

FLATHEAD AUDUBON BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2016
Jane Lopp & Associates

Present: Kay Mitchell, Joe Batts, Mike Fanning, Gael Bissell, Jan Metzmaker, Lewis Young, Bob Lopp, Bob Lee, Jake Bramante, Denny Olson, Lois Drobish, Doug MacCarter and Marylane Pannell

Minutes of the September 9, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously (Mike/Lewis)

Treasurer - Joe Batts and Bruce Tannehill will divide the FAS finance duties. Bruce's name will go on all accounts and Gael's name will be added to the WF Credit Union account. **Moved and seconded (Bob Lopp/Jan) to accept the treasurer's report.**

President - Kay circulated our personnel list, along with our wish list. The board will discuss board rules at our next meeting and Kay announced NpDP services are being moved to the Flathead Community Foundation and Chaney Ockert will no longer be working with them.

Smith's Grocery chain offers a percentage of sales to FAS if folks sign up.

Education - Denny outlined his conservation education work, July – September 2016. Denny asked for suggestions of items to throw out at meetings for bird song winners.

Conservation Achievement Recognition (C.A.R.) - Gael and the Board listed several potential award possibilities discussed last year. We give two to three awards per year. Gael will mail out the potential list of candidates with a little on their background before the next Board meeting.

Newsletter - Lewis listed the November newsletter articles including: Jake Bramante Yellowstone program, Bird of the Month, Field Trips. Hawkwatch report, Education Corner, Bylaw changes, Board member column, OSNA workday, West Valley Naturalist, Amazon Smile reminder and Smith Grocery, thanks to renewals, donations, Toilet Vent Project, and Board changes.

Conservation - Lewis commented on the success of installing vent covers in toilets to prevent birds being trapped and killed. FAS had purchased 10 for use on the Kootenai National Forest. Some Ninepipes Wildlife Management Area vehicular turnouts were increased in size to provide more safe parking near bird viewing areas. Sharp-tailed Grouse Working Group is making slow progress toward reintroducing sharp-tailed grouse in West Shore Wildlife Management Area implanted a multi-year lease for the agricultural operations that favor wildlife. Kay mentioned legislation to increase timeline for permits in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Hospitality - Lois is our go to person for lost and found items. Bob Lee will make the coffee at the October meeting.

Membership - Mike said we have 229 national members and 65 locals so far this year. Membership application will be on the chairs at our next meeting.

Hawk Watch - Joe received a message from Barbara Summer. She reports 40 birds today and over 2,000 so far this year.
Field Trips will be in our November newsletter.

Publicity - Jan has replaced Paula as chair of that committee.

Warbler Weekend - Mike reports that the only days open at Talley Lake is June 15 and 16.

OSNA - Bob Lee reported 20 people worked to pull weeds, cut trees over the Heaps fence and mow the main trail.

MT Aud. Board Bob Lee reported a change of personnel; Great Falls will host the bird festival on June 6. Steve Hoffman is retiring in January.

Wylie-Robbins Bird Blind - Bob Lee construction is going well. The next project is a handicapped Accessible project. Bob will apply for grants for this project.

Jim Rogers will be invited to our next board meeting to explain the Bison Range Transfer.

Website - Jake allows we can now renew on line, Denny is a new committee member, remember to "like" Audubon on the site and all updates have been applied.

OSNA land appraisal - Gael reported that the appraisal is in and reasonable. FWP and DNRC are working towards an agreement on the land ownership.

Respectfully submitted,
Marylane Pannell, Secretary