

FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 3, 2014
LOCATION: JANE LOPP AND ASSOCIATES, 295 THIRD AVE. E.N.
KALISPELL, MONTANA

CALL TO ORDER – BOB LOPP @6:07

PRESENT – Bob Lopp (chair), Bruce Tannehill, Denny Olson, Kay Mitchell, Lewis Young, Kathy Ross, Bob Lee, Steve Gniadek, Richard Kuhl, Lois Drobish, Jan Wassink, Mike Fanning and Marylane Pannell

MINUTES – MARYLANE PANNELL

Moved and seconded (Jan/Denny) to approve with addition Collaborative Process to Conservation – Steve Gniadek. Steve will participate in the Flathead National Forest Plan – Collaborative Process in 2014. PASSED

TREASURER'S REPORT – BRUCE TANNEHILL

Prudential Grant of \$1000 was received, also NAS dues. Expenses included education funding, Internet update and printing and mailing costs. Moved and seconded (Lewis/Bruce) to approve the report. PASSED

WEBSITE COMMITTEE – JAN WASSINK

The committee met last week to answer web designer's questions and will meet again this week. The contract will begin in May 2014. The committee would like to add more human interaction with birds and some interactive programming to draw youth interest to the site. The site will also include photos, appearance dates, songs and narrative about Montana birds. Wildlife in general may also be featured.

EDUCATION – DENNY OLSON AND ASHLEY MASON

Calendar work is progressing and will be ready to sell on July 1, 2014. Information from the calendar will be placed on our website at the end of 2015 and new information will be added the following year. The number of calendars to order and sale of calendars will be decided at a later date.

Ashley reported that she served 400-500 people this month at Trails Day at Blacktail, Prestige Assisted Living, Wildlife Film Festival in Whitefish and Imagine IF Library in Kalispell. Beth Benjamin Watne from the Montana Wild Wings Recovery Center requested a letter from FAS to allow use of animal skins and stuffed birds for educational purposes.

CONSERVATION – LEWIS YOUNG & STEVE GNIADEK

The bat disease, White-Nose Syndrome, is spreading but hopefully not across the U.S. Great Plains. Lewis announced he sent a letter concerning bull trout restoration in Glacier Park.

Steve continues to attend the Flathead National Forest Plan – Collaborative Process meetings. Steve also asked FAS to consider a donation in support of a Loon coordinator for the Blackfeet Reservation. He suggested a FAS program in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act plus a donation and booth

to help support a celebration at the fair grounds in September. Steve will provide wilderness quotes to the monthly newsletter and volunteered to lead a joint hike with MWA and FAS members this summer. Steve also plans to represent FAS at the Feb. 12 meeting of the Flathead Conservation Roundtable.

FIELD TRIPS & GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT – KATHY ROSS

Field trips will include Feb. 16 - Great Backyard Bird Count and March 2 - Lower Valley Migration Field Trip. Kathy hopes to organize a joint field trip with the Native Plant Society this summer.

MONTANA AUDUBON SOCIETY – BOB LEE

The state is planning to rebrand MAS with a new logo and marketing strategy Next board meeting is in Choteau in March.

NEWSLETTER – KAY MITCHELL

The March newsletter will be assembled and mailed at a mailing party on Feb. 24, 1:30 @ Lopp's Office. The POST will include: Bird of the Month, field trips, Freezeout Lake trip information, Beauty of Birds, monitoring at Owen Sowerwine, donations, watchable wildlife check off, nomination request for board members and wilderness quote.

PROGRAM – RICHARD KUHL

Doug McCarter from the Montana Wild Wings Recovery Center will present the program for February. The March program is an African trip, April is Denver Holt from the Owl Institute and May is the new Glacier Park superintendent.

INTERMOUNTAIN HOME – BOB LOPP, RICHARD KUHL AND STEVE GNIADEK

The building will be moved 200 feet north of the original site to better buffer impacts to the Blasdel WPA. Only 25 acres of 75 will be used for the facility and that land could be subdivided in the future. Bob will send a letter supporting the move.

HOSPITALITY – LOIS DROBISH

The live birds program this month may be crowded so we need more chairs. The Center will accept donations for bird rehabilitation.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER –

FAS will investigate using Smith's card for donations to our local chapter. Bob Lopp passed around an Endowment brochure from the Nature Conservancy with a recommendation that we consider a similar program. Bob Lee continues to work on MAS sexual harassment policy. Kay sent the grant application to the Whitefish Credit Union. Warbler weekend at Tally Lake is June 13-15. Mike has made the reservations.

ADJOURNED @ 7:35

Respectfully submitted,
Marylane Pannell, Secretary