



MRVAC Board Meeting Minutes: September 26, 2019

Present at Minnesota River Valley Wildlife Refuge HQ: Greg Burnes, Rob Daves, Robin Kutz, Lee Ann Landstrom, Ken Oulman, Monica Rauchwarter, Matthew Schaut, Steve Weston, Bob Williams.

The agenda, minutes and treasurer's report were distributed ahead of time. Matthew called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. A quorum was present.

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

Treasurer: Walt distributed the treasurer's report ahead. Net worth is \$46,777.41. Bob reviewed month-to-month changes. Bob said Walt filed the 990-N form with the IRS maintaining our non-profit status. He completed the state report due in December, which the board should approve in October.

Membership: Greg reported 122 local members. The 90-day past-due number has dropped to six. National Audubon reports 920 people (which varies from month to month) allocated to us as being associated with MRVAC. Rob will help craft a letter to these national members to solicit MRVAC membership. October renewal letters will go out tomorrow. Steve will check to see if he has an extra post office box key.

Trumpeter newsletter: Greg sent Becky the updated mailing labels for the next edition of The Trumpeter. The board should see proofs before it's printed; Monica will update that email list.

Programs: Tonight's program will be Joel Vos' talk about his research in the Bering Sea. Sharon Stiteler will speak in October on unusual birds and birding. There are speakers lined up for the remainder of the winter and spring with June's talk on Papua-New Guinea birds.

Old business:

- Thursday, Nov. 21 will be the auction at REI. Set up is 5-6 p.m.; auction is 6:30-8 p.m. Monica suggested stricter guidelines for submissions; others provided auction suggestions, including placing a price on items and having a silent auction. Robin will provide helpful forms, which should be available to members at the October meeting.
- Matthew reviewed the national Audubon grant types. He will write a grant proposal for the Plants for Birds project. Robin asked for help advising Normandale Community College with its birdstrike problem, with the notion of expanding to other venues; Lee Ann will coordinate. Matthew sent her the grant information.
- Matthew said we've received no grant proposal this year.
- Rob reported that the MN Master Naturalist website now has the capability to record work done through MRVAC.

New business:

- Rob, Greg and Dave Cahlander will serve on a subcommittee to look at website redesign. Greg will explore specific issues that need attending. (Matthew told Rob between the board meeting and the general meeting that Craig Mandel also wanted to be on the committee to address field trip notifications.)
- The board approved making photocopies of native plant lists.

On Walt's motion and Greg's second, the board unanimously approved adjournment at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Rob Daves, secretary