

WRNC Board Meeting 11/18/2018

Teleconference call

Present: Carla Johnson (president), Linda Bergman-Althouse (vice president), Ann Rogers (secretary), Jean Chamberlain (treasurer), Kathy Lillard, Mathias Engelmann, Elizabeth Chandler

Excused: Amber McNamara, Toni O'Neil, Amanda Falk

Newsletter

Mathias has a few articles for the newsletter but needs more. Linda and Toni have already submitted some. Carla will give him a letter from the president.

Board nominees

There are six Board member positions open for the coming year. Kathy needs a break and will not re-run, but Jean and Toni will run again. We agreed that we do not have to fill all 15 slots. Potential nominees are: Tonya Weil, Melisse Hopping, Jennifer Frame and Linda Woodruff. Ann will check with Paige Person to see if she is interested. There was an announcement in a past newsletter asking for nominees.

Emergency Relief Fund

Members of this committee are Linda and Amber. Other listed members are Mischa Trinks and Savannah Trantham, who are no longer on the Board. Carla said to add her to this committee. There is a \$2,000 cap on donations for an emergency. We had applications from OWLS and Possumwood Acres. Linda will write a newsletter article describing this process and Jean will make changes on the website.

RVS rehab status

Jean and Ann attended the meeting at the NC Wildlife Commission where the revised proposed rules were presented and discussed with a few of the stakeholders. There is a proposal to allow the rehabilitation of RVS animals with major stipulations which include training, pre-exposure vaccinations, appropriate enclosures and approval by the local county health officials. The state health department is staying fairly neutral but has not disapproved of the plan. The new rules have to be approved by the Commissioners and will be effective in January 2020. We will begin making plans for RVS training and will plan to have it at the 2020 symposium. The Wildlife Commission is also proposing an apprentice rehab license, in which a new person can work under the license of an approved mentor.

Insurance

Elizabeth has spoken with Jim Pace who handles insurance for the NWRA. Liability insurance, which would cover the symposium, would cost between \$500 and \$1,000 per year, and he expects it to be near the lower end of that range. He will give us a breakdown from various underwriters. Board protection insurance would cost another \$500. Employment practice or discrimination insurance would be \$150 per year and volunteer accident insurance would be \$300 annually. Elizabeth will get another quote from a local company and send an email with a comparison of the two quotes.

Symposium

- Raffle – Toni, Kathy, Mathias and Carla have already started working on donations will meet to continue with plans. Kathy asked that we request help from the VSL's in putting the tables together.
- Hospitality – Carla has the name of a company that provided great lunches for another event and will talk with them. We will spend more on lunches this year to get better quality. Elizabeth was asked to check to find free coffee donations. Last year the Vet School students picked it up for us. Carla will talk to them about getting it again this year. We will not try and give gift bags to speakers this year...just bottled water.
- Ice breaker – This will be held this year at the Vet School cafeteria, and Carla will check to see whether Melisse Hopping can be in charge of this. We had no response from Betty Holloway. Carla will also call the VSL's for help with this.
- Speakers – Jean and Carla are working on scheduling the sessions. Ann will send the speaker guideline document for Elizabeth for review. Erica Miller has a conflict and cannot be a speaker. Greg suggested having Dr. Lumas, the former head veterinarian at the NC Zoo, and Greg will check with him.
- Lab supplies – Amber is in charge of these and Mathias will help.
- Registration – Jean is working with the Continuing Ed office on the registration process. We need to have another Board meeting about the membership process and benefits. The symposium registration currently includes the \$15 membership fee, but there's no way for the Vet School's registration system to know who has already paid, so this year we will just have to issue refunds to those. The cost of regular registration is \$80, plus \$5 for each lunch and \$15 for the banquet.

VSL nominations

Carla is talking to the VSL's about nominations for new members. The deadline is Dec 15.

Treasurer's report

Jean reported that we have \$23,467.87 in our checking account and \$10,600 in our CD.

Memorial Fund

Mathias proposed setting up a memorial fund to help with money for educational classes and equipment. He specifically mentioned memorials to Elizabeth Hanrahan and Bob Chamberlain. Linda recommended that he write up a proposal like she did for the Hall of Fame.

Cage Grants

We have only the one application, which is the person who missed the deadline last year. Board members can apply after the deadline if there are still grants available.

Chimney Swift Grants

Linda has three applicants for these.

Symposium Scholarships

This will be promoted in the December newsletter and on Facebook. We extended the deadline to December 20.

Facebook

Let Linda know of any announcements or information that she should include there.

Carla moved that the meeting be adjourned and it was seconded by Linda. The motion was passed and the meeting adjourned at 10:25 am.

Minutes submitted by Ann Rogers, secretary.