

FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY
Gateway Conference Room
February 5, 2018

Present: Bob Lee, Kay Mitchell, Gail Linne, Kathy Ross, Barb Summer, Jake Bramante, Denny Olson, Cory Davis, Rod Walette, Lois Drobish, Jan Metzmaker and Marylane Pannell.

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

Minutes of the January 2, 2018 were approved (Jan/Kathy). **PASSED**

Treasurer's Report – Joe reported we made \$3,706 on the yearend appeal. IRS form 990 due in May is being prepared. FAS received \$1,879 from NAS after turning in our year-end reports. Joe renewed our insurance for \$475 less than last year. Joe suggested we hire an investment adviser. Kay mentioned it is possible to use the investment adviser Whitefish Community Foundation has for free.

President's Report – Kay

*Reported the annual report was submitted.

*New grants committee has been formed with Rod, Mike, Gail, Gael and Kay as members. The committee has applied for a Citizen Science Grant for \$25,000 to cover costs for the Hawk Watch, Birds of Prey, visuals and administration.

*Dean Robbins, Kay and Gael met to discuss the Wiley property. Kay detailed the discussion and it was decided to wait for Gael's return to vote on the property proposal.

Newsletter – All articles for the newsletter must be sent to Linda Winnie by February 17th. Suggestions for additions to the newsletter included: trunk update, no Warbler weekend, calendars \$10 and in March \$5.00. Jake will bring calendars to the next board meeting for distribution to valley schools.

Committee Reports

*Website – The website is up and Jake may have a website committee meeting soon.

*Conservation – A letter was sent to our Representatives regarding the Migratory Bird Act.

*Education – The committee plans to update the strategic plan. Gail will give details about the school ambassador program at our next general meeting. Denny is working with DNRC on a trail from Montessori School to OSNA. Trunks will be relocated to Lone Pine State Park. Kay is working on a brochure for FAS. Road Scholar has enough volunteers to go ahead with the programs this summer.

*Field Trips – Cory suggested FAS organize some weekend field trip perhaps to Dillion to see Grouse lekking or to Bowdoin. FAS will go to Freezeout Lake in March. Kathy suggested we go over guidelines for field trips at each outing and to put the link on our website.

*Membership – Joe reports a few memberships are still coming in to him.

*Nominations – Bob requests any suggestions are sent to him.

*Program – the speaker will be Kari Gabriel and Marilyn Wood will receive the Conservation Achievement Recognition.

Bird Festival Committees

*Volunteers – Marylane continues to work on this and hope to complete by end of February.

*Field Trips – Cory has sent in descriptions and schedule for all festival field trips

*Dessert Auction – Linda Winnie has most desserts arranged.

*Sales Table – not much will be available for sale this year.

*Speakers – Keynote speaker is Stuart Strahl, board chair of Vital Ground to speak Friday evening at the kickoff gathering.

Other Business – Kay requests the festival volunteer list be to her by March 1. The key note speaker will donate fees to Audubon. Any extra funds may go toward a parking area at West Valley Ponds.

Adjourned at 8:20

Sincerely submitted,
Marylane Pannell, Secretary