

PSO Board of Directors Meeting

Boalsburg, PA
October 5, 2013

The PSO Board of Directors met with the following members present: Amy Davis, John Fedak, Mike Fialkovich, Frank Haas, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Marjorie Howard, Shonah Hunter, Chad Kauffman, Wayne Laubscher, Andy McGann, Flo McGuire, Scott Stoleson, and Emily Thomas, John called the meeting to order at 11:47 a.m.

Minutes - Roger Higbee

The minutes of the March 3, 2013, meeting had been distributed prior to the meeting. Scott moved that they be accepted, and Marjorie seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report & Membership Report - Frank Haas

Frank distributed the treasurer's report. It was noted that membership is slightly lower. The bank balance as of October 2, 2013 is \$22,806.08. Andy moved to accept the reports, and Marjorie seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Editorial Board – Geoff Malosh – not present

Frank said that the next issue of PABirds is at the printers.

Awards Committee - Mike Lanzone – not present

John said that Mike has some ideas for the conservation award.

Certificates of Appreciation – Sandy Lockerman – not present

Sandy did not send any new COAs to sign.

Nominating Committee - Tom Kuehl – not present

There are five board members whose terms will be expiring in 2014. They are Scott, Mike F., and Shonah who all agreed to stay on the board. Mark's and Sandy's terms will also expire and they have not been contacted. All officers' terms will also expire but Frank, Roger, and Mike L. have agreed to continue on the board. A new vice-president has not yet been found but Mike F. is considering the position. Chuck Berta was suggested as a possible board member.

Publicity/Outreach – John Fedak

John would like to have some type of presentation to be assembled that promotes PSO to other bird clubs and organizations. Scott said that he would put it together if the members would send the information to him.

John mentioned that he got an email from a member who thought that he has been pushing too hard for new members by posting messages on the PABirds server and

face book page. The board thinks what John is doing is fine and he should continue as he has been.

Finance/Fund Raising/Membership – Frank Haas

There was a discussion which centered around the cost of student membership in PSO. Some students think that the cost is too high. Chad offered to research the cost of student memberships in other state organizations. Frank mentioned that the cost of the PABirds magazine was approximately \$20 per year. Amy suggested sending the magazine and newsletter to the students electronically and charge a student rate of \$10.

Amy made a motion to charge a \$10 student rate with all publications to be accessed electronically only. Wayne seconded the motion which passed.

Chad will not check with other state organizations since the above motion passed.

John suggested that the board think about the possibility of creating a gift membership at half price. A discussion followed that included a comment that we need to better sell PSO and that the field trips are our best advertisement. It was suggested that we consider charging nonmembers \$5 for field trips. It was also pointed out that field trip leaders should make sure that they have PSO brochures with them on the field trips. Frank said that he would put the brochure on the web site so that anyone can download or print it. That way the field trip leaders would have access to it without having to have Sandy send them.

Newsletter – Margaret Higbee

Margaret commented that the October newsletter is done except she needs one article to fill a page. It was decided to use the article about the North Carolina pelagic trip coauthored by Andy McGann, Mike Lanzone, and Alex Lamereau on the Nemesis Bird page.

Research and Conservation - Scott Stoleson

HB1681 should be watched closely. It has a title of “An Act providing for oil and gas leases on lands owned and managed by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; dedicating royalties from certain leases to be used for repair of weight restricted bridges”.

Scott said that there is nothing else new since PSO sent the position letter on HB1576.

Records and Data - Mike Fialkovich

Mike reported that there is nothing new.

Functions/Field Trips – Chad Kauffman

Chad said that he is continuing to plan field trips and will take any help that he can get. He was concerned with the annual meeting field trips and would appreciate help with

them. The board is grateful that Chad is planning ahead for different areas of the state. It was decided to send a thank you to Brian Patteson for the Hatteras pelagics.

Wayne said that if there is another winter trip that the decision will not be made until more information is available about the possibility of seeing northern winter species and will be more or less last minute. If there is another trip, priority will go to PSO members that were on the waiting list last year, PSO members, and then nonmembers.

Annual Meeting - Shonah Hunter

The annual meeting in 2014 will be held in Bradford on June 6-8. Shonah said that Pitt Bradford has been very easy to work with. There are several lodging options that are listed on the sheets that she provided. The rooms will be reserved directly with Pitt. There needs to be some way to get people together to share rooms which will reduce the costs for them. There will be no social before the banquet as there is no alcohol allowed on the campus. The dining room will open at 5:30 am for breakfast if 25 people agree purchase breakfast. Cost will be:

Full breakfast	\$7.95
Continental breakfast	\$5.95
Deluxe continental breakfast	\$6.95

The pin for the meeting will be a Saw-whet Owl or Morning Warbler. There was general agreement that there needs to be a list of what needs to be done for the field trips so that everything is taken care of. It was suggested that, if possible, a PSO member should go to the local bird club meeting who is helping with the field trips. Frank will set up annual meeting registration and field trip registration on line. Let John know about any potential vendors. Potential speakers:

Kathleen Colis - Saw-whet Owl habitat
Dick Dickford? - Getting youth involved in the outdoors
John Taughten?
Banquet Speaker
Bridgette Stutsberry
or
Robert Curry

New Business

John suggested that the field trip leaders at the PSO annual meeting get a free membership to PSO if they are not already a member. Frank made a motion and Scott seconded it. The motion passed.

John introduced the idea of having Zippo lighters produced with the PSO logo on them with the idea of selling them for a profit. Our cost would be \$12-\$16 and we could sell them for \$25-\$30. An article could be placed in the newsletter to determine how many people would be interested and if it would be worthwhile.

Holly Merker suggested that we keep thinking about a young birders club.

Chad is designing a triangular magnet sign which says "Caution Bird Survey".

It was suggested that a separate email list be developed for both the board and the general PSO membership.

Frank moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:58 pm, and Scott seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Higbee,
Secretary