

Flathead Audubon Minutes

Tuesday, September 9, 2016

In attendance: Kay Mitchell, Bob Lee, Jan Metzmaker, Bob Lopp, Kathy Ross, Cory Davis, Doug MacCarter, Lois Drobish, Paula Smith, Mike and Jill Fanning

Minutes for the June 6 meeting were approved unanimously.

Kay began the meeting with a quiz and thank yous. The construction of the Wiley Dike Blind has been accomplished. She also noted that Brigit Rooney and Daniel Ishmael of Whitefish have been showing up at events and have been very helpful volunteers.

Most of the pledges from the Birdathon are in which has netted \$4,500 thus far.

Hospitality

Lois Drobish circulated a list for treats at upcoming meetings. She also inquired if anyone had any information about an Insectarium in Missoula. The September meeting will be in the same room in the Gateway building and the sound system is on site.

Appointments

Jan moved and Bob Lee seconded a motion to appoint Kathy Ross, Mike and Jill Fanning and Bob Lee to one year terms on the board. The motion passed unanimously.

Hawk Watch

Kathy Ross reported that the Hawk Watch is off to a good start already.

Field Trips

Coming up:

Hawk Watch with Cory

Golden Eagles in GNP with Steve Gniadek

Doug MacCarter suggested a possible kayak/canoe field trip in the future

Paula Smith suggested Flathead Audubon participate in the Bigfork Fourth of July Parade.

Publicity

Paula Smith announced her resignation from the Board, effective October 1. She felt it was time to step back due to all the traveling she has planned in the future. Jan Metzmaker will assume her publicity duties.

Owen Sowerwine

Bob Lee announced there will be a work day on Sept. 24 from 8- noon. Weeds will be mowed and a fence line cleared. An annual meeting was suggested by DNRC.

MT Audubon

Bob Lee will attend the fall meeting on September 17 in Billings.

Programs

Dan Casey will be the September meeting

October- Laura Katzman from the Flathead Land Trust

November- Janet Ellis

December- Christmas Bird Count

Other suggestions were made for future programs.

Wiley Dike

The group has met every Wednesday all summer and one Saturday. Due to unforeseen costs for the Flood Plain Permit and additional piers, the project is over budget by about \$2,600.

Mike moved and Kathy seconded a motion to add \$3,000 to the Jack White Fund to finish the project. \$1,000 will come out of Special Projects and the rest out of the Birdathon.

Newsletter – October contents: Program (Flathead Land Trust), Bird of the Month, Field Trips, Thank you to last year's Field Trip Leaders, Birds of Prey Festival article & photos, Education Corner, Birdathon report and thank yous, West Valley Naturalists Board Activities, Hawk Watch, Lead Alternatives for Hunting, Glass Recycling, Membership Renewal, Donors, Feed Birds not Bears.

Financials

Kay passed out an investment sheet provided by Bruce Tannehill. She also passed out a QuickBooks record showing deposits and checks. A Profit and Loss sheet was also provided.

There was discussion about possible division of financial duties. New software may need to be purchased (Bob Lopp/Kathy). More information will be available at next Board meeting, after Joe returns.

Birds of Prey Festival

The event will be September 10. Volunteers would be appreciated

Education

Denny will be back full time soon. He will do the Wetlands Grant work and will need help at OSNA.

Doug MacCarter said the Osprey webcam at Snappy's was very successful. A total of two young were fledged and the webcam was viewed by people in all 50 states and 60 countries.

The question of insurance was brought up. Bob Lopp said the Board is insured for board actions, however, no one knew if volunteers and participants were insured at the various field trips.

The Tally Lake outing will be the first week of June 2017 at Tally Lake and the Bird Festival will be the 2nd week in June.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Metzmaker, Acting Secretary