

Flathead Audubon Society Board Meeting

Minutes September 4, 2018

Meeting began at 6:05 on Bob Lopp's deck in Kalispell

Present: Kay, Gael, Jan, Lois, Bob Lee, Mike and Jill Fanning, Diane, Joe, Kathy, Rod, Cory, Pam, Bob Lopp, Gail Linne, Denny

Barb Summer has resigned from the board due to health issues.

Updating board members: Committee Chairs Kathy Ross, Bob Lee, Mike Fanning, , Carole Jorgensen, and Gail Linne were added to the Board and will serve one year terms. Bob Lopp was added to the Board for a one-year term at his and our request.

Motion: Jan moved to accept the board members for 1 year term, Gael 2nd. Motion carried unanimously.

It was noted that Derek Rathe from Lone Pine is interested in serving on the board. It was suggested he attend the next meeting.

Motion: Jan moved and Kathy seconded a motion to approve the May Board meeting minutes. Approved unanimously.

Motion: Rod moved and Pam seconded a motion to approve minutes from the May Annual Meeting. Approved unanimously.

Finances: Investments bottom line at around \$200,000

Budget: Kay unilaterally decided to shorten budget projection report, unanimous cheers all around. OSNA asked to reduce their budget by \$1000 due to not receiving a weed grant.

Treasurer's report: Joe Batts Treasurer reported that normal annual membership dues would bring in \$7000/yr.

Motion: Mike moved and Cory seconded a motion to approve and file the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Membership- stands at 189 local members and 220 national members- nearly 400 total members.

President's Report:

Kay noted this was her last year as President. Gael would succeed her next year. New Contact list was circulated and updated. An orientation session lasting 1- 1 ½ hours for new board members will be held in the near future. Grant workshop will be held also.

Kathy Ross is conducting training for Birds of Prey Festival, Sat 9/15, at Lone Pine, and wants to make sure she has technical support with her Powerpoint. Lisa Bate from Glacier National Park is offering training for Hawk Watch and is bringing new people. She would like to see more info on our Audubon website. Jake will be asked to assist. Hawk Watch Training is in conjunction with the Birds of Prey Festival from 1-3 PM. Gael passed out Hawk Watch training posters for us to post. She would like them sent to CORE, Theresa Wenum and area schools.

Grants:

Gael: Larry Berrin from MT Audubon suggested we apply for a Maki grant. A total of \$2000 was received for the Birds of Prey Festival. One provision is to write letters in support of the Migratory Bird Act. Rod will assist by providing materials at a table at the festival.

A \$3100 grant application from the Cross Foundation has been sent in for a 4-6 minute video using BJ Worth footage for social media. "Why Birds Rock" is the video title.

Mike applied for a Whitefish Community Foundation grant. This is the 7th year we've gotten \$2,000 from them. The Quinn Fund has given us \$1000-1500/year for the last 7-8 years as well.

Rod: Whitefish Credit Union gave us \$500 donation to promote the Birds of Prey Festival. In exchange they want to recv public thx and marketing for them.

Kay and Gael will work on the National Audubon Final Report due at the end of the year.

Awards from the Wings over the Big Sky Festival. Lewis Young got the Lifetime achievement award; Steve Gnaidek got the Conservationist of the Year; Denny Olson got Audubon Educator of the Year. We made \$2600 from the Bird Festival dessert sale.

Education Committee:

Gail reported that the committee met today and will meet again on 9 27 to look at Denny's contract and projected educational programs for the next several months. Denny presented to the FV schools in August. The educational trunk program will kick off. They hope to expand educational programs to include high school seniors. Ambassador program is a big help. Rene is new to the committee and much appreciated. She suggested getting HS students involved w/ us. Think of curriculum for children of all ages.

Field Trips:

Cory reported that the next field trip will be to the hawk watch site on 9 16 for 9 participants. October 6 will be the ribbon cutting for the West Valley Ponds. He and Kathy are working on the fall/winter field trips.

Hospitality: Treat list was circulated.

Program, MT Audubon, OSNA:

Tabitha Graves, USGS researcher will be the September program. Diane will do wolf program Feb 11. Dec is xmas bird count program. Jan could be Denny's family education program.

OSNA: Spring floods kicked butt on OSNA. Tomorrow @ 08:30 a group w/ Denny will build boardwalk across the slough. WBC donated \$200 worth of materials, others donated as well. 9/29 will be the OSNA work day.

Montana Audubon Report

MT Audubon board mtg is in 2 weekends. Discussion of getting an alternative Flathead Audubon rep for MT Audubon functions. Janet Ellis has resigned from MT Audubon. Joe provided a template for hiring

her replacement sometime within the next 6 months. This is pro-active. This allows Larry to focus on the 5 key areas and keep things on track.

Conservation:

Kay noted that letter were sent regarding Lost Trail Refuge, Bison Range Complex. Conservation Roundtable is in flux.

CA Award - Nominations for conservation achievement recognition (CAR) awards are coming up next month. Gael will circulate the list of ideas developed last season.

Birds of Prey Festival 9/15 - Denny: Sammy's Kitchen will do food, Coffee Traders will provide coffee.

Meeting adjourned at 08:03.

Next meeting will be Monday, October 1, 2018

Note Takers in absence of Secretary Marylane: Diane Boyd, Jan Metzmaker