

## **Friends of the Bluebirds Fall Meeting**

October 19, 2019

Riverbank Discovery Centre, Brandon

The fall meeting of the Friends of the Bluebirds was held at the Riverbank Discovery Centre in Brandon on Saturday, October 18, 2019. 33 members present.

Chair, Gord Hammell called meeting to order at 2:00 pm. Thanks to those who gave donations for boxes. Contingent from Westman Naturalist were welcomed.

Herb Goulden remembered Luc Gamache who had passed away September 10, 2019. He was a long-time member of Friends of the Bluebirds and contributed to the group in a variety of ways. Herb felt we all were better for having known Luc.

The FOTB executive met with Kevin Corwin, who is a NABS board member and Affiliate Liaison from Colorado. He expressed a desire to establish a relationship with affiliate groups. Project Nest Watch was discussed at length. Herb felt it was complicated and it would be erroneous to enter data while on lines.

NABS board of directors – looking for new member hopefully from Canada.

Our application to Manitoba Bluebird Fund was approved and we have received a grant for \$1500.00 which will be used to fund our website and for box building materials.

Phil Weiss reported we have partnered with Westbran and they are building our boxes – 55 boxes so far. Foreman indicated he can fit the boxes in between other work projects. Also, it is a good evaluation project for new trainees. Positive experience.

Herb is stepping down as Vice-chair and encouraged the membership to take turns at executive positions. Looking for volunteers.

### **Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:** GOULDEN, Herb/Pearn, Linda – that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried

### **MINUTES**

**MOTION:** BOYS, Linda/Barclay, Ken – that the minutes be approved as presented. Carried

### **REPORTS:**

#### **Financial** – Colleen Barclay

Receipts and expenditures for the past six months were reviewed. Closing balance is \$2573.78

Letter from McGregor woodcarvers letter was read in Luc Gamache's memory and donation.

#### **Line Manager's Report** – Ken Barclay

2019 – 5 new members, 3 new taking over existing lines.

**Monitoring Data Report** – Linda Pearn

Reports are due end of October. 34 have been received to date. Some have lines and don't report which is fine as habitat is still there for birds.

**Membership Report** – Carole Sangster

130 members, 23 are Friends, 7 new members.

**Library Report** – Colleen Barclay

New magazines. Books have cards to sign and envelope to put in.

Discussion on the library, do we need to bring it all to the meetings. Suggestion, just magazines as we get new ones. Inventory of books and names of magazines could be sent out with minutes. Tabled to next meeting.

**Game License Sales Report** - Barry Danard

Good stock pile of licenses will send away soon

**NABS Report** – Barry Danard

Application forms on table for NABS and registration forms available for annual NABS convention.

Guard for racoons - look for heavier gauge wire as lighter can be bent.

**Website Update** – Linda Pearn

Use of website averages 7000 every six months.

Comments are monitored before posted to site. Linda checks, deletes inappropriate ones.

Web hosting and domain name. Hosting for 3 years – don't need amount we pay for, reduced from \$13.99 to \$10.99 US a month. Cost will be \$514.00 CDN for next three years.

Domain name – never changes on automatic renewal, only renews one year. Can pay up to 10 years. \$246.00 CDN paid for 10 years.

**Newsletter** – Erica Alex

Newsletter distributed to club this summer. Let Erica know if you need a paper copy. Has 2 hats that were ordered, see her. Window decals available. Youth wing winding down, will be attending university in Saskatoon next meeting. Will be able to do 1 more newsletter.

**MOTION:** GOULDEN, Herb/Parsons, Edith – that the reports be accepted as presented.

Carried

Following the business meeting, Guest speaker Allison Krause-Danielsen, – spoke on rare grasslands birds, community pastures, and the IBA program.

Next Meeting - Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Adjournment by Herb Goulden at 3:42pm

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