

Audubon of Southwest Florida, Inc.

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting

June 18, 2009 - 6 PM

Eco Living Center, Ft. Myers

Chair: Gerri Reaves

Members present: Mari, Tina, Gene, Gerri, Conny Rebecca, Carol

Call to order: 6:05 P.M.

Appoint minute-taker for summer: Carol

Approval of Minutes: Affirm May 26 online approval of donation of 10 bird ID guides to Lee Memorial Cancer Center

Minutes approved – Motion Conny 1st, Gene 2nd

Treasury: Rebecca noted Gerri suggested we form a Finance Committee, and agreed this would be a good idea. Committees were to submit budgets. Need clear projected spending amounts for the rest of the fiscal year ending May 31, 2009. Committee budgets were tabled until August. . Chairs of committees should prepare budget and submit to Rebecca. Rebecca will be out of town until August. Gerri and Carol will cover treasury duties until then.

Membership: National paid memberships as of 6.7/09: ??? expired: ??? – appeal letters to join chapter sent

Chapter-only members: 17 New chapter-only members- 17 welcome letters sent

New membership chair needed

Membership envelopes: a motion was made and unanimously approved (Mari 1st, Rebecca 2nd): “Until further notice, online membership form will be used after language is reviewed and possibly modified by BOD. Furthermore, withhold from mailing or handing out new membership envelopes because of confusing and inaccurate language.”

(The envelope may still be used after language is corrected. New language on a new piece of paper can be re-glued so envelope and money spent will not go to waste). TBD: will envelope go into July’s newsletter.)

Education programs: Confirm FMN scholarship of \$225.00 for N. Dillman. Motion: Gene 1st, Conny 2nd, Unanimously approved. N. Dillman plans to give an owl presentation at January’s membership meeting.

Update on Jason's scholarship application. Gene will ask Jason to attend August’s BOD meeting.

Update on FMN program and new class being formed. Sandy from Immokalee is working on a new website link to our scholarship page. Margaret England from Hendry Audubon is involved, too.

A motion was made, Rebecca 1st, Mari 2nd, all approved to give Gene authority to revise the contact information on the FMP scholarship page on the ASWF website.

Conservation: Declination of sponsorship of FHD. Signed onto Draft Letter to the Florida Congressional Delegation from Everglades Coalition. Signed onto Draft Letter to OMB on the Master Agreement (land valuation issue under the pending CERP Master Agreement

Fairs, Festivals, and Events: Proposal to purchase more bird ID guides ??

GreenMarket update: Conny attended the first, second and third (as of June 20th) Green Market. Carol will help her on June 20th. Large crowd first wee, and has dwindled ever since. Conny suggested to attend the 1st and 3rd weekend of every month. Every weekend is too much.

CHNEP posters and books: Conny has picked up from CHNEP many posters to hand out. Available to us it to buy a CHNEP children's book, sell it for CHNEP and they in turn will give us \$1.00 for every book sold. No vote was taken.

T-shirts: Discussion on price of shirts. General agreement \$30.00 is too much to pay for a shirt, as is currently the cost with shirts we have for sale. What is number sold online at O'Keefe website? No motions were made.

October Eco-B'fast Oct. 22. Liason needed to work with coordinator Rae Ann Wessel. Suggest that we find a new food vendor. Flutterby's Café at the Butterfly Estates was suggested. The Estates are in the neighborhood of where the breakfast is held and they are an environmentally friendly food vendor. All served with biodegradable plates, cups and flatware. Carol will ask Flutterby's Café about this.

Birdathon is going to be one of ASWF's main events next Spring.

Upcoming Field trips: TBA in Summer Flyways; now posted on website calendar. Field trip chair needed.

Upcoming Programs: Four programs TBA in Summer Flyways; now posted on website calendar.

Forward suggestions to Carl or Mari. Mari presented a list of possible programs and field trips. Suggestions were: Tom Allen for Butterfly Program, Butterfly Estates Field Trip, A Binocular Co. come speak on optics for wildlife viewing. Mari volunteered to take on Program Chair role.

Flyways: Summer edition forthcoming; Kelly is working on final draft. Lee County Fertilizer Ordinance bumper stickers were suggested to be sent with newsletter. Carol will pick up bumper stickers.

Public Relations/outreach: All-purpose chapter brochure—DJ (a volunteer/djwebbimages) agreed to work on this. Carol will be the main contact person to help with this.

PR chair volunteer needed.

Web report: Eco-Voice.org now up and running. <http://www.eco-voice.org/home>

Pete suggests: everyone join and post, particularly to calendar; that ASWF web calendar postings be limited to Aububon and local birding trips/programs; that ASWF donate another \$250 to Eco-Voice.* No motion made

Birdathon: discussion as to whether we should continue this if there are few volunteers to organize it.

Unfinished Business: none

New Business: Gerri resigned from presidency due to health issues., but will continue to volunteer as an ASWF Board member. Carol becomes president until decided whether to hold new election for president, or have board appoint acting president (if by-laws support).

July BOD meeting is canceled due to many board members going on vacation. Next meeting will be in August.

Adjournment: 8:40 P.M.

* PQ: Most other sponsors of Eco-Voice have contributed \$500, we gave initial \$250. Suggest another \$250 payment of development of the action alert system which will allow ASWF and other smaller organizations to get "requests for action" on local issues on the web - phone calls and emails/letters to BOCC and local politicians. Also working on development of page to post requests for volunteers and "jobs" wanted and offered. Sponsorship at \$500 gets ASWF listed as sponsor with logo etc. like Everglades Coalition <http://www.evergladescoalition.org/members.htm>. on new "sponsor" page. Otherwise we get name and link, <http://www.eco-voice.org/node/129>, like current page.