

WRNC Board Meeting-3/25/01

Board Members Present:

Mark Ansley markansley@aol.com or easternwildlife@aol.com
Jean Chamberlain jean.chamberlain@mindspring.com
Lessie Davis ldavistitmouse@aol.com
Mathias Engelmann mathiasengelmann@birdsofprey.org
Nina Fischesser wildcarebr@vistatech.net
Elizabeth Hanrahan birdworld@coastalnet.com
Carla Johnson Wildlifeed2@aol.com or cmjohnso@wfubmc.edu
Bobby Schopler bobbyschopler@hotmail.com
Barbara Tomlinson MUSTROOS@aol.com
Susan Wilson
Ed Weiss weiss@ioa.com

Board Members Absent

Mark Hufford
Gayle Houston GNTHouston@aol.com

Meeting was hosted by Bobby Schopler at APS Wildlife Shelter in Mebane, NC from 12 noon until 3:30 p.m.

Meeting was brought to order by Nina Fischesser, president, WRNC

Reports were given on the Eastern Regional Meeting by Mark Ansley and Elizabeth Houston

Report was given on the Central Regional Meeting by Carla Johnson

Lessie Davis suggested dividing the states into more than three regions due to the distance that some people had to drive (the Raleigh area is now located in the Eastern Region). A suggestion was made to send out flyers to all members about regional meetings and to let members decide which meeting they wished to attend. Lessie Davis made a motion to leave the regions as they were (2nded by Nina Fischesser) and unanimously voted on. Suggestion that phone calls be made to encourage attendance at regional meetings.

Carla Johnson gave a report on the membership and the directory status. She brought up the point that a lot of people sent in state permits and then selected raptors to rehab. It was decided that we would not list people who hadn't turned in their appropriate paperwork by 4/1/01. It was also decided to use 4/1/01 as the cutoff each year for having the proper paperwork turned in for inclusion in the directory.

Lessie Davis reported that she is still waiting to hear from an accountant about WRNC's non-profit status but that we are incorporated both in the State and the Federal. She also stated that she had copies of the letter of incorporation and that all we were waiting for was to find out if we still had 501.3c, non-profit status and that she should be able to get something out to all board members in a short while.

Barbara Tomlinson turned the communication report over the Jean Chamberlain because all of the communications lately had been on Rabies Vector Species. Jean Chamberlain reported that she had talked to Randy Wilson and that he reported to her that the Wildlife Resources Commission was planning to rework their rehab policy and referred Jean on to his boss, Dr. David Cobb. Jean contacted Dr. Cobb and asked for us to be able to participate in the reworking of the state's rehab policy and Dr. Cobb responded favorably. Jean also sent a letter to the Public Health Director and still had not heard back from him. Bobby Schopler reported that he had spoken to Dr. Lee Hunter and that Dr. Hunter's concern was the liability issues that would arise from allowing rehabbers to rehab something that could be dangerous to them. He also said that Dr. Hunter thought that bats were a bad thing for rehabbers to rehab. Barbara Tomlinson reported that the state was receptive to what we had to offer, knew that changes in the rehab regulations were inevitable, but wanted a plan and didn't want the liability. Elizabeth Hanrahan said that if they were going to rewrite the rehab regs, then we should be involved in the process. Lessie Davis said that Bobby Schopler should be included in the team that represented WRNC due to the fact that he was a veterinarian and, that when we did meet with the state, that all personal feelings should be put aside and that the team should be helpful to the state. Ed Weiss questioned what liability issues the state might decide to impose on those rehabbing RVS. Lessie Davis said that our take on the whole RVS issue should not be that we want to rehab RVS, but that we want to help address the problem. She made a motion that Bobby Schopler, Jean and Bob Chamberlain and Carla Johnson make up the team that represents WRNC in the RVS issues with the state. Nina Fischesser 2nded the motion and it was unanimously voted one.

The minutes from the last state meeting were looked over and the only correction noted was to remove the "Contact Laura Simon for assistance?" statement under the RVS report. Minutes were unanimously approved, with this change.

Mathias Engelmann pointed out that there might be a problem between his computer and Carla Johnson's due to the fact that two articles in the latest newsletter were cut off in the final copy that was sent out to the membership. Carla Johnson said that she would look into the problem. May 1st was set aside as the deadline for articles for the next newsletter. It was decided that the 1st copy of the newsletter would be sent out to all board members and that Barbara Tomlinson, Lessie Davis, Carla Johnson, Elizabeth Hanrahan and Bobby Schopler would be the proofreading team for the newsletters.

Jean Chamberlain reported that the checking account was set up and changed over and that Nina Fischesser, Carla Johnson and herself were listed as being able to sign checks. Total in the checking account is \$4,008.55.

Jean also gave a report on the web page and said that she was now tracking hits.

Bobby Schopler reported that animal counts had been entered into the database by Carla Johnson and it was decided that the current counts would be printed in the next newsletter. Lessie Davis shared that the NWRA had a new animal counts program that could be downloaded from NWRA's website.

Mathias Engelmann shared the different logo designs that were submitted and the following logo was unanimously voted on with changes in the middle shading of the animals to one shade.

Nina Fischesser pointed out that the new Minimum Standards were available from the NWRA.

It was decided to move the next general membership meeting to Saturday, October 20, 2001 @ 11:00. Carla Johnson to ask Joan McMurray to check with the zoo to see if that date would be available, to see if one of the zoo vets could do a talk on that day and to see if we would be able to tour the Wildlife Rehab Center after the meeting.

Ed Weiss said that Nick V. from Fox Valley had given him free samples and a donation to pay for the lunch at the next members meeting. Lessie Davis asked him to check and see if we agreed to having such a display, would Nick V. be coming to present his product or would he just sent the display/free samples.

Barbara Tomlinson announced that the NC Falconry Guild would be hosting an Falconry Apprentice Workshop on June 2nd and 3rd in the Raleigh are. The cost will be \$30 for NCFG members and \$40 for non-members. An application can be obtained from NCFG's web page at www.ncfalconersguild.org.

The next board meeting will be held at APS Wildlife Shelter on 9/16/01 @ 12 noon.

Goals for 2001:

- Lessie Davis: open communication between WRNC and the state
- Mark Ansley: get the directory out in a 3-hole punched presentation
- Barbara Tomlinson: hold a banquet/silent auction for a Christmas get together
- Lessie Davis: do we try to just cover the cost of expenses or do we make money for the future? 501.3C should have funds to continue for 3 years. Do we try to increase the membership or do we try to increase the activeness of the current members?
- Susan Wilson: husband works on printers and could be a source of free printing/paper. Do we want to use recyclable paper? Do we need a non-profit postage account (do we sent out enough to justify the cost?)
- Elizabeth Hanrahan: Hold workshops for the membership in the different regions.

The meeting was adjourned, Bobby gave us a tour of his facility and Mathias gave out free excess supplies from the Carolina Raptor Center.

Respectfully submitted: Carla M. Johnson, Secretary