

WRNC Board Meeting 5/11/13
10:00am – 11:00 am

Present: Toni O'Neil (pres.), Carla Johnson (VP), Ann Rogers (sec), Jean Chamberlain (treas), Linda Bergman, Christina Hildreth, David Scott, Michelle Ray, Mary Weiss, Sue Heritage, Linda Woodruff, Laurie Degernes, Nicki Dardinger

Excused: Kathy Lillard

Unexcused/ absent: Halley Buckanoff

Presence not required: Kelsey Blackburn (VSL), Amanda Malueg(VSL)

Toni O'Neil called the meeting to order, and roll was taken.

Old business: None

New Business:

Committee reports:

Symposium 2013 (Jean)

- There were not many evaluation issues.
- The lists of symposium duties has been collected
- Next year, we plan on giving moderator evaluation forms to some of the attendees.
- Carla has investigated alternate locations for next year's symposium since we will no longer have a staff liaison from the vet school. Hotels and conference centers are out of our price range. Most community colleges are not open on Sundays. The most promising possibility is Nash County Community College in Rocky Mount (about 45 minutes east of Raleigh), which will open for us on both Saturday and Sunday. It has one area which seats 200 people and four which seat 40 or 50. There will probably not be lab facilities at a community college. There are four nearby hotels and one may be able to host the banquet. Jean is waiting to hear cost estimates on the banquet. Some other community colleges have not yet responded.
- Jean and Carla will check out the potential sites after receiving all the prices and will email the Board their results.
- We have just received our money from the vet school

Membership/membership renewal (Linda W)

We have 128 members currently. We picked up 12 after the 67 reminders went out, and another reminder email will go out around the end of May. We had 146 members by the end of 2012.

RVS Rehab Committee: (Michelle, Sue, Toni)

- Michelle and Sue are considering being co-chairs of this committee and are talking to Jean about it. Michelle, Sue, Toni and Megan Tetreau have been working on this. The committee feels that a good plan would be for interested rehabbers to contact their local officials to see where they stand on the issue and collect suggestions about how to promote the idea. Al Pierce of the Mecklenburg County Health Department is in favor of the idea, but is soon retiring. Michelle thinks that his replacement also might be in favor. It was suggested that rehabbers could contact their local animal services and health departments. Letters to vets could possibly help.
- Toni has contacted the Onslow County Animal Services, who reacted positively since they respect her organization. They would be willing to work with rehabbers they know personally. Toni has been playing phone tag with the local health department. She feels that health departments may consider it a liability issue.
- It would be good to collect statistics on how many people have had to undergo the series of post-exposure shots from rabies exposure after handling a baby RVS animal.

Newsletter: (Nicki)

- Nicki will soon be sending out a request for articles for the June issue. Since both her term and Halley's will be ending this year, she asked if there are others who would like to work with them on the newsletter and plan to take it over. Michelle is considering the possibility. She has experience with Publisher. We need a suggestion for the Spotlight in this next issue.
- It was suggested that we have an article on CMAST and SeaNet: two reporting sites for those who find dead or injured sea birds on the beaches.

Treasurer's report: (Linda W./Jean)

- Linda has recently sent the symposium profit/loss statement to the Board. There was a net loss of \$1987.18, mainly due to the expense of the food cost (ice-breaker, lunches, and banquet.) Our total revenue was up and we had increased attendance, but the food cost about \$3,000 more this year. If we

use the Nash County venue next year, there may be enough fast food locations nearby that we may just break for lunch and not try to supply it.

- It is possible that the vet school can continue to manage our registration, or maybe the community college can handle it.

Website: (Jean)

Nothing to report

Chimney Swift Tower Grants: (Linda B)

The newsletter has had announcements of the grants along with images. Linda would like for the tower map to be a little larger in the newsletter so that people can see where the towers already are located. It was suggested that we have another newsletter article about chimney swifts, which would show their migration pattern. A description of the tower grant should be in every issue. The application deadline is January 5.

Cage Grants: (Toni)

Toni would like to change the cage grant deadline also to be January 5. Linda so moved and Toni seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Facebook: (Nicki)

It was agreed at the last meeting that we need more pictures on Facebook. The question was raised as to whether anyone can post a picture on Facebook or whether it has to be approved. We think approval is required, which is good. Michelle has some pictures she can submit. Linda B. thinks she has admin privileges again.

By-Laws Revision: (Linda B/Carla)

Section IV, which covers terms of office, has been re-written and some other sections need some work. The committee will present the revision with all their proposed changes to the Board within the next couple of weeks. The changes should be completed by the fall.

Training: (Toni)

There have been a couple of requests for classes but no one has come up with the minimum of twelve students. The classes should probably be promoted in the

newsletter. Some of the wildlife centers of our board members hold training for specific tasks. All training opportunities, both by WRNC and by other wildlife centers can be promoted in the newsletter. Toni and Linda B. can write up training opportunities for their centers.

Nominating: (Toni/Linda B)

No one has yet shown interest in joining the Board. Michelle Richards will reapply next year. We should keep an eye out for responsible people and encourage them to run for the Board.

Other:

WRNC will receive an annual grant from the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina. The grant had been going to Blue Ridge Wildlife Institute, but they are losing their 501(c)(3) status and Nina Fischesser recommended WRNC as the replacement. We will continue to receive the grant, which currently is just under \$1000, as long as we maintain our 501(c)(3) status. The funds will probably be used for the symposium.

There was no other new business.

The next meeting will be sometime in October

Toni adjourned the meeting.