

WRNC Board Meeting 1/27/2019

Present: Carla Johnson (president), Linda Bergman-Althouse (vice president), Ann Rogers (secretary), Jean Chamberlain (treasurer), Mathias Engelmann, Elizabeth Chandler, Amber McNamara, Toni O'Neil, Amanda Falk, Paige Person, Cindy Bailey, Melisse Hopping, Greg Lewbart, Susie Jones, Taylor Gregory, Brandi Clark, Hayley Stratton. Lou Mitchell attended during the VSL's symposium review.

The meeting was called to order around 12:45 pm.

Report from the VSL's:

Brandi and Hayley both said they thought all went well. Susie said there were no A/V problems and that the lunches, banquet, and keynote speaker were all good.

Taylor thought that things ran smoothly. She was glad that Jean came early to practice the audio part of her session. There seemed to be some confusion with the A/V in the anatomy lab, and getting the keys to the anatomy lab was an issue. She heard good responses from her colleagues on the lectures and about their volunteering experience.

Taylor mentioned concerns about the opossum lectures, which covered medications and parasitology, and she asked if we could receive the presentations ahead of time. She also was concerned about a skit, which made light of the communication between rehabbers and their vets. She suggested having a vet join that session to give their perspective. Taylor found the skit offensive, but other Board members thought it was very effective.

The VSL's proposed having the outgoing VSL's select their successors for the next year. They know the personalities and which students can work well with the team. The current system is for the Board to select the new VSL's from the applications, but since the students know the personalities, they feel they can make a better selection, and they can get the selection made in a more timely manner. Although not put to a formal vote, all board members indicated that they wanted to adopt the resolution for VSL's to find their own replacements and take over the process.

The VSL's would like to have more communication with the Board concerning symposium arrangements. The Board agreed to make sure the VSL's are included in the email chains and will make sure Dr. Lewbart is included in all communications to VSL's. Any questions or requests will be channeled through him directly as their representative.

Taylor presented the Board with a proposed agreement covering their symposium duties. Any additional duties would need approval. Apparently last year, they were asked to do some things by symposium attendees that should not have been asked of them. She gave us some copies of the proposed agreement and will send a pdf version to the Board for review. Most members agree that a document detailing their duties is a good idea, and we will work on one that is acceptable by both parties.

The VSL's would like clarification of their roles on the Board other than symposium help. They will be added to the BOD Google Group so they will be aware of what is going on with Board business.

At this point the VSL's and Lou left the meeting.

Carla asked if the minutes from the last meeting should be approved. Elizabeth so moved and Toni seconded. Motion passed.

The three new Board members were introduced: Cindy Bailey, Paige Person, and Melisse Hopping. Board buddies were assigned: Elizabeth will be Cindy's, Ann will be Paige's, and Carla will be Melisse's.

The treasurer's report will be forthcoming as soon as the numbers from the symposium come in.

Our liability insurance began on Friday and covered the symposium. The D&O insurance is in progress. Both will cover us for a year.

There was a discussion of speaker guidelines. Ann recommended adding a clause that discourages mentioning having wildlife as pets, even if the speaker lives in a state that allows that. Elizabeth recommends a "memorandum of understanding" that is signed by the presenter. We had already talked about modifying the clause covering dosages by non-veterinarians to require pre-approval from the Board. Greg will talk to Dr. Schopler to get his reaction to the opossum medication session. The whole "speaker guideline/memorandum of understanding" document will be reviewed.

Linda gave her Facebook report. Her goal was to have 2,000 followers, and she exceeded that just before the symposium. We have reached 109,000 people through Facebook, and it does help promote our symposium.

Linda also gave updates on the chimney swift tower grants. This year they were awarded to Bobby Schopler, Michele Poe, and Emilie Nelson. We have 19 towers across our state that were built with WRNC assistance. Fifty percent have had residents.

Mathias reported that cage grants were awarded to KT Childress and Emilie Nelson.

There has been no action as of yet on the memorial funds for Elizabeth Hanrahan and Bob Chamberlain.

The elections followed:

Toni nominated Carla for president. Melisse seconded. Elected by acclamation.

Melisse nominated Linda for vice president. Toni seconded. Elected by acclamation.

Cindy nominated Elizabeth for treasurer. Linda seconded. Elected by acclamation.

Ann nominated Cindy for secretary. Paige seconded. Elected by acclamation.

Amanda mentioned that Emilie Nelson suggested having a rehabber roundtable next year.

We need new people to run the raffle. After 16 years, Toni and Kathy are formally resigning from being the raffle co-chairs. The duties will be passed onto others now, as this was the last raffle they will be responsible for. Others can make the contacts for donation requests based on the information that Toni has provided in the detailed spreadsheet. Crystal Smith has volunteered to help but we must have others.

The symposium is planned for January 24-26 next year. Greg will check with the Dean's schedule to try and avoid the conflict in using the cafeteria, which really complicated the raffle setup this year.

Elizabeth said that she and Linda are working on the revision of the by-laws.

Elizabeth moved that we adjourn and it was seconded by Jean. The motion passed and we adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Minutes submitted by Ann Rogers, outgoing secretary.