

Board of Directors' Meeting

Boalsburg, PA

February 4, 2006

The board of directors of the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology met on February 4, 2006. Persons present were John Fedak, Greg Grove, Frank Haas, Margaret and Roger Higbee, Shonah Hunter, Rudy Keller, Sandy Lockerman, Flo McGuire, Mark McConaughy, Nick Pulcinella, and Carmen Santasania. Greg called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m.

Mark made a motion that the minutes be accepted as received from Roger via the internet and Carmen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Frank stated that the renewals are starting to come in and we are doing OK. Mark made a motion seconded by Rudy that the treasurer's report be accepted. The motion passed.

The board decided that we will publish a list of the membership in the next newsletter.

PA Birds

Nick said that one more seasonal editor is needed. The fall issue is in preparation. Greg complimented Nick on a great job.

Brochure

When Carmen's hard drive crashed, he forgot about the brochure so it is still in progress. Shonah said that she will see if a student will set up the brochure as a project. Sandy also said that she will see if she can get it done.

Insurance

Margaret reported for Linda that Linda is checking several sources for the best price on insurance. She will have a policy by the meeting and we will be insured.

Slate of Directors and Officers

The slate of directors and officers will be as discussed at the last meeting. Carmen will contact Stacey Small to see if she is willing to serve as a director.

Annual Meeting

Registration will begin at 6:00 at the Ramada Inn with the social following at 7:00. The business meeting will begin at 8:00, and an overview of the field trips will be presented

after the meeting.

The Ramada is willing to open their restaurant at 5:30 for us if we have at least 25 persons who will order. They will have a breakfast buffet for \$7.99 or breakfast can be ordered from the menu. A checkoff will be placed on the registration form to determine whether enough people want this option. Field trips will leave from the Ramada at 6:30 and return at 12:00. Lunch will be on our own. The afternoon sessions will begin at 1:00 at Powdermill and last until 5:00. The social will begin at 6:00 at the Ramada, and the dinner buffet will be served at 6:30. Following the banquet the Poole and conservation awards will be presented, then Mike Lanzone will present the evening program. The breakfast buffet will be available Sunday morning if enough people request it. Field trips will again leave from the Ramada at 6:30.

Conservation Award

There will be no conservation award given this year as no one nominated anyone or group. Note: This was amended after Doug complained that there are several people and organizations that could be nominated. The committee took these names into consideration and subsequently nominated Tom Dick who has constructed the Dunnings Creek Wetlands. This nomination was presented to the board via email and was unanimously approved.

Other Lodging

Mark sent Shonah a list of other possibilities for lodging in the area. Also available will be the cabins at Powdermill. They will have to be rented by individuals who will have to find their own room mates. They will also have to bring their own linens. Sandy will handle the cabins. PSO will handle the money and pay Powdermill for the cabins. A block of 30 rooms is being reserved at the Ramada.

Field Trips

The field trips are being coordinated by Linda Hess.

Vendors

Because of the limited space at Powdermill, the possibility of having the vendors set up outside was discussed. The rental of a 20' x 40' tent was discussed at the cost of \$750. It was decided that this was too much and that vendors would have to bring their own tent or have no tent at all. It was finally decided to invite Aden but no other vendor.

Young Birder Scholarship

No nominations for the young birder scholarship have been received. Shonah will send the information to Carmen to put on the server to see if there is any interest. Frank will place it on the website. Rudy suggested that the announcement be placed in more than one issue of the newsletter. Mark suggested Karena Gregg as a possibility.

Pins

Doug Gross will contact Nancy Dennis to see if she will design the pin again this year. We will need approximately 100 pins.

Auction

Linda Hess will help with the auction. A notice will be placed in the newsletter and on the website that items are needed for the auction. Anyone bringing auction items should email Shonah what they are bringing. Items will be at Powdermill for bidding during the afternoon speaker sessions.

Speakers

PSO needs to contact each speaker to determine whether they are coming, if they are staying over and need a room, if they are staying for the banquet, etc. Mike Lanzone will be the banquet speaker and recount his sighting of an Ivory-billed Woodpecker in Arkansas.

PORC

PORC will not give a report at the meeting.

Poole Award

Rudy nominated Margaret Higbee to be the recipient of the Poole award for 2006. After some discussion, Rudy moved that Margaret receive this award; the motion was seconded by Mark. The motion passed.

Certificate of Appreciation

John and Arlene are still working on this certificate. The certificate should include the person's name and the reason that they are receiving it. The board must approve each person who is nominated to receive a certificate.

Patches or Pins

Another suggestion that might provide additional interest in birding in Pennsylvania would be to award patches or pins to birders who reach significant plateaus on their Pennsylvania life list. No action was taken.

2007 Annual Meeting

Sandy is currently discussing the possibility of holding the annual meeting in Harrisburg at either the Best Western, Holiday Inn, or the Windham Harrisburg. She hopes to finalize which establishment will accommodate us best. She hopes to have this

completed by the end of February and will email the board of her decision.

2008 Annual Meeting

Jack Solomon and the Three Rivers Birding Club have offered to host the 2007 meeting in Pittsburgh. Rudy made a motion which Frank seconded that the PSO accept the offer. The motion was approved.

Act 48 Approval

John asked if the board would agree to allow him to obtain approval to have the PSO meeting be approved for credit toward the 180 hours needed. Frank moved and Rudy seconded that John be allowed to obtain the necessary approval. The motion passed.

Falcon Guide

Frank, Barb, and Deuane will write the Falcon Guide to birding Pennsylvania.

Newsletter

Articles for the newsletter should be sent to Margaret by the beginning of March.

Mark moved to adjourn and John seconded the motion. It was approved at 2:12.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger V. Higbee, Secretary