

FLATHEAD AUDUBON BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 4, 2015
JANE LOPP & ASSOCIATES, 295 Third Avenue E. N., Kalispell

CALL TO ORDER – BOB LOPP @6:00

PRESENT: Gael Bissell, Denny Olson, Kay Mitchell, Lewis Young, Bob Lee, Lois Drobish, Mike Fanning, Jim Rychwalski, Jill Fanning, Paula Smith, Marylane Pannell, Richard Kuhl, Bruce Tannehill and Bob Lopp

MINUTES – MARYLANE

The minutes of the April 6, 2015 meeting were corrected and unanimously approved (Bruce/Lewis) with a spelling correction.

BUDGET REPORT – BRUCE

Bruce reported the Finance Committee met and worked on the proposed budget 2015-2016. Much guessing is involved in the proposed budget because we never know the exact income from the calendars, grants, birdathon and the annual auction. We will have a December fundraiser this year again. The Education Committee has dropped “Kids Mentoring Kids” portion of the budget. Mike suggested we include the mentoring if possible. Lois wanted to start a 4H program on birds. Denny wants these ideas brought to the Education Committee for consideration. Mailing costs will be higher and Patti Mason will have less time for education because she will spend time updating our website. Some changes were made to the budget including deleting the expenses for the Beauty of Birds. No money was budgeted for the Hawk Watch and Warbler Weekend received \$209 for the camp. It was moved and seconded (Bruce/Mike) to pass the 2015-2016 budget with changes noted above. PASSED.

ANNUAL MEETING – BOB LOPP

The annual meeting will be in Whitefish at the Community Center at 121 Second St. beginning at 5pm. The potluck will be at 6 and the program at 7. Gail Linne will bring the Citizens for a Better Flathead recycling bin and explain its use. Bob will get the agenda out ahead of time. It will include an annual report, thank yous, election of officers and board members, Warbler Weekend and Glacier H.S. student art.

WARBLER WEEKEND – MIKE AND JILL

Warbler Weekend is on May 29-31 at Tally Lake Campground. Several members will lead bird walks on Saturday until 3. At 3 there will be talks by Denny on bird migration and Jill and Mike will speak about Raven facts and Native Indian lore. Bring firewood from home and lawn chairs. Gael will provide a whiteboard and there will be an optional potluck on Saturday night.

BIRDATHON – BRUCE

Bruce and John Hughes will lead the two Birdathon teams on June 13. Bruce will send our sheets from last year to all who participated. We will gather between 6 and 7 that night at McKenzie Pizza North to celebrate the event.

CONSERVATION – LEWIS

Lewis sent comments regarding the Nine Pipe Management program. Richard asked about comments to the Flathead Forest Plan. Flathead Audubon has not commented.

WILEY DIKE BLIND – BOB LEE

Bob met with representatives from the local Conservation District to get the necessary permits. After the project we must revegetate the area. It may be necessary to comply with Flood Plan regulations and the Army Corp of Engineers requirements.

EDUCATION – DENNY

Patti Mason is doing a marvelous job as our Audubon Educator. She will try to improve the Backyard Bird Count participation next year. Beauty of Birds program numbers was down some. They will purchase new bins for the trunks and need additional binoculars. Gael suggested asking for used binoculars from members. Patti does a good job planning ahead and logging her time. To date Patti has served 2216 people with her programming. To date Patti has served 2,216 people with programming.

CALENDARS – DENNY

Denny distributed the 2016 calendar proofs. Advertising within the calendar limited business participation last year so there will be no internal advertising. Forum Printing of Fargo ND will print 2000 calendars shrink-wrapped and shipped to Kalispell for \$4,586.00. We will again sell the calendar for \$15.00. Denny mentioned several potential outlets including areas outside Kalispell. Kalispell Regional Hosp. has agreed to purchase 500 copies in 2016 that pays for the cost of the calendar to FAS. It was moved and seconded (Denny/Bob) to purchase 2000 calendar for \$4,586.23. PASSED Miriam Emerson will no longer work on the calendar and it was moved/seconded (Richard/Jim) to pay Miriam \$500 for her work on the calendar. PASSED. Denny can no longer give his time and energy to the calendar without some help from FAS members. Denny asked board members to list retail outlets they would be willing to contact. Bruce agreed to be the overall organizational contact for the sale of calendars

WEBSITE – PAULA

Paula requested all website changes be sent to her. An OSNA field trip with MWA was cancelled. FAS was not aware of this and received complaints. Kay and Paula continue to slave over our website. The Homepage is not to their liking. Paula mentioned the many Google searches to our site including many from Russia.

NOMINATIONS – BOB LEE

At our annual potluck these officers and board members will be nominated: Kay Mitchell – President, Gael Bissell – Vice President, Lewis Young, Paula Smith, Doug MacCarter, Jan Metzmaker and Jake Bramante – Board members.

FIELD TRIPS – GAEL

Gael requested photos from the field trips this year. She listed many field trips this season including: Bike and Bird at Smith Lake on May 16, Coonsa Creek on May 23, Tobacco Valley Birding on June 6, Lawrence Park Bird Walk on June 7, Loons on June 20, Lost Trail Refuge on June 21, Bats on August 15, Raptor Day on Sept. 12 and Sandhill Cranes on Sept. 19. Detailed information in the May Pileated Post.

HOSPITALITY – LOIS

Lois requested that all board members come early and stay late to set up and clean up at the annual meeting.

NEWSLETTER – LEWIS

The September newsletter will have articles on the program, bird of the month, field trips, results of the Birdathon, Raptor Day, education program, May minute highlights, dues, Warbler Weekend, OSWA Work Day, Legislative report, Conservation Achievement Award for Bibler and Watson and new officers and board members.

PROGRAM – RICHARD KUHL

Steve Hoffman, MAS Executive Director, will present information on Audubon's priority bird conservation efforts. John Ashley may be able to do a program next November. Richard is willing to provide the new program chair with a list of potential program presenters.

Gael will be gone the first two weeks of September.

ADJOURNED at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Marylane Pannell, FAS secretary