

MRVAC Board Meeting Notes 8/20/13 by Dianne Rowse

present: Bob Williams, Greg Burnes, Steve Weston, Becky Lystig, Patti Larson, Matthew Schaut, Ken Oulman, and Dianne Rowse

absent: Molly Eichten

7:00 p.m.

1. Minutes:

A. Include in future minutes:

-field trip report- number of people attended and how they learned about trip- suggest that leaders email this to Matthew

-Becky said we started putting addendum to minutes with this information to help in preparing the annual report.

B. Minutes from last meeting: Becky moved to accept minutes; Greg seconded; all approved.

2. Treasurer's report: handout from Bob

A. Expenses- \$139 for MRVAC logo table cloth; used last week at hummingbird festival; machine washable

B. "Audubon Adventures" (AA)- Steve reported that Jean Muetting will request follow-up from classroom teachers who receive it. Steve encouraged her to continue growing program. She is a retired teacher who used AA in her class. Jean will be at the Oct. meeting to talk about AA.

C. Oct. 3 - date when MRVAC's CD is coming due; recommended to roll-over.

D. Bob filed post card "990N" with IRS on time. He'll file with State of MN soon.

3. "Trumpeter": Becky will be mailing within about a week. Inserting envelope in this issue. Goes in Eagan bulk mail. Also posted to list-serves and emailed out to list. Steve keeps up on seeing this happens.

4. Membership- Patti reported National membership for MRVAC is 1,299, up from 1,247 last month. Local is 58 now.

5. Programs: Steve has just 2 open dates for the coming program year (May and Feb.). Sept. 26 is Dave Cahlander on birds of Ecuador and Galapagos; Oct. is Al Batt; Jan. is Stan Tekiela on hummingbirds; Mar. is Laura Erickson; and April is on wild bees. Steve is seeking two graduate students to speak on the two open dates. Good work!

6. Annual picnic: June 12, 2014 at Richardson Nature Center. Dianne completed reservation; we will be billed for \$50 non-profit group rate, and Dianne will be the Three Rivers Park District staff person on site after 5:00. Bill will be sent to Bob Williams to pay.

7. Event: Bob is organizing a MRVAC display at the Bloomington Heritage Days (by Applebees/Lyndale); set up at 11 a.m., done at 6 p.m. Greg will help with set up and leave at 3:00; Bob will arrive later; Ken will start at 11:00; Molly may be available too. We discussed what to hand out. Bob contacted State Audubon office. He'll try National office too. Ideas: "Trumpeter" issues, St. Paul Audubon brochure (50) on planting natives, laminated MN Birds piece (\$8 each) to give to interested kids, sell t-shirts, game board to attract kids, stickers?, bird migration theme for fall.

8. New business:

A. Bob has order form for calendars from National Audubon.

B. Lebanon Hills Regional Park/Dakota County Parks- There is a proposal for major paved bike trail through park and additional picnic pavilions. Consider MRVAC opposing this to preserve the healthy habitat that this park contains. Steve will follow up. Dianne will forward email from Holly Jenkins (of a citizen group opposed to paved trail) about the issues to MRVAC board.

C. Bob received anonymous email on 6/23/13 about proposal for a dog park in Murphy Hanrehan Park Reserve, maybe at north end across from parking lot. Board thinks this site is O.K.

D. Request for programs for Cub Scouts, ages 7-8: Refer them to nature centers!

E. Kestrel boxes (6)- St. Paul Audubon built these with state grant money, so commitment is to report use to the state so young kestrels can be banded. Bob will say yes to 6 boxes. Dianne will contact Three Rivers Park District to ask if they can use some of these.

F. MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge- new manager; Charlie Blair got promoted. Matt will call new manager to invite him to the Sept. meeting to introduce him. If he can arrange a meeting, he will let MRVAC Board know to attend. Discuss Cedar Ave. bridge interpretive sign idea.

G. Hawk Ridge Festival- Sept. 20-22; we won't participate formally.

H. Cedar Ave. Bridge- City of Bloomington- Bob attended city council meeting and saw timeline for project to start this winter maybe. The money is there. Mayor Winstead (?) will recommend rehabbing (rather than replacing) bridge. Mr. Keal (?) said new bridge would be 14 feet wide; existing bridge is 20 ft. wide. Discussion of interpretive sign, in collaboration with Refuge.

I. Our intern money was used by Refuge and appreciated. Money donated is transferred through via Refuge Friends, Inc.

J. Hummingbird Festival last weekend in Henderson, MN- Bob was there. Don Mitchell banded hummingbirds at the

festival. Bob needed more stuff to hand out. Look for ideas for next event.

8:15 Steve moved to adjourn meeting. Becky seconded. Accepted.  
Minutes submitted by Dianne Rowse, 8/31/13.