

FLATHAD AUDUBON BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2015  
JANE LOPP & ASSOCIATES, 295 Third Avenue E. N., Kalispell

CALL TO ORDER – BOB LOPP @ 6:00

PRESENT: Bob Lopp, Lewis Young, Steve Gniadek, Denny Olson, Kathy Ross, Gael Bissell, Mike and Jill Fanning, Lois Drobish, Kay Mitchell, Bob Lee, Richard Kuhl, Jan Wassink, Bruce Tannehill, Marylane Pannell and Jim Rychwaalski.

CORRESPONDENCE – BOB LOPP

Denny will talk to Patti Mason about an invitation to set up a display at the Arbor Day Tree Planting on April 24, 2015. Received thanks from Children's House Montessori for the Audubon display on January 17, 2015. Received an invitation from Great Northern Brewery in WF for a fundraising opportunity.

MINUTES – MARYLANE PANNELL

The minutes of the December 3, 2014 were unanimously approved.

BUDGET REPORT – BRUCE TANNEHILL

Our financial are in good shape because of our calendar sales. We discussed moving some of our money in the WF Credit Union and our checking account to a Vanguard Wellington Fund. It was moved and seconded (Bruce/Jim) to do so. Bruce went over our income tax return for 2014. The board noted their volunteer hours on the form and made suggestions for programming additions. Bruce will be leaving for a vacation on February 17 until April 1, 2015. He will prepay bills and will be available by phone (406-270-4918). It was moved and seconded (Richard/Gael) to accept the treasurer's report. MOTION PASSED.

OSNA – LEWIS YOUNG

Rick Mace has made numerous visits to the area. The committee met to discuss workday schedule, coordinate weed control project and master plan issues including the tree stand issue. Linda Winnie will draft a description of the tree stand policy and how we plan to enforce it and Rick will address safety issues.

EDUCATION/CALENDAR – DENNY OLSON

Patti Mason's work report was distributed. Denny will send all board members a draft copy of the "education program strategic plan". We discussed Patti's payment for work outside of Audubon. If FAS assign her work we receive the payment and the hours will not be subtracted from FAS contract work. If her work is done for someone else she will receive the payment.

40 calendars remain and will be offered for sale at our next meeting. Denny would like someone to coordinate gathering of about 50 more daily notes on the 2016 calendars. Denny mentioned the many volunteer hours given by Miriam Emerson. It was moved and seconded (Richard/Bruce) to give her \$100 in gift certificates to her favorite restaurants. MOTION PASSED. Marylane will purchase the certificates and Jill will bring a thank you card to our next meeting.

#### CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT - KAY MITCHELL

Denny and Mary Jo Gardner will present the award to Val Parsons at our next meeting. Steve Thompson's name was brought up for an award and Mayre Flowers will receive the award in April written up and given by Gael and Steve.

#### CONSERVATION – STEVE GNIADEK AND LEWIS YOUNG

Steve mentioned the new on-line [whitefishcommunityradio.com](http://whitefishcommunityradio.com) station for advertising our activities and meetings. The draft Flathead Forest Plan is near completion (out for 60-day comment about late February) and the Kootenai Forest Plan is finished. Steve suggested Audubon members should comment on two public land access bills in the legislature. He will send specific information. Money to support the Loon Ranger Program and a Blackfeet Tribal Loon intern program are short on funding. FAS may be asked to help when the actual shortfall occurs. Lewis suggested FAS support a bill to increase hunting and fishing fees. There was general support for the increase.

#### FIELD TRIPS – GAEL BISSELL

Bob Lee will be the contact person for the Freezeout Lake birding weekend March 28-29. Pete Fisher will not do an owl field trip this year but may conduct a birding trip to McWenneger's Slough. Karen Nichols will conduct a field trip in Lawrence Park and Lewis Young will lead a bat trip in late July.

#### VITAL GROUNDS – GAEL BISSELL

Gael sent a letter on behalf of FAS in support for \$5,000 to Vital Ground Foundation towards the purchase of 142 acres for an Alvord Lake Community Forest.

#### HOSPITALITY – LOIS DROBISH

Lois completed the treat schedule for the year.

#### INSURANCE – BOB LOPP/BOB LEE

The paperwork was completed in December and the policy was confirmed last Friday.

#### WEBSITE – KAY MITCHELL

The contract with Chaney is complete. The committee feels we need to hire someone else to complete the website and suggested we hire Patti Mason for an additional two hours per week until June, 2015. It was moved and seconded (Denny/Mike) to begin the process of creating a contract for Patti to work on the website between Feb 3 and June 30, 2015 for a maximum payment of \$1,000.

MOTION PASSED.

#### NEWSLETTER – KAY MITCHELL

The March newsletter will include: Bird of the Month – Ruddy Duck by Linda DeKort, field trips, warbler weekend by Jill and Make, Patti Mason' report, volunteer

monitoring at OSNA, MT Bird Festival, Libby bird count, nominations for FAS board by Bob Lee, Flathead Forestry Expo, highlights from Board meeting, and Mayre Flowers Conservation Award. February 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 FAS will meet at Bob's office to put the newsletter together.

**MONTANA AUDUBON REPORT – BOB LEE**

MAS has hired a new development director. Loraine has moved to office operations and Janet is in the MT Legislature. Amy Seaman is lobbyist along with two interns. MAS are focusing on fundraising. The keynote speaker at the Bird Festival will talk on Friday night and on Saturday. 2016 festival will be in Missoula. Steve Hoffman will be here for our March 2<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting.

**PROGRAM – RICHARD KUHL**

The February program is "Hiking in the Pyrenees". March will be Craig Naylor's music and program on chickadees, April is Ben Long -Backyard Wildlife and in May, Steve Hoffman will be our speaker.

ADJOURNED @ 8:45

Respectfully submitted,  
Marylane Pannell, Secretary