

WRNC Board Meeting - Sunday, February 28, 2010 10:00 AM - Teleconference

Members present: Linda Bergman (Pres), Jean Chamberlain (VP), Carla Johnson (Treas), Toni O'Neil (Sec),
Beth Knapp-Tyner, Savannah Trantham, Ann Rogers, Elizabeth Hanrahan, Leslie Martin,
Mary Weiss, Lauren Powers, Kathy Lillard, Halley Buckanoff
Absent: Laurie Degernes Attendance Not Required: Toni Poston (VSL), Liz Gettinger (VSL)

Linda welcomed all four of the new board members and two vet student liaisons, although we still feel the loss of three talented board members recently. She said how proud she is of WRNC for what we have done in the past and for what we keep trying to do for our members and our state. Linda pointed out that WRNC has an extremely positive reputation outside the state of NC, due to the benefits found on our website that we afford our membership, such as state rehabber directory, quarterly newsletter, grants, ongoing classes and training & annual symposium) and not just a photo gallery or pretty pictures. Linda hopes everyone will continue to keep up the good work that is appreciated by our WRNC membership, communities and neighboring states.

In order to help limit the amount of back-and-forth email traffic, and to provide answers and information, Linda said she would continue the idea that Beth started last year and assigned "board buddies" for the new members:

Board Buddies: NM-Savannah (Mary); NM-Kathy (Toni); NM-Halley (Linda); NM-Leslie (Carla).

Old Business:

- **Committee Reports:**

Symposium Evaluation/Follow-up: Jean (C): the recent survey results were discussed now and a recap will also be put in the upcoming newsletter. The full survey results will be reviewed by the symposium committee. It was felt that there were many positive comments heard during the symposium that were not all recorded in the survey, but that the results were still very favorable. As expected, the weather and time of year were the only real negative comments. There were 26 evaluations submitted, at least one, if not some of these were submitted by board members. Beth commented that the evaluations might be viewed as skewed if they include people directly connected to putting on the symposium. **It was decided to continue the electronic post symposium survey** – there was discussion about possible enthusiasm waning with a lag time after the symposium but also the possibility of the ability to follow-up with ideas or the addition of comments that may have been forgotten at the time of the symposium. **It was also decided to continue with a paper evaluation on site at the end of the symposium** when members asked for their attendance certificates, and compare the results. Jean said there were 50 people at the symposium; however this number included board members, speakers, etc.

Discussions regarding the date and location for the next symposium included possibly changing from the traditional end of January time frame, due to bad weather and dealing with need for cancellation. Early November was suggested, although some thought this might conflict with other major conferences and symposiums routinely held at that time of year. Others thought December may limit attendance due to the holidays. A suggestion was also made to look in to the possibility of trying to schedule a back-up date and/or another location (that would not charge a fee) in case of inclement weather.

Carla made the motion, seconded by Ann, to hold the next symposium at the NC Veterinary School of Medicine again. All voted in favor, except for Beth, who abstained.

Cage Grants: Toni (C): There are no current applicants. **There will be another announcement in the March newsletter, notifying members of the May 1st deadline.** If there are no applicants or less than 3 grants are awarded to the general membership, any remaining grants will be open to board members to apply after the deadline.

Chimney Swift Tower Grants: Linda (C): There were only 2 applications received in 2009, and both were awarded 2010 grants. Both awardees (Nancy Henneke and Pamela Bayne) have received their monetary award and supporting paperwork. There are 3 CST Grants available for 2011.

Cont. Ed. Vets & Vet Students: Jean (C): this committee is on hold for now at this time.

Emergency Disaster Fund: Beth (C): Nothing to report.

Ed. & Training Committee: Jean (C): **Currently a class is being put together for the Raleigh area.** Those members who had signed up for the Beginner Track but were unable to attend the Symposium will be notified about this class. **Bob Kiger has agreed to hold his Cage Building workshop at the same time** and those who had signed up for it previously will also be notified. This will prevent having to store all the supplies for another year. As before, the cost for the cage building class is still \$15. Tentative dates are the 3rd or 4th week of March, before the heavy onset of "baby season". Jean said they are still looking for a suitable location to hold the classes.

Membership: Carla (C): The membership list was received from the CE office and has been loaded to the membership database. During the meeting Carla counted that **there are 130 current members. It was estimated that over 100 have not renewed their membership for this year.** This figure will be confirmed after the meeting.

RVS Rehab: Jean (C): There will be a notice in the upcoming newsletter with information about a **database that is set up on web site asking members to record how many calls they get regarding RVS situations.** This will indicate how many have to be handled yearly, along with other information that may be helpful in pursuing RVS permitting.

Newsletter: Linda announced that **the position of Editor still needs to be filled.** There will be an ad in the newsletter asking if anyone is interested in this. The Rework/Edit committee is still active and will be helping. Elizabeth asked if Brenda had recommended anyone to replace her, which she has done, but they are still in the process of seeing if the person nominated is willing to accept the position.

Nominating Committee: Toni (C): Linda asked about members volunteering for this committee. Beth pointed out that members need to be appointed to this committee according to current bylaws, by the board. Since there is no action necessary at this time, it might be best to wait until bylaw revisions are completed to address this. At this time, the committee is on hold for accepting new members until this is resolved.

Bylaws Revision Committee: Beth (C): She said they would like to be able to present the finalized revision before the May Board Meeting to vote on the proposed amendments on a line item basis. She asked that **if anyone has ideas or suggestions for changes to please send them to Beth via email.** There is some updating that is required and a date correction that needs to be made. They recommend line-by-line voting by the board to accept the changes, and these will be sent to all board members at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

Next meeting: Linda indicated that although the dates will still need to be decided, the **future board meetings will be held in May, August, and November.**

Treasurer's Report: (Post Symposium) Carla: **She will be transferring money from the money market account to the checking account in order to pay the hotel bill for the banquet and ice breaker (approximately \$2,900).** We are still waiting for the final accounting from the vet. school's CE Office. Costs and breakdown figures from the symposium will be available at the next meeting. The raffle brought in about \$459.

Updated WRNC logo: Jean requested that the simple silhouette design be used for the power point slides, while the logo with color is used for printed materials and letterheads. She felt that the logo colors might possibly limit the coloration of the slides used in training power points. Lauren reminded

everyone that what we choose will become our WRNC trademark or mascot colors. One logo design that is being used in the upcoming newsletter is very effective. Linda made the motion, and Elizabeth seconded the motion that **the black & white design (upper left hand corner design) be used as the silhouette for power points, website, and anything else that transparency might be best for. All voted in favor of this.** Further discussion regarding the remaining logos was limited to choosing between the bottom right and the bottom left designs, and eliminated the other choices. Carla made the motion, seconded by Mary, to vote between the left bottom (black band) design vs. the right bottom (green band) design. **Individual roll call votes were taken, and the results were 6 for the left/black and 7 for the right/green design. This design will now be used for all letterhead and printed materials.** Beth mentioned that a thank you letter had been sent to Michael Baine for his donation of services creating of all the wonderful designs.

New Business:

T- Shirt Sales by Mail: Linda: Some were sold at the Symposium, but many members did not have the opportunity to pick up their new T-shirt. As mentioned in the newsletter article, **the original "steel green" T-shirt sells for \$10, and the new "Cedar" color sells for \$12, but she will have to add \$3.00 postage per T-shirt when ordered by mail.**

New BOD Members Committee Service: Linda asked the new members if they were ready to decide what committees they would like to join. **Kathy plans to stay on the Symposium Committee. Halley and Leslie want to join the Cont. Ed. Vets. & Vet. Students Committee. Savannah will join the Ed. & Training Committee.** Elizabeth mentioned that in a prior newsletter (2005 or 2006) there was an article that outlined what each committee actually did. This information will be sent to all new board members to help them in their decisions, and they can then get in touch with the committee chairs to indicate their choices. This information will also be put into an upcoming newsletter and on the web page to see if any other members wish to join the committees.

Newsletter: Brenda had been using a Mac computer with the Page program to produce the newsletter. It can also be created using Publisher on a Windows computer. Currently the new editor would have to have their own program to create the newsletter. We will look into the possibility of being able to purchase a program inexpensively as a non-profit to provide to the new editor who may not have a program.

Membership Renewal: Jean: **There are over 100 members who did not renew.** Carla recommended simply **emailing them a reminder** rather than mailing a postcard to save on postage. Elizabeth thought part of the problem was that there was not an actual letter mailed to members reminding them to renew if they were not planning on attending the symposium (where membership is automatically renewed). She said the list from the WRC in the past was not effective because it was out of date, and now they will not supply the list due to the Privacy Laws. She thought **sending out a postcard** may be effective if mailed to the 100 people who were members last year. It was also mentioned that phone numbers can be gotten off the WRC web site listing licensed rehabilitators by county and Googling could get the addresses, but this would be very time consuming and did not really produce many results in the past. **We will also need to check to see if the WRC is still sending out our brochures to newly licensed rehabilitators.** Linda reminded everyone that it is always good PR to mention WRNC whenever talking to other rehabilitators. Carla and Toni give brochures to their students in their wildlife classes.

Beth recommended that **if members are asked to renew their membership electronically, they should be able to pay online at the same time using a credit card or PayPal option.** **Carla made the motion, seconded by Beth that this feature be added onto our web site, and the motion passed** unanimously.

No other old or new business was brought up, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM.

Minutes submitted by Toni O'Neil, Secretary
March 1, 2010 3:00 PM

