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**From:** "Toni O'Neil" <oneil9734@yahoo.com>

**Subject:** Minutes for Board Meeting October 2nd

**To:** "Linda Bergman" <lbergman@ec.rr.com>, "Jennifer Burgin" <skwurlady@msn.com>, "Jean Chamberlain" <jchamberlain1@alltel.net>, "Sally Davis" <wekaterrapin@hotmail.com>, "Mathias Engelmann" <lamecabin@aol.com>, "Mathias Engelmann" <mathiasengelmann@carolinaraptorcenter.org>, "Elizabeth Hanrahan" <ocracokebirdworld@earthlink.net>, "Carla M Johnson" <Wildlifeed2@aol.com>, "Beth Knapp-Tyner" <WildatHeartRehab@aol.com>, "Toni O'Neil" <Oneil9734@yahoo.com>, "Bobby Schopler" <bobbyschopler@hotmail.com>, "Mary Weiss" <weiss275@cs.com>

## Meeting Minutes for October 2nd, 2005

WRNC On-Line Board Meeting - 11:00 AM to 3:10 PM

**Present:** Linda Bergman, Toni O'Neil, Bobby Schopler, Mary Weiss, Jennifer Burgin, Jean Chamberlain, Elizabeth Hanrahan, Beth Knapp-Tyner, Mathias Englemann,

**Absent:** Sally Davis (Excused); Joan McMurray, Mary Beth Bryman

**1. WRNC involvement in the 2006 NCVC allied meeting:** everyone agreed that we should be involved, but there were many questions raised, and the general consensus was that there was not enough information to make a decision at this time. In order to involve participation with more board members, this item was shelved for further discussion at a later date.

**Points raised included:** would we be there as an attendee, or as a vendor, or as both? Were we invited to attend for free? How much would we be required to pay? How much are we willing to pay? Can we apply as a non-profit for a considerably reduced fee? How many people can we send?

### **2. Getting involved with the wild animal legislation currently in process in NC:**

this item is shelved for further discussion as well. A question was raised that WRNC would need to check into any possible 501-C-3 limitations relating to political involvement.

**3. Adding WRNC to lists of consulting organizations for Bill #1032 currently under discussion in the NC Senate:** also shelved for further discussion. The consensus was favorable for being added to the list.

**4. Track Senate bills involving indigenous species:** it was proposed that WRNC needs to make this a voting issue and either assign or accept a volunteer Board Member to do this.

**5. RVS Proposal:** A copy of the last revision of this WRNC proposal was requested to be sent to all Board Members for review. It was proposed that this was a voting issue, but that the final version be sent to all WRC Commissioners as well as the new Director. Personally presenting the proposal to them was also discussed. Bobby is willing to share his paper recently accepted by the JAVM as additional support for our proposal.

**6. Electronic newsletter:** Beth gave the cost for producing each newsletter as \$2.87 each, at current mailing rates. The electronic newsletter version will become the default, starting with the next newsletter (or someone else other than Beth will have to be responsible for getting it mailed out.) Beth and Toni will contact all members who don't currently show having an e-mail address, and then determine how many actual hard copies will need to be mailed. Beth is willing to continue mailing if the number is small.

The matter of charging for mailed copies, (and if so, how much), will be discussed at the next meeting - after the final count is obtained for the number of hard copies that must actually be mailed to members lacking e-mail capabilities.

**7. Rehab Course:** The October class scheduled for Goose Creek may need to be cancelled due to lack of response; currently only 2 people have registered, and the minimum number is 12 in order to hold the course. The November class scheduled for Jacksonville will be held; at the present time almost 20 people have registered. The fee for this course will remain at \$25.00.

**8. Refresher Course:** The fee for this course was discussed and proposed to be a voting issue: whether to keep the current policy in place (free for WRNC members and \$15.00 for non-members) or to change it to charging \$15.00 for WRNC members and \$20.00 for non-members. Currently, a non-member can pay the \$15.00 membership fee, and become a member, and then the course is free.

**9. Symposium Committee:** Several changes were proposed: in order to increase attendance at the general meeting, the time of the meeting would change to either after lunch on Saturday or after dinner on Saturday evening. Also proposed was having a catered meal. Tied in with this discussion was choosing a hotel for host accommodations. If the Hampton Inn is selected, they would provide the banquet room for free for the meeting and dinner. These items were to be voted on. Board members would be required to attend the meeting Saturday evening.

It was also decided to make the Board Meeting a lunch meeting Sunday afternoon following the symposium.

**10. Emergency Disaster Fund Committee:** Beth is Chair. Proposal emailed to board members on September 30, 2005 was accepted, with the stipulation that "all animals be returned to the point of origin" be added.

**11. Federal Permit Committee:** Elizabeth is Chair. Information will be provided at the next meeting.

**12. Continued Education for Vets. & Vet. Students Committee:** Mathias is Chair. Information will be provided at the next meeting.

**13. By-Laws ruling for unexcused absences for Board Members:** Discussion resulted since there were two Board Members who had two consecutive unexcused absences from the last two board meetings. It was decided that Linda will contact these two members and learn the circumstances involved in their absences, and determine what action, if any, would be required.

**14. Voting results from meeting generated ballot that was forwarded to board members on 3 October 2005 is listed below:** (Votes are in from 10 of 11 Board Members)

#1: 10 Yes, 0 No. Proposal adopted to assign board member to track senate bills if indigenous species sections remain included.

#2: 10 Yes, 0 No. Proposal adopted to send final version of RVS proposal to WRC Director and all commissioners.

#3: Proposal accepted to keep refresher training fee schedule the same. Seven 7) votes to three 3) in favor.

#4: 10 Yes, 0 No. Proposal accepted to hold general meeting after dinner on Saturday evening.

#5: 10 Yes, 0 No. Proposal accepted to recommend and utilize Hampton Inn as host accommodations for 2006 Symposium.

#6: 10 Yes, 0 No. Proposal accepted to have meal catered and use Hampton Inn's banquet room.

Submitted by Toni O'Neil

October 5, 2005

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