

## MRVAC Board Meeting Minutes: October 25, 2018

Present: Rita Baden, Rob Daves, Becky Lystig, Craig Mandel, Ken Oulman, Matthew Schaut, Walt Stull, Steve Weston, Bob Williams.

The agenda and minutes were distributed ahead of time.

Steve called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. A quorum was present.

Secretary: Rob moved that we accept the minutes, Bob seconded. Approval was unanimous. A refuge staffer, Cortney Solum, ask for representatives to meet with the new refuge manager, Sarena Selmo. Bob and Rob agreed to meet with her to craft a new memorandum of understanding, as the current one is lost and probably out of date.

Treasurer: Walt distributed and reviewed the October treasurer's report. We spent a bit more this month than we took in. We have a net worth of \$46,581.88. The board accepted the report.

Membership: Bob reported that the membership bin for meeting use has gone missing.

Trumpeter newsletter: Becky said the newsletter arrived today; Steve hasn't received the electronic copy yet. He said we have about 480 names on the email list, and that number continues to rise.

Programs: Steve said Jordanna Whyte of New Zealand Sea Lion Trust (October program) asked that we send her honorarium to her conservation organization. The Nov. 15 auction will be in lieu of a regular board meeting. December is the Christmas Bird Count. January-May programs are planned, and Steve's working on June's program and the 2019 fall programs. Bob reminded the board that we should remember to plan for weather cancellations and keep members and speakers notified.

Old Business:

- The board agreed to provide the extra \$50 Ney Nature Center requested for different-than-originally-proposed binoculars.
- Walt and Bob let the board know that there are annually budgeted funds for a number of "affiliated" organizations, which can be paid without board action.
- The board agreed to purchase new letterhead stationary and envelopes. Walt will check on VistaPrint or other competing suppliers, as the current local bid seems high.
- There was no update on Craig Mandel's Holbrook Travel Co. request, except that Bob said our insurance provider would not give us a coverage rider. Steve will follow up Deb at Holbrook.
- There seems to be some conflicting information about permissions for snacks at the December MOU paper session. Becky and Steve will continue to work on it.
- Steve updated the board on auction plans, including asking L.L. Bean for auction items. Bob has binoculars from Vortex. The board brainstormed promotion ideas.

- Becky created a program schedule template for a flier. Steve will review.

New Business:

- L.L. Bean will host Steve in the store the first two weekends in December to promote the metro area Christmas bird counts.
- Walt said he has the financial information ready to send to the state for our annual report to meet the requirements for our non-profit status for another year. Steve moved for approval, Ken seconded; approval was unanimous. Matthew will be responsible for sending in our annual report to the national Audubon Society, which needs it by Jan. 31, 2019.
- Matthew will forward to the board an email request he received for a binocular grant.
- Ash Gupta proposed a MRVAC-sponsored excursion to Nepal through Memorable Odysseys in Rochester. The board agreed to reject the request.
- Bob has had a request for another fund raising opportunity similar to GiveMN. He'll seek more information for next meeting.

Steve moved and Rob seconded to adjourn at 6:41 p.m.; it was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted: Rob Daves, secretary