

Subject: MRVAC Board Minutes January 20, 2014

Location: Minneapolis, MN

Present: Patti Larson, Bob Williams, Becky Lystig, Molly Eichten, Greg Burnes, Matthew Schaut, Ken Oulman, Dianne Rowse, Steve Weston

Meeting called to order by Matthew Schaut at 7:03 pm

Secretary's Report: Matthew moved to approve the minutes from the November 2013 meeting. Greg seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Income: Holiday auction, calendars, bird-a-thon, field trips, general contributions, local memberships, social committee, and money from National.

Expenses: MN state registration, treats, Trumpeter
Rolled another CD.

Trumpeter Report: Trumpeter deadline is end of the month. Board discussed how to handle wrong addresses.

Membership Report: 1273 national members; 59 local memberships; 15 new (6 as gifts)

Programs Report: Stan Tekiela is set for January. Lisa Harn is for February. May is still open. Possible for May are: Bob Russell on shorebird migration; speaker about nesting in Antarctica using satellite imagery; zoologist on bats of Minnesota and white nose syndrome; spiders in the prairie; or Carol Henderson and Cuba. Board was in favor of Carol.

Old Business

- Kestrel houses. Steve has most placed: one in Eden Prairie; two at Lowry Nature Center; Greg to talk to Richardson Nature Center.
- Lebanon Hills. Lois Norgaard prepared and submitted letter representing MRVAC
- MRVAC signed on to EAC letter on indoor cats, sponsored by American Bird Conservancy.

New Business

- Lucy Sedgwick from Audubon Minnesota attended first part of meeting to discuss Polymet mining and sulfuric acid threat. Public comments to DNR are available. MNPCA and EPA are also involved. There is a hearing on Polymet in St. Paul on January 28, 2014. Encouraged to get information out via Facebook, email list, Trumpeter. Bob moved to sign on to the Audubon MN letter; Matthew seconded. Motion carried.
- Funding request from Stan Tekiela, Starring Lake Outdoor Center in Eden Prairie for binoculars.
- MOU Saavalaja grants opportunity. Proposal deadline is end of month. Suggest we put in \$600, ask for \$600 from MOU; all will be matched by Eagle Optics for a total of 24 pair binoculars. Matthew to draft it. We will find out in April.
- Minnesota Audubon collaborative funding about \$2,600. Proposals due February 28, 2014. Award notification by March 15, 2014.
- Possible handout for kids – Bob had a request through the website from a member giving presentations to kids. Mike Menzel looking for giveaways to 50 students. None by the end of this month, but...
 - Proposal by Bob to have “Minnesota Birds” handouts which cost \$6 each. Could be handed out at nature centers, events, etc.
- Dianne has a request from Lowry for scope and tripod, about \$1200 for viewing baby ospreys.
- Greg relayed requests by Richardson Nature Center: Raptor mural; bird species zipline.
- Board will discuss in more detail in February.
- Someone gave Steve a stack of bird checklist for Three Rivers to hand out.

- Dianne spoke to owner of Outback Nursery (sells native plants) near Hasting about a coupon in the Trumpeter. Board to consider this further.
- Trumpeter Award: there have been no nominations. Bob may have a nomination.

Bob moved to adjourn meeting. Ken seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm.

/s/ Molly Eichten

Molly Eichten