

Flathead Audubon Society Board Meeting

September 6, 2011

Location: Jane Lopp & Associates, 295 Third Ave., E.N. Kalispell, MT

Present: Paula Smith, Chair; Bruce Tannehill, Kay Mitchell, Dan Casey, Denny Olson, Lois Drobish, Linda deKort, Richard Kuhl, Ben Long, Dennis Hester, Steve Gniadek, Jan Wassink, Kathy Ross, and Gael Bissell

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Appoint Committee Chairs to One-Year Terms. Linda Dekort, Linda Winnie, Mike Fanning, Kaye Mitchell, Dan Casey. A Motion was made to appoint these chairs to one-year terms. Motion was seconded. The motion was unanimously passed. Motion was made to appoint Kathy Ross for a 1-year Chair appointment. Seconded and unanimously passed.

Minutes. Change spelling of name of Brian Merritts to Brian Marotz in the May 2, 2011 minutes and under Conservation add Fish and Wildlife Service (Wind Energy Guidelines). Motion was made to accept minutes with accepted changes. Motion was unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report and Budget. Bruce discussed the Treasurer's Report that was emailed prior and handed out at the meeting.

Jewel Basin Hawk Watch Grant Request. Dan gave the board an update on the Jewel Basin Hawk Watch. It's been a slow start and that is expected. Hawk Watch started out in 2008. There are 100's of donated volunteer hours a year. (Motion was made and passed in the May 2011 minutes as a motion to approve the budget to approve a \$1,000 grant for this program).

Trumpeter Swan Society Donation Request. Motion (deKort) was made to donate \$100 to help with the Trumpeter Swan Society Conference expenses. Seconded by Bissell. The motion was passed.

Crown of the Continent Conference FAS two-for-one discount. Steve will contact Susan Costanza and see if she has already registered and Steve and Susan could use the two for one discount. Steve will let us know more later. Bruce told him that there was travel money available.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MA Bird Festival 2012. There will not be a silent auction nor separate family festival. No new news on the availability of the keynote or other speakers at this time. Montana Audubon employees will be here on October 20 to check out the facilities and meet with the festival committee members. Steve Hoffman would like to keep the registration fees low so more people can attend. There will also be monthly telephone conference

between Montana Audubon and the FAS Festival board members. It was suggested that a monthly update of the festival will be shown on the FAS website.

Education.

Corporate Sponsorships. Linda deKort gave an update on applying for local corporate sponsorships and so far has not had any luck (Target and Kmart). She suggested that we continue to go to local businesses to procure sponsorships. Many of the stores she contacted suggested that we go to their corporate website to apply for grants. Kaye said that sponsors will be listed in the Pileated Post every month. Bruce will forward all memberships to Mike and any sponsorships to Kaye. Dennis did obtain a corporate sponsor who is a broker with DA Davidson.

Linda deKort/Dennis will go over the sponsorship protocol and clarify any problems. Linda will resend out the list of contacts that board members did sign up for as a reminder.

Strategic Plan. Many of the goals of the Strategic Plan will be achieved with the FAS bird festival in June 2012. Linda deKort will go over the Strategic Plan and evaluate any progress or action items. Denny will donate back his speaker fee for Raptor Days and this money could be used to order 5 pairs of binoculars to be used as awards for the science projects.

Owen Sowerwine. Richard reported that this year the OSNA Work Day is October 1 and there are nine different projects planned. Many of the projects do not require any special skills.

Conservation. Lewis sent out FAS comments to GNP about the proposed Quartz Creek Fish Barrier Modification and Improvement. GNP has also opened a scoping period for increased parking in Apgar, moving visitor center to the transit center, and other projects. Steve will draft comments for FAS input.

Field Trips. There is need for a new Field Trip Chair. Gael Bissell/Kathy Ross volunteered to be Co-Chairs of the Field Trip Committee.

Hospitality. Kathy Ross will help with refreshments at the OSNA Work Day. Board members should try to be a little early to general meetings to help with setting up the chairs.