



MRVAC Board Meeting Minutes: October 24, 2019

Present at Minnesota River Valley Wildlife Refuge HQ: Rita Baden, Greg Burnes, Robin Kutz, Lee Ann Landstrom, Ken Oulman, Monica Rauchwarter, Matthew Schaut, Steve Weston, Joel Vos (The Refuge), Bob Williams.

The agenda and minutes were distributed ahead of time. Matthew called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. A quorum was present.

Secretary: On Ken's motion and Walt's second, the board unanimously approved the September minutes.

Treasurer: Walt distributed the treasurer's report. Net worth is \$46,981. The board unanimously approved submitting the annual state "Charitable Organization Annual Report" form.

Membership: Greg reported 919 national members, 127 local members, and 10 in the "over-60-day" category. Greg and Rob created a letter to send to new and renewal national Audubon members that have been assigned to MRVAC. This letter is aimed at soliciting MRVAC memberships. Greg reported that there were 47 of these contacts in September. He sent letters to 20 as a test to see if they generate any interest. Steve reported earlier that he had a post office box key.

Trumpeter newsletter: Matthew said next issues submissions are due by November 1.

Programs: Steve is working on programs for January and February.

Old business:

- Website Committee: Greg presented the website overview document that he and Rob created, and asked the board to review it and forward any revisions or additions. Greg also recapped the conversation he and Rob had with Dave Cahlander and the asked for the board's feedback. Greg will explore populating our current site as a stopgap measure until a new site is available. The board decided not to seek grant money for website development at this time.
- Auction: Monica said auction preparation is moving forward. She said she would forward a document she uses to solicit auction donations (sent on Oct. 25); the board agreed to maintain an e-mail thread listing the organizations they've approached for donations. Bob has received a set of binoculars from Vortex.

- CBC: Greg reviewed preparations for CBC. Joel expressed an interested in having the refuge staff help support the CBC. Joel and Greg will continue conversations.
- MICC grant/Lisa Keitel update: Matthew reported that Lisa is finishing up the report and we should receive it shortly.
- Annual Report to Audubon: Matthew reported that the portal is open, and that we have until Jan. 31 to complete it; he will complete and submit the report.

New business:

- Chapter Leaders Meeting: Matthew reported that the chapters have decided to focus on pollinator friendly landscaping as first priority. The next meeting is scheduled for January.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Rob Daves, secretary