- January- Asta Bowen: Bird song recordings from Ireland

- 1 Call Amy Cilimberg about a climate change program.
- 2 Perhaps Dale Becker for February?

~**Education** (Ansley)- Upcoming meeting on January 9<sup>th</sup>.

~**Newsletter** (Kay)- Contributions due by December 18<sup>th</sup>.

8:20 Meeting Adjourned.