

# **Friends of the Bluebirds Spring Meeting**

**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Riverbank Discovery Centre, Brandon**

**Recorder – Phil Weiss**

Chair Herb Goulden called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM with 32 present.

**AGENDA:** emailed to members

**MOTION:** Mathers/Weiss -that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried

**MINUTES:** emailed.

**MOTION:** Mummery/Sigurdson- that the minutes of April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 be approved. Carried

**DELEGATION:** Brad Mummery introduced three 4-H Neepawa students who built 37 bluebird boxes as a club project.

They explained their project and raised opportunity for other new youth engagement projects for birds.

Bob offered to build a few boxes to sell at area functions as a fundraiser.

## **CHAIR REPORT:**

The Bluebird Man documentary will be viewed at the fall meeting.

Kevin Corwin from NABS in Colorado will be meeting May 13<sup>th</sup> in Brandon with FOTB Executive to discuss networking and partnerships. He will stress the importance of line monitoring reports.

Nesting box design modifications were discussed. Minor changes have reduced unit material costs from about \$7.50 to \$5.00. Requests for new boxes has exceeded current supply from club members who are building boxes. Thanks to members that are building boxes.

Phil Weiss reported on a partnership with Westbran Training Centre in Brandon who will be building boxes as a training project. We supply the material within our financial means and Westbran builds the boxes. A design blueprint will be placed on our website soon.

Herb suggested we need to access new sources of partnership money to pay for box material and maybe charge a small fee for each box. Suggested new funding sources are welcome.

Herb is completing a box building pictorial that will be put on our website.

Herb stressed the importance of club leadership succession and encouraged members to take on new roles to keep the club vibrant.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Colleen

Revenue and expenses since last fall were reviewed. Closing balance is \$1,249.20

**WEBSITE REPORT:** Linda

16,223 visitors in the past year and over 43,000 visitors since April, 2016.

The 3 year hosting/domain name agreement expires this fall, approximately \$500.

Linda may need some tech help on web design enhancements.

**MOTION:** Pearn/Danard- That Linda Pearn be authorized to hire Pivotal Elements at \$80/hour to a maximum of 2 hours for website technical design assistance on a as and when required basis. Carried

**LINE MANAGER'S REPORT:** Ken

3 new members are taking over or starting new lines.

Reminder that Line numbers and location information is very important and should be given to Ken.

There are 22 boxes in the Buncloudy area that could be given to a new club member or existing member who wants another line.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Carole

94 entries to date resulting in 128 individuals. 79 lines are club registered.

Please tell Carole of any changes to members, deletions, additions or edits. Again, line numbers are important.

**LIBRARY REPORT:** Colleen

Magazines and books are available for sign out and return.

**NABS REPORT:** Barry

The next NABS meeting is in 2020 in Nebraska.

Game license revenue will be coming and clarification on cannibus regulations was given.

**NEWSLETTER REPORT:** Erica

The newsletter is in progress and new stories and pictures are needed to complete. Ideas to Erica.

One newsletter will be made instead of two.

Hats and decals are available from Erica.

**MONITORING REPORT:** Linda

Nesting Data 2013-2018 is available on the website. Continue to send in monitoring reports even if the production is tree swallows.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Luc Gamache updated members about recent provincial correspondence received about possible changes to Crown Land management. Letters expressing concern can still be sent to the provincial government.

Question was raised about who is responsible for the nest boxes on-site at the Discovery Centre.

Door prizes were drawn.

**NEXT MEETING: Saturday, October, 19<sup>th</sup>...2 PM Discovery Centre.....NOTE: SATURDAY, NOT SUNDAY!**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Pettinger