

FLATHEAD AUDUBON SOCIETY
Gateway Conference Room
January 2, 2018

Present: Kay Mitchell, Jan Metzmaker, Gael Bissell, Barb Summer, Rod Walette, Lois Drobish, Marylane Pannell, Kathy Ross, Denny Olson, Jake Bramante, Gail Linne, Bruce Tannehill and Gail Cleveland.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05.

Minutes of the December 4, 2017 were approved (Jan/Kathy) with one correction; Jan not Kathy suggested the calendar committee move the title of the calendar to the top of the front page. **PASSED.**

Treasurer's Report. In Joe's absence the board was given an accounting of the FAS calendar. We made \$4,073.00 profit. Kay also gave an accounting of payments and deposit for December 2017. The treasurer's report was received and filed. Bruce Tannehill reviewed the FAS books and found everything accounted for and in order.

Great Fish Challenge. Gail and Bruce volunteered to help make the FAS application for membership in the Great Fish Challenge. Jan and Kathy will help when Gail and Bruce are traveling. It was moved and seconded (Jan/Barb) to join the Great Fish Challenge. **PASSED.** It was decided not to have a Birdathon this year because we are busy with the Montana Audubon Bird Festival in June.

Newsletter. The "Pileated Post" contents and authors for February 2018 were reviewed.

Wiley/Robbins Homestead Center was thoroughly discussed.

In advance of the discussion we reviewed the history and the Memorandum of Understanding agreed upon by the FAS president, Bob Lopp, and Dean A. Robbins.

Although the donation is a marvelous opportunity for FAS to create a center for school classes to visit and learn about the history of the area, see the historical buildings and go bird watching in the blind, the Board decided to withdraw from the proposal for several reasons. FAS is not a facilities management group, there is too much liability for FAS to take on and the cost of cleaning up the property and updating the buildings are beyond our means.

Kay, Gael, Bob and Jake will talk to Dean about our decision.

Calendar. FAS has created and sold calendars for two years. Denny and Jake work extremely hard producing the phenology calendar and this year the profits were only about \$4,000. The Board agreed to not produce a calendar for 2019.

Grants. A number of grants were discussed and a committee (Mike, Gail, Gael, Rod and Kay) was formed to apply for upcoming grants.

Montana Bird Festival. Cory per Kathy needs three leaders for field trips. Jake volunteered and Ben Young was mentioned as a possibility.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Sincerely submitted,
Marylane Pannell, Secretary