

FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 16, 2013
LOCATION: JANE LOPP AND ASSOCIATES, 295 THIRD AVE E.N.
KALISPELL, MONTANA

CALL TO ORDER – BOB LOPP @ 6:04

PRESENT: Bob Lopp (chair), Lois Drobish, Bob Lee, Kay Mitchell, Brent Mitchell, Gael Bissell, Ashley Mason, Paula Smith, Richard Kuhl, Marylane Pannell, Jan Wassink, Lewis Young, Kathy Ross, Jill Fanning, Mike Fanning, Linda Winnie.

Proxy Vote: Denny Olson called to give Bob Lopp his proxy vote. A discussion of proxy vote in our By-Laws followed. No policy was found.

MINUTES – MARYLANE

Bob Lee's name will be included as a Board member in the POST. Minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – BOB LOPP

President Bob Lopp covered the budget in Bruce's absence. \$1,000 donations were received from Prudential for Global Volunteer Day, Quinns and the Whitefish Foundation. Moved and seconded (Mike/Paula) to accept financials. PASSED
Moved and seconded (Mike/Kay) to contribute \$500 to Jeff Marks for publication of his book on Montana birds. PASSED

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT – VARIOUS BOARD MEMBERS

Board members reported on the counts throughout our area. Lewis reported a Curved Billed Thrasher in the Eureka area. Gael noted that her group in Bigfork spotted 48 species. Kathy attended the Ninepipe bird count and recorded snipes, meadowlarks and pipits were seen that day.

EDUCATION – ASHLEY MASON

Signs of the Season on December 17 at 4:00 – 6:00 pm at Linderman School will include information on animals in the winter, a craft and a snack. Winter Trails Day on January 11 will include free snowshoes, a snow activity book and binoculars at Blacktail Trails. Scoop on Poop will be presented at Flathead County Library on January 14 and 15. Ashley will present at an Elder Hostel program at FVCC in February. Paula and Ashley working on the education page of our website. Doug McCarter is ready to give a Kids and Family program. Possible raptor day tour for kids was suggested. Lewis has applied for a grant to complete the owl trunk from the Montana Wildlife Society. The Kids in the Woods program will need to be replicated in 2014. Ashley will present at Kalispell Schools PIR days in August.

MONTANA AUDUBON POLICY – BOB LEE

We need a Sexual Harassment and Abuse Policy for insurance purposes. Bob wrote the policy. Moved and seconded (Bob Lee/Marylane) to adopt the policy into our by-laws. PASSED. The Harassment Investigation Guide portion of the policy will not be included.

OWEN SOWERWINE – LINDA WINNIE AND RICHARD KUHL

The 5-year plot surveys were done again this year. Negotiations are under way to clear up the access problems at the SW corner of OSNA. FAS will ask DNRC to contact neighbors regarding encroachments into the area. Mosquito control spraying took place in OSWA without FAS being notified in 2013. Contacted the agencies involved to assure FAS has knowledge of this work in the future. Three deer tree stands were found in OSNA. Brent Mitchell will remove unattended deer stands. The word “unattended” was recommended to replace “temporary” in the policy regarding deer stands. The committee will work on the policy. Neal Brown will work on signage in the area. A weed plan was registered by Brent and will be updated. The committee will meet again in March.

CONSERVATION – LEWIS YOUNG

Lewis submitted comments regarding Sage Grouse conservation to the Governor’s initiative to begin an effort for conserving sage grouse in Montana. NAS has not taken a hard stance on granting wind energy companies 30-year permits to kill Bald and Golden eagles. The motion was moved and seconded (Mike/Cathy) to draft a letter in support of Alvord Lake Community Forest grant. PASSED. Lewis will draft the letter.

CHALLENGE GRANT – CINNABAR FOUNDATION – MIKE FANNING

The Cinnabar Foundation grant is for \$2,000. The Soroptimist will probably give \$1,000 and we should receive \$500 from MAS. Membership at 438 nationally and our local is at 152. Mike will be sending renewal post cards soon. Kay will apply for a WF Credit Union grant of \$500 to purchase a sound system for FAS. Moved and seconded (Richard/Paula) to donate \$300 to United Way. PASSED

WEBSITE AD-HOC COMMITTEE – JAN WASSINK

Chancy Reon Ockert Consulting submitted a sample project proposal to update our website using Wordpress.org which will be managed by FAS. In January Bruce will update us regarding payment for our Internet management last year. We will vote in January 2014 to change our provider.

NEWSLETTER – KAY MITCHELL

The newsletter will include: program, bird of the month, conservation award from Jill, survey results from Gael, Great Backyard Bird Count, Ashley’s report, BF bird count, Conservation Dist. Board opening, FAS board report, MAS report and thanks to 2013 donators. Bob Lee name will be added to the Board Directory in the POST.

PROGRAM – RICHARD KUHL

January program will be Chris Peterson with photos of GNP, birding and the Bob Marshall. Other possible programs were mentioned including: a Hawk Rehab Program, an African trip with Bruce Farling, hiking the Pacific Crest Trail and a program with the new GNP supervisor.

SALES – JILL FANNING

Sales made \$200 in December. This program has not been successful and perhaps should be cut from our meetings. Our FAS calendar of 2015 should be ready by July 2014 and may increase sales.

HOSPITALITY – LOIS DROBISH

The donation of cookies for each meeting is falling off. Only one volunteered for January therefore there will be few if any refreshments.

PUBLICITY – PAULA SMITH

The Interlake Daybook did not include our December program. Cathy volunteered to help with publicity while Paula is away in January-February.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Bob Lopp led a discussion concerning the location of the new Intermountain Providence Home near Somers. Gael will get specifics for the plan and e-mail board members.

Bob Lee updated on the MAS Board meeting in December. There is some concern for 2014 budget because some good contributors have died. There is a new office manager at MAS.

Lois asked if anyone had information on wind turbines that were less harmful to birds.

ADJOURN at 8:55.

Respectfully submitted,
Marylane Pannell, Secretary