

MRVAC Board Meeting Minutes: December 13, 2018

Present: Rita Baden, Rob Daves, Becky Lystig, Monica Rauchwarter, Matthew Schaut, Walt Stull, Steve Weston, Bob Williams.

The agenda, minutes, and a draft of the memorandum of understanding were distributed ahead of time.

Steve called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. A quorum was present. There was no November meeting.

Secretary: Rob moved that we accept the October minutes, Walt seconded. Approval was unanimous. Tracy Albenson agreed to put up the minutes on the web site, but hasn't yet. Rob agreed to ask Tracy also to update the board member and committee chair list on the web site.

Treasurer: Walt distributed and reviewed the December treasurer's report. Monthly reporting will change to a calendar month instead of meeting date months. Walt alerted the board that one of our CDs will mature in February. We have a net worth of \$49,109.25. The board accepted the report.

Membership: There was no update.

Trumpeter newsletter: Becky reported that Anne is having trouble getting copy for the newsletter. Becky said the current newsletter is at the printer. Steve will send Anne a note about how well-read The Trumpeter is. There was consensus that a small newsletter that meets the basic needs of the organization (program and field trip news) works, but other news about birding is welcome.

Programs: Steve said Jordanna Whyte's program in October was awesome with nearly 100 in attendance. January's program is on the Santa Marta area of Columbia. February's meeting will be with Minnesota Department of Transportation's protected species coordinators about protecting flora and fauna when roads are built.

Old Business:

- Walt will continue to research costs for new letterhead stationary and envelopes.
- Steve gave Bob several names to contact to get more information about insurance for Craig Mandel's Holbrook Travel Co. request. Bob got a copy of Holbrook's insurance policy, which is unclear if this will provide MRVAC protection for this kind of trip. He will continue his research.
- L.L. Bean hosted Steve in the store. He reported little customer interested, but great staff interest in the CBC. He said the store expressed the desire for a closer relationship with MRVAC, and that Greg Burnes assigned them an area for this year's CBC. The store provided binoculars for the auction.
- Bob and Rob reported that The Refuge said it will install our interpretive sign in the spring.
- Monica moved and Rita seconded to approved the draft of the memorandum of understanding and forward it to the Refuge for their approval. The board approved the motion unanimously.

New business:

- Greg Burnes suggested sending a donation request to our email Trumpeter readers and our members. Steve said if someone writes the appeal, he will send it under the board of director auspices, with payments going through GiveMN.org or as a check to MRVAC.
- Steve reported that meetings have begun for state chapter leaders to help guide the selection of a new Audubon Minnesota executive director and do a better job of working with the state's chapters. Matt volunteered to be the MRVAC contact for this effort.
- The board agreed not to participate in a February ecological landscaping conference, but to publicize it on the website and Facebook page.
- The board agreed to add The Isaac Walton League to our affiliated group list, and provide a \$50 contribution.

The board agreed that future board meetings would be at 6 p.m. at the refuge prior to monthly meetings.

Rob moved and Becky seconded to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.; the board approved the motion unanimously.

Respectfully submitted: Rob Daves, secretary