

Flathead Audubon Monthly Board Meeting
September 7, 2010

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

Present: Bob Lee, President; Gail Sullivan, Bruce Tannehill, Brent Mitchell, Steve Gniadek, Dennis Hester, Lois Drobish, Mike Fanning, Ben Long, Paula Smith and Melissa Sladek Guests: Kay Mitchell and Jill Fanning

The Meeting was called to order at 5: 30 p.m. by Bob Lee, President.

Minutes from the May meetings will be approved next meeting.

Treasurer's Report. Bruce handed out and discussed the Treasurer's Report. He has made some changes to the format of the report.

Mike moved that we donate \$250 and Brent seconded to the Sam Bibler Commemorative Trail project. The motion was unanimously passed.

COMMITTEES

Education. Mike discussed the strategic plan that he has been working on with Lex Blood and the changes that have been proposed. Mike and Dennis will look over the document. Lex Blood would like to see specific projects listed for the fall and for the future. Mike will email Lex' letter with proposed changes to the board. The Education Committee needs to meet first to discuss projects before meeting with Lex.

Rod Ash Raptor Day. Lois will introduce June and Brent will pick June up and bring her to Raptor Day.

Owen Sowerwine. Richard Kuhl will take over as co-chair of the Owen Sowerwine Committee vice Brent after the September 2010 Work Day. Cindy Grossman of the Flathead Search and Rescue Canine Unit would like to use Owen Sowerwine for dog training on Fridays, 7-9 p.m. or 6-8 p.m. during the darker months, except migration and nesting times. There would be six or seven people and 2 dogs. Bob Lee will ask for a detailed, written proposal and then the board can vote on it.

Richard thinks that we should mow in July or August instead of waiting for the Work Day at the end of the September so that the trail is easier to find. Brent discussed the weed problems in specific areas and the different chemical alternatives for controlling the problem weeds. Mr. Owen David Sowerwine came to Owen Sowerwine Natural Area and Bruce and Brent gave him a tour of the property.

The summer monitoring went very well. Lois called volunteers to remind them of the dates they had signed up. One of the neighboring land owners did some mowing of their property and has removed some posts and signs that FAS had installed. Brent is meeting

with the DNRC representative tomorrow to look over the damage. The monitoring will continue through the fall.

Hospitality. Lois requested some board members bring treats for the September 13 board meeting. Bob, Paula and Gail will bring treats. Bob Lopp will bring the coffee.

Programs. October program is Tom Ulrich on Costa Rica wildlife. November will be Kate Davis of Raptors of the Rockies. The December program is Dan Casey.

Sales. If anyone has something to sell, Jill will sell them. She will sell calendars.

Conservation. Steve has been preparing comments on cabins in GNP. Steve will be attending the Conservation Roundtable meeting tomorrow. Linda Winnie and Nancy Z. provided input to a Flathead watershed source book. Mike moved that we donate \$50 for the publication costs, Brent seconded. The motion was unanimously passed. We will be listed as a contributor.

Field Trips. The guy that owns Wiley's Dyke would like FAS to have a field trip there, as part of the field trip in the Lower Valley. The owner's name is Dean Robbins.

Website. We need a Website Committee Chairperson and Paula requested that the board try to think of someone who might be interested.

Fund Raising. We applied for about \$6500 worth of grants this year. We have a \$2500 grant request into North Face, which would extent Nancy's grant. We also requested \$1500 from the Whitefish Community Foundation and also a separate request to Tom and Teresa Quinn. Mike wrote a letter to Bob Lopp with a fund request, which Bob forwarded to Art Ortenberg. Mike asked Steve Hoffman and Lex Blood for a list of potential grantors. Please let Mike know if you have any other ideas on how to fund the Education Program.

Birdseed Sales. Western Building Center is only willing to give us .50 a bag instead of \$1.00 a bag, as in the past. We don't feel that would be worth the effort so will not have a birdseed fundraiser this year. Bob will bring up the subject at the State Audubon Board Meeting.

Newsletter. Linda and Kay have decided that when only Kay attends a board meeting that Kay can have Linda's proxy vote. The September newsletter has been distributed. October newsletter deadline is October 18. BOM by Dennis, field trips, notice that there will be no birdseed sales this year, Raptor Day Report and Kidz Korner, Nancy's past activities, October is dues renewal month, full page from Cornell on Project Feeder Watch, donor list, FVCC recycling notice at every other meeting not every meeting, board member articles.

Bob will be attending the next Montana State Audubon meeting. Montana Audubon is hiring a new Development Director and there is a new Administrative Assistant.

The new National Audubon President is David Yarnold. He was past president of the Environmental Defense Fund.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Gail Sullivan

Gail Sullivan, Secretary