

PSO Board of Directors Meeting
ZOOM Meeting
January 22, 2019

The PSO Board of Directors met with the following members present: Mike Fialkovich, Vern Gauthier, Greg Grove, Deb Grove, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Laura Jackson, Chad Kauffman, Wayne Laubscher, Sandy Lockerman, Evan Mann, Andy McGann, Holly Merker, and Emily Thomas. Mike called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Ads in PSO Publications – Mike

Mike discussed with Frank the possibility of PSO's accepting ads in our publications. Frank said that we have accepted ads in the past and charged according to the cost of producing the page size that the ad will cover. An ad in the newsletter would be permitted.

Student Scholarship – Emily

Emily would like the student scholarship announcement to be distributed to as many possible applicants as feasible. Chad said that he will advertize it on PSO's Facebook pages. Emily will send the announcement dated today to the board for our information since revisions have been made.

2019 Annual Meeting Update – Wayne

Wayne said that the function rooms for our meeting need to be reserved as soon as possible. Cost is \$100 per night. Vern said that the organizer of the meeting usually uses his or her own credit card to hold the rooms. Vern asked about the T-shirt design for the meeting. He mentioned to Wayne that a detailed design does not reproduce well because of the limited shading that can be produced by a silk screen company. Wayne will be meeting with the artist soon to tweak the Merlin image. Since the artist is doing the art work pro bono, Wayne doesn't want to limit him too much. Vern suggested contacting the silk screen company to find out how detailed an image they can produce.

Education – Holly

Holly explained that she would like to get financial support from PSO for the symposium, "Frontiers in Ornithology: A Symposium for Youth." She is contributing many volunteer hours as a PSO representative. With her involvement, PSO would be classified as a collaborating organization. Vern suggested that we contribute \$500 which would get us to the partner level then to the collaborating level through Holly's volunteer work. Vern made a motion which Deb seconded to contribute \$500 to the symposium. Further discussion centered on PSO's possible additional involvement by having other volunteers participate besides Holly. Evan suggested that PSO should promote this event, and Mike suggested that we should try to get local bird clubs to help promote it. Holly informed us that scholarships will be made available to the participants for \$15 and for \$25 for the adults accompanying them. Providing some of the scholarships would also be another way to help support the symposium. Participation will be limited by the room size which will accommodate 125 students. The adults will be able to watch a televised version in an adjacent room. The age range for students is 13 through college. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Newsletter – Margaret

The next issue will be mailed in March, so she will need articles by February 20.

2020 Annual Meeting – Wayne

Wayne asked where the 2020 annual meeting will be held. The northeast corner of the state was suggested. A possible sponsoring group might be Northeast Pennsylvania Audubon. It was suggested that possibly David Trentley could be contacted to see if they are interested. Another suggestion was the Poconos, but it might be busy in the fall. A possibility might be to have the meeting the second or third weekend in June, targeting breeding birds. The Pocono Environmental Education Center might be available. Holly asked if we are staying with fall meetings. The response was that two out of the top three best attended meetings were in the fall. Vern said that the results of the survey that we conducted among those who attended the 2017 Annual Meeting in Carlisle showed that very few members preferred only spring. Other possible locations mentioned were Lancaster and State College. We also might consider contacting Rick Wiltraut from the Jacobsburg area.

Minutes – Roger

The minutes had been distributed by email prior to the meeting. Chad made a motion which Vern seconded to accept the minutes as distributed.

Possible New Board Members

Chad brought up the possibility of adding new people to the board. The suggestions were David Yeany, Mike Leahy, Carol Winslow, David Trentley, and Eli DePolis who is a young birder attending the Penn State DuBois campus. Mike suggested that we ask for write-ups of their backgrounds so they may be distributed to all the present board members. We will then all be familiar with their qualifications and possible contributions to our group. Some of the areas included should be their birding backgrounds, how they would contribute to the board, and their interests, etc. Also, we should provide them with the dates of the board meetings. Vern volunteered to put the request for information together. It was suggested that we give them three or four weeks to get back to us. At that time we can decide if we want to add new board members and if so, how many and whom.

Vern moved to adjourn, and Roger seconded the motion. Everyone was in favor of the motion, so the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Higbee
Secretary