

Minutes for WRNC Board of Directors Meeting

April 26, 2022

via ZOOM

Meeting called to order @ 6:35 pm by Cindy and quorum confirmed.

Present: Toni, Linda BA, Carla, Michele Poe, Jean, Tonya, Ann, Paige, Mary Ellen, Rebekah, Kathy, Linda V, (and Holly Amato)

Absent: n/a

Reading and Approval of Minutes:

The following reports were submitted:

07/29/21 BOD Meeting Minutes- MTA Mary Ellen, second by Carla. No opposition.

2021 Preliminary Annual & Symposium Financials-**to be approved once final.**

3/20/22 Financial Report/First Quarter- **to be approved once final.**

3/19/22 General Member Meeting Minutes MTA Mary Ellen, second by Carla. No opposition.

3/20/22 **BOD Meeting Minutes** MTA Carla, second by Ann – **with below listed changes.** No opposition.

- number of cage grants approved from 3 to 1
- number of chimney swift towers from 3 to 1
- deletion of item regarding Dr. Greg Lewbart (didn't attend this year, but will in future)

Symposium

Sub-Committee Reports

Evaluations

Ann completed the sorting and documenting of **Symposium attendee evaluations**. She reported that Dr. Ernesto had the most glowing reviews of any speaker- again- and that she'd sent him a special email of thanks. She'd written and **sent all speakers letters of appreciation** as well. Carla thanked Ann for her tedious and time-consuming work done compiling evaluation information.

The **overall ratings for Symposium were all 4's & 5's – the highest ever**. The **only** reoccurring **complaint** concerned the instructor(s) needing help with electronic equipment and/or having **technical difficulties**. The Board thinks it was because VSLs, who usually assist, were on spring break and that it **should not reoccur next year**. Decision was made to **keep hard copies one year**.

Cindy expressed how much the VSLs were missed and how important they were to the overall event. She also expressed appreciation for John Cole for all his assistance and hard work throughout the Symposium.

Raffle

Kathy reported that **preparation and plans for next year's Raffle has begun**. She said that Toni left big shoes to fill and she would do her best to succeed. **Toni is working with Kathy to help with the transition**. Kathy plans to use some warehouse space she has to store donated items. She asked for input and ideas. A discussion about a couple of ideas she'd already received were shared and briefly discussed.

Cindy expressed her appreciation for the hard work Kathy did this year and for that she'd already done for 2023.

T-shirts

Linda BA reported that a total of **72 t-shirts and all remaining sweatshirts were sold**. She was asked to **purchase more sweatshirts and possibly some long sleeve t-shirts**. Linda BA to send out **new color choices to the BOD**.

Financials

Jean submitted preliminary financial reports Symposium accounts with NCSU have not yet been settled.

Cindy asked if the monies received for books would be included and Jean said that since we didn't make a profit – they are sold at cost – books are not included as revenue.

Linda BA asked if sold t-shirts are defined as revenue and Jean said that since the t-shirts were sold over many years, they would not be identified as a line-item for Symposium. **Jean clarified that t-shirts and books sold at Symposium are not defined as annual revenue**.

Cindy expressed her appreciation to Jean for her continued and tireless work on the Symposium saying that Jean's fast walking is hard to keep up with!

Quarterly Committee Reports

Membership

Jean said it's time to **remind members to renew their annual dues**. An **email to be sent** to members and Linda BA will **continue to include in newsletters**.

Website

Jean volunteered to **research the type and cost of Word Press plug-in(s)** that will provide **more functionality** for the membership section of the website to possibly include such things as automatic renewal reminders. She will provide **upgrade info and cost to the BOD** for consideration. MTA by Linda V and second by Ann. No opposition. **Jean and Michele to continue** getting the documents in the **"Member Resources" section of the website posts updated**.

Bylaws

Linda BA said the Committee, consisting of herself, Mary Ellen, Tonya, and Michele, to **review and submit recommendations** to the BOD. (Weekly ZOOM meetings have started.)

Newsletter

Linda BA said she **needs BOD to submit materials for newsletter**. She has sent an email out to individuals asking for specific updates and help with content.

Financials

Jean described WRNC as a “very healthy organization” but voiced her **concern about the amount** in the bank accounts. **Cindy asked for ideas** and suggestions about how funds could be effectively used. Directors to send ideas to her to **include on the next agenda**.

New Business

- **Cindy** investigated getting an **upgraded ZOOM account** that would cost \$149 annually for unlimited use. MTA by Linda V and second by Kathy. No opposition received. Cindy to implement.

- **Cindy** started discussion about **open v closed Board meetings** when sensitive issues needed discussing. MTA by Linda BA and second by Carla. Mary Ellen opposed saying she didn't think it was sending a message of transparency. After some discussion, **Linda BA rephrased her motion to say that when “a sensitive personnel issue arose, the regular meeting would adjourn and a closed session would convene”**. Linda BA's revised motion was seconded by Carla. **Approval was unanimous.**

- **Kathy** clarified that **RVS vaccines are not approved or supported in NC** for animals in or out of captivity.

- **Michele discussed CWD in fawn** including WRC's temporary emergency regulations and public meeting details. She MTA a **CWD Committee** to help keep the rehabilitation community abreast of evolving circumstances around this disease. **Kathy volunteered to serve** on the committee. MTA by Carla and second by Kathy. No opposition. A copy of the emergency regulations and other CWD documents were provided for review.

- **Mary Ellen** spoke to the current **status of HBA1** saying that so far, **NC's positive cases totaled 143** and the only other state with more documented cases is North Dakota with 162 cases. **Tonya said publicized NC statistics, and possibly other states, are incorrect.** While the disease will slow in NC's hot summer months, the northern states will continue to see it and the disease **will be back to NC when cooler temperatures return.**

- **Cindy** briefly discussed **Hemorrhagic Bunny Disease** saying the disease is highly contagious and fatal and **has reached domestics.** It's been **found in at least 10 states** already and will **eventually be seen in NC.** She recommended Directors **keep abreast of current info** and the status of this disease.

- **Cindy and Michele** briefly discussed their development and presentation of a new class at Symposium entitled, **The Making of a Mentor**, to help explain and fill in the gaps left by the 2020 state regulation permit changes. **Michele recommended establishing a Mentor Program Committee** to work on the issue throughout the year, asking membership for committee participation. MTA by Linda BA and second by Tonya. No opposition. Cindy appointed Michele as chair and Kathy, Tonya, Mary Ellen, Rebecca, Toni, and Cindy to be committee members. **(Total of 7 members.)**

Old Business:

Because of time, **Cindy tabled two items:**

1. **Her Proposal to establish a sub-committee** to identify all state home-based rehabbers and organizations and those providing educational opportunities.
2. Review of **existing director's terms.**

The next two meetings are:

Tuesday, July 12, at 6:30 pm

Tuesday, October 11, at 6:30 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm by Cindy, second by Michele. No opposition.

