

**WRNC Board Meeting**  
**January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

PRESENT: Mary Weiss, Janenie Ledbetter, Alicia Cawlfild, Toni O'Neil, Linda Bergman, Elizabeth Hanrahan, Laurel Degernes, Lauren Powers, Elaine Corvidae, Jennifer Gordon, Shannon Westbrook, Beth Knapp-Tyner, Carla Johnson, Jean Chamberlain, and Jenessa Gjeltema

ABSENT: none

Outgoing President Elizabeth called the meeting to order, and distributed notebooks to the newly elected board members. They were welcomed to the board, and introduced by Jennifer. The Nominating Committee (Jennifer and Toni) were thanked for their work in putting together a ballot. Alicia agreed to distribute the symposium certificates to the NCSU veterinary students. The new WRNC brochures were distributed to several board members, and 1 box will be given to Daron Barnes and the NCWRC. Wildlife class instructors (Beth, Mary, Elizabeth, and Toni) were given some for their students. Some were set aside to go to various wildlife centers, and also Piedmont WS, and Gaston College. Jean will keep the extras.

Committee Reports were then given:

1. RVS Proposal – this is on hold until a new permanent commissioner is found for the NCWRC. The committee has put together a program outline and has the teaching mechanism ready at this point. This information will be given to Brenda to put in the newsletter.
2. T-Shirts – those not sold at the symposium will be taken home by Linda. A notice will be put in the newsletter that they are for sale at the original price of \$12, with \$3 for S&H. At this time it was decided to wait until the initial inventory drops down before selecting a new color and proposing another annual design contest as before. Several ideas were discussed including online purchasing, PayPal, printing out mailing labels online, credit card sales, and other issues involved with the sale of the t-shirts.
3. Cage Grant – Toni indicated that there has been limited response from the general membership. It was decided to open the applications up again to board members if no general members apply. The next newsletter will have an article about the process and availability, with a new deadline. It was decided to stay with 3 total grants per year. In order to avoid conflict, if board members apply, names will be drawn out of a hat vs. being selected by voting.
4. Continuing Education for Veterinarians/Vet Students – Jean said a letter has been written about this and will be put on the WRNC web site.
5. Disaster Fund – Beth announced that the money has been set aside for discretionary financial aid, but fortunately has not been needed to date as there were no natural disasters for NC in 2007.
6. Federal Bird Permits – Elizabeth discussed dismantling this committee, and move it over to the Training Sessions Committee. It was decided to rename this to the Education and Training Classes Committee, and FBP committee members Alicia and Jennifer transferred over. Nina Fischesser was dropped from the committee as she had not been active previously due to ill health.
7. Newsletter – Jennifer said that they will be stressing the benefits of membership. This will be done through interview profiles from conference attendees, and pictures of symposium action shots. She asked for help in writing up articles for this purpose. It was suggested that Spotlight features about various members and the new board member may help get members to know each other better. Linda and Carla indicated they really did not have to help formerly as the Rewrite Committee. Members will

be encouraged to share their interesting cases and animal stories. Speakers may be asked to write up something for the newsletters.

8. Symposium – After reviewing the evaluation forms that were turned in, Jean said she would write up a consensus and consolidated version to distribute to everyone by email. The board will have the opportunity to make comments after they receive these.

9. Nominating – Jennifer and Toni said that they would continue, while Janenie and Alicia volunteered to join the committee. It was decided that the committee would begin working on the next ballot earlier in the year, rather than waiting for Fall to begin. That will allow the ballot to be available in a newsletter before the next symposium.

10. Attendance – Beth indicated that this year there were 100 paid attendees, with approximately 45 speakers, board members, and veterinary students also attending. She said that last year there was a total of about 130 people at the symposium.

11. Chimney Swift Towers Project – Chimney Swift Towers – Linda brought copies of the Chimney Swift Tower Grant applications that had been sent to her for board discussion and ultimate selection. She then passed around a map she made that showed the geographical location for each proposed tower site, marked with colored pins. She said she checked all 28 references, and all 14 applications were solid and competitive. Although Linda asked the board to consider awarding more than three grants since we received so many applications this first year and no cage grants were submitted, the board decided the WRNC will maintain the initial approval of only awarding 3 total grants per year for \$300 each. Due to the volume of material to review and time constraints, it was decided to delay further discussion of the applications until a later date. Linda said she would write up a paragraph summary for each application and email that to everyone. Jennifer volunteered to convert the paper copy grant application to PDF files and email them to everyone for review.

12. Positions on the board for these one year terms were then decided:

- President: Beth made the motion, seconded by Jean, and nominated Elizabeth Hanrahan. All approved, none opposed, motion passed.
- Vice President: Janenie made the motion, seconded by Mary, and nominated Beth Knapp-Tyner. All approved, none opposed, motion passed.
- Secretary: Beth made the motion, seconded by Alicia, and nominated Toni O’Neil. . All approved, none opposed, motion passed.
- Treasurer: Carla made the motion, seconded by Janenie, and nominated Jean Chamberlain. All approved, none opposed, motion passed.

13. The copy of the 2004 By-Laws that were found in the Secretary Notebook were given to Jennifer to convert into a PDF file and will be sent to everyone. The notebook, minus the copy of the By-Laws, was given to Jean. The original founding documents and copies of other important paperwork will be placed on a board-only section of the web site.

14. Vet Student Liaison Position: Alicia has fulfilled this 2 year commitment position, and explained that it is time to rotate it back now to a First Year vet student. This position includes free WRNC membership, and the liaison is required to help coordinate vet student participation in the next symposium. The liaison also is required to serve on 2 committees. It was recommended that this rule be changed to allow for the outgoing and incoming liaisons to serve this between them (each on one committee, rather than one person on two), in view of their work load as students. Dr. Laurel Degernes suggested that adding another student annually would work out even better for both students and WRNC. Alicia as outgoing liaison will continue to mentor and assist the incoming liaisons, who were then selected. Toni made the motion, seconded by Mary, and Jenessa Gjeltema was nominated. All

approved, none opposed, motion passed. Janenie made the motion, seconded by Laurel Degernes, and Austin Duncan was nominated. All approved, none opposed, motion passed.

15. Money Market Account – Jean explained some of the WRNC funds are currently held in a checking account and some are held in a money market account. She proposed moving approximately 10-12 thousand dollars from the money market account into a CD to earn interest. After checking into the current rates, Jean will email this information to everyone. Jean made the motion, seconded by Janenie, to move the money into two rotating accounts. All approved, none opposed, motion passed.

16. Due to the fact that the building had to be closed and locked up by 3 PM, the meeting was adjourned after one hour. Unfinished business will be handled via email. Officially postponed from the Agenda will be discussions on: Symposium Update, Membership Committee, Newsletter, Symposium 2009, Fishing Line Recycling, and By-Laws.

The next board meeting will be held in February, date to be decided later by Elizabeth.

17. Ms. Marti Kane, who was so very helpful during the entire symposium, was invited up to the board meeting room. For her participation, and to show the WRNC's appreciation, she was presented with a gift certificate to the local restaurant called *Irregardless*.

18. The meeting was adjourned, and everyone was wished a safe trip home.

Respectfully submitted,  
Toni O'Neil, Secretary  
February 10, 2008