

Flathead Audubon Society Monthly Meeting
February 2, 2009

Location: Jane Lopp & Associates, 295 Third Ave., E.N. Kalispell, MT 59901

Present: Mike Fanning, Chair; Jill Fanning, Kay Mitchell, Brent Mitchell, Bob Lopp, Bill Schustrom, Ansley Ford, Mary Nelesen, Melissa Sladek, Richard Kuhl, Bruce Tannehill, Linda Winnie, Lois Drobish and Gail Sullivan

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

January minutes will be discussed at the March meeting. Any changes to December minutes are unknown at this time.

Bruce discussed the Treasurer's Report. There were questions about the purpose of particular funds.

COMMITTEES

Education

Ansley just attended an FAS Education Committee meeting. A teachers' workshop is coming up February 21 and a new conservation education unit on birds for the high school level using our education trunks is being completed. Tentative date for Raptor Day is September 12.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is February 13-16. There are local schools involved, too. Beauty of Birds will be in April. Theme: different habitats. Ansley is still lining up speakers and field trip leaders. Ansley is looking for volunteer judges for her school's science fair and the county science fair.

Mike will check with the Summit and make sure that the microphone system works. Let Bob know if he needs to bring his slide projector to next meeting for the Lisa Bate program. If a computer is needed, Nancy can bring the FAS laptop. Mike will ask Nancy to send out her quarterly report to all board members.

Request for Support

FAS has received a request for support from the Grounded Eagle Foundation. Richard Kuhl moved that we donate \$75 to Grounded Eagle, Jill seconded it and it was unanimously passed.

Hospitality

There are people signed up to bring cookies for the coming meetings.

Audit Report

Kay discussed the audit report that she completed after reviewing FAS financial records. Bob Lopp moved that we accept the report; Bill seconded and it was unanimously passed.

Fundraising

Mary and Bob Lopp met last week on fundraising ideas. Bob received more information on the Toyota TogetherGreen program. Nancy will submit a grant to fund projects in Owen Sowerwine.

Owen Sowerwine

Bob Lopp discussed property that is for sale on Treasure Lane near Owen Sowerwine that possibly could be used for parking. Linda Winnie mentioned that the 10-year lease we have on Owen Sowerwine will expire in 1 year and that Janet Ellis will start negotiating with DNRC after the current legislative session so we're not certain that this arrangement will continue. Because of the economy, this matter will be tabled until later.

Nominations

Mary presented FAS with a \$500 donation check from Whitefish Soroptimist that she requested from the group. This donation will be deposited in the education account. Way to go, Mary!

Linda deKort has done some canvassing for FAS officers. Bob Lee said that he would be president and Paula Smith will be asked to consider the Vice President position. Linda has also talked to four potential new board members but has not heard back from all of them. If any board members know any people who could be considered as a potential board member, let Linda deKort know.

Newsletter

Bird of the Month, board member piece by Melissa, field trips from Bill, Ansley-Beauty of Birds, Conservation recognition for the FVCC recycling group for March meeting, spring raffle, article encouraging people to sign up to be a volunteer monitor for Owen Sowerwine, Montana Audubon legislative news, list current donations, article from Nancy, changes to the directory,

Field Trips

Ansley lead the Winter Trails Day field trip. There is a snow shoe field trip on February 14th, and Leslie will lead the February 15th field trip in the Mission Mountains. Bill is looking for someone to lead the Freezeout Lake field trip March 28 and 29th since Dan and Susannah will be gone. Bob Lopp may be able to lead the field trip. Linda deKort

and Barb Boorman will be helping Bill with field trips because the spring time gets much busier with field trips.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Gail Sullivan

Gail Sullivan
Secretary