

PSO Board of Directors Meeting

Boalsburg

November 21, 2009

The board of directors met at Duffy's Tavern in Boalsburg with the following members present: Rob Blye, John Fedak, Frank Haas, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Shonah Hunter, Rudy Keller, Arlene Koch, Tom Kuehl, Sandy Lockerman, Mark McConaughy, Carman Santasania, and Jack Solomon. The meeting was called to order at 11:22 a.m. by Arlene.

Mark moved and Rob seconded a motion that the minutes be accepted as received by email.

Rob moved and John seconded a motion that the treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

John has the entire list of Certificates of Appreciation that have been presented. He had five more to send at the meeting. All five were approved.

Jeff asked for comments on *PA Birds* and the way he is putting it together. Everyone said that he is doing a great job. Carmen offered a suggestion that the board consider publishing *PA Birds* electronically. Frank said that presently about 10% of the newsletters are sent on line. After further discussion it was decided that the magazine should remain as a paper copy.

Arlene brought up board member attendance of meetings. According to the bylaws, if a member misses three meetings without an excuse, he or she is automatically removed from the board.

Doug Gross asked Arlene to determine how many board members are using ebird. The best most members could say is that they enter some sitings occasionally.

Tom agreed to be president of PSO for the next two years. He asked for volunteers to be vice president. One suggestion was Chad Kaufmann. John said that he might be interested in being vice president if someone else will do the COAs. Sandy volunteered to assume that responsibility.

A question was raise by a member concerning the lack of a recognition plaque for the conservation award. The matter was discussed and the result was that only the Poole award winner will receive a plaque and the conservation award winner will receive \$100 and a framed award letter.

There will be a 2nd annual Bald Eagle Birding Festival on May 8. Shonah will try to find someone to represent the PSO at this event.

We will officially recognize the young birders group at the annual meeting. Rob said that he will write an article about the group for the newsletter.

The Delaware Valley Ornithological Club is trying to have a portion of Cape May State Park renamed as the Witmore Stone Memorial. Rudy and Frank will write a letter of support to be sent by the president.

Annual Meeting

Shonah has signed the contract with the Clarion Hotel in Erie for the annual meeting. Our afternoon sessions must be over by 4:30 due to other events in the hotel. The banquet will be in the back of the restaurant. The hotel has offered to provide a \$4.00 breakfast at 5:30. Presque Isle Audubon is not interested in participating in this year's meeting.

It was agreed to limit the afternoon sessions to three speakers and not have a banquet speaker. This was later amended by unanimous vote to have a banquet speaker if a good one can be found. Jack will try to contact Jerry McWilliams. John will contact the Roger Tory Peterson Center in Jamestown, NY to see if they have any speakers available. Arlene will contact Mary Birdsong of Presque Isle Audubon to see if they have any programs. One possibility is Bridget Stutchbury about her hooded warbler study. Rob said he would contact the Erie National Wildlife Refuge to see if they have anyone to present a program.

Arlene met with Kim VanFleet who would like to come to the annual meeting and present a program on wind power. Only three members of the board were interested in such a program since Kim already gave one on wind power at our Powder Mill meeting. Mark suggested that we invite her to write an article on wind power for the newsletter.

Sandy will contact the young birders club to see if one of them would like to present a program in the afternoon. Corey Husac was suggested as a possibility. Jack will contact Kim Kaufmann to see if she can get Ken Kaufmann to be a speaker.

John has written a letter to bird clubs and Audubon Societies to inform them of the PSO. The letter was reviewed by the board and approved. Frank said that he will send brochures to any club that is interested. John will add this to the letter then email the letter for a second review by the board.

The Allegheny Plateau Audubon Society has offered to host the 2011 annual meeting according to Tom Dick. The meeting will be in Bedford county. The board voted unanimously to accept the offer.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:14.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger V. Higbee, secretary

