

Friends of the Bluebirds Fall Meeting
October 30, 2022
Riverbank Discovery Centre, Brandon

The fall meeting of the Friends of the Bluebirds was held at the Riverbank Discovery Centre in Brandon on Sunday, October 30, 2022. 17 members present.

Chair, Phil Weiss called meeting to order at 1:32 pm. Welcomed everyone back.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION:– BOYS, Linda/Gamache, Donna - that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried

Introduction of 2022 Executive,

Chairperson	Phil Weiss	Past Chairman	Gord Hammell
Secretary	Linda Boys	Treasurer	Wendy Bulloch
Line Management	Dan Chranowski, Bruno Bruederlin		
Data/Web	Linda Pearn		
Membership	Carole Sangster		
NABS Liaison	Current chairman, Phil Weiss		

MINUTES

Approval of Minutes: October 18, 2019; March 11, 2021 Executive; April 24, 2022 Executive

MOTION: GOULDEN, Herb/Barclay, Ken - that the minutes from the October 18, 2019 meeting be approved. Carried

MOTION: DANARD, Barry/Sangster, Carole that the minutes from the March 11, 2021 Executive meeting be approved. Carried

MOTION: CHRANOWSKI, Dan/Bulloch, Wendy – that the minutes from the April 24, 2022 Executive Zoom meeting reviewed by Phil, be approved Carried

REPORTS

Chair - Phil Weiss

- Friends of the Bluebirds Hats, \$15.00
- Herb Goulden relayed story of neighbour, Jack McHonney who passed on a 1973 Readers Digest, with an article on John Lane written by Fred McGinness. This is to be added to library.
- Consensus is bluebirds crash two years ago was caused by over wintering mortality. Will be years to rebound, need help more than ever. Carry on, its meaningful and it counts.

Financial – Wendy Bulloch

- Receipts and expenditures for past six months were reviewed. Balance as of October 30, 2022 is \$2530.76 plus \$5.00 share

MOTION: BULLOCH, Wendy/Parsons, Edith – that we accept as presented. Carried

Currently we are in good financial status and will revisit in spring re: applying for monies from Nature Manitoba, bluebird fund.

Membership – Carole Sangster

- 125 Members, 81 Lines, 27 Friends, don't have boxes, just keep in touch
- Carol relayed her and Linda Pearn's experience with bluebirds for the year.

Data/Web Management – Linda Pearn - Sent her report to Phil.

- Website is down. It's a Google issue, and firm looking after is on it.
- Would like to pass the Web Manager duty onto someone else.
- 2/3 of reports have been received. Finalize at end of October.
- Has digitized records from 2013 to present. Compiled a graph showing trends for tree swallows, eastern and mountain bluebirds.

Line Manager's – Dan Chranoswki

- Mapping and GSP lines – long term plan.
- Thinking of getting a summer student to do field work.
- Asking members with GPS to send in start and end point of lines. Ultimately a GPS location of each box.
- Tool to brand boxes with Friends of Bluebirds name and email address.

MOTION: GOULDEN, Herb/Milliken, Ian to accept all reports as presented Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Distribution of Annual Monitoring Data

- Phil reported he has been unable to work with Cornell as data to as needs to be by box not by line. The same applies to Bird Studies Canada.
- Saskatchewan Natural History Society will take the data as we have it.

MOTION: BOYS, Linda/Danard, Barry - that we forward our data to Saskatchewan Natural History. Carried

- Other nest recording programs: Nest Quest Go - Zooniverse.

Nesting Box Construction

- Westbran Training Centre, starting to get back after shut down for Covid
- Seniors for Seniors, Brandon – building boxes 20, reimburse for lumber, revisit in Nov.
- Men's Shed Minnedosa – built 12 Boxes, made kits, school kids put boxes together. Article in Tribune. Will do again. Question raised if children have info on where to put boxes, how to monitor, etc.
- Club members building boxes, will reimburse for material. Good inventory right now.

Library

- Use of library was declining so question raised if worth bringing to meeting.
- Readers Digest book article to be scanned.
- Contains important information that should be passed onto another library.

MOTION: GOULDEN, Herb/Barclay, Ken – that we give the executive authority to find a proper place for our resource materials. Carried

Newsletter

- Template was obtained from Erica, produced a newsletter. Short stories and pictures.
- Herb and Phil to start – anyone else wishes to help.
- Phil will call people requesting stories. Would like to see it continue.

Presentations

- Men's Shed, Seniors for Seniors, Third Age Learning, Brandon University – history of Friends of the Bluebirds; Phil has contact
- Nature Manitoba – Herb put 2 page article together. Karen Mitchell Tribune, picture. Linda to call paper.
- CD's on nest boxes/bluebirds contact Barry if needing for a presentation.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Facility will be providing coffee and water as part of rental. Picked up dainties at Bakery.
- What to do with coffee makers, suggest we donate to an organization that needs them.

Adjournment by Barb Pettinger at 2:52 pm

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