

Friends of the Bluebirds (FOTB) Fall Meeting
October 20, 2024
Riverbank Discovery Centre, Brandon Manitoba

The fall meeting of the Friends of the Bluebirds was held at the Riverbank Discovery Centre in Brandon on Sunday, October 20, 2024. 31 members present.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair, Phil Weiss, called meeting to order at 1:35 pm. Introduction of new people in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: To approve the fall agenda as presented.

Moved by Dan Chranowski/Seconded by Colette Pierce.....Carried

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the April 21, 2024, FOTB meeting be approved as circulated

Moved by Herb Goulden/Seconded by Barb Pettinger.....Carried

REPORTS:

Chair - Phil Weiss

- Ongoing work of all volunteers with Bluebird boxes,
- Received funding from Nature Manitoba for the geo referencing project
- Herb Goulden, Dan Chranowski, Ian Milliken and Phil Weiss have been working on the project with 31 lines done to date.
- Ordered and received another 150 hats to sell and decals. Hats are \$17.50 and a decal is \$2.50.
- We have various levels of memberships and supporters – those who monitor lines, those who don't have lines but are friends/supporters.
- Phil read an email from Katharine Shulz from Winnipeg, commenting on the great work the organization has been doing and she has bluebirds in nests on her property.
- We need members who can help with lines, as members have identified they want to give up their lines. Please think of new members who would be interested in doing this.

Financial – Wendy Bulloch

FOTB received the first payment in June of \$5,000 from Nature Manitoba for geo referencing project. As of September 30th, FOTB recognized \$4,528.89 in the Credit Union account.

Membership – Carole Sangster

Carole reported on membership and asked those in attendance to advise her of those members not doing lines anymore, who are deceased and or changes in emails, phone numbers etc.

Data/Web Management – Linda Pearn

Data reports have been coming in and reminded people to send soon. Linda has been working on a word doc for reporting, but not quite working yet.

Reminder to all that data reports from 2017 til now are all online

Web page has had hits in total of 10,000.

Line Managers – Dan Chranoswki, Bruno Bruederlin

Dan Chranowski reported. Bruno Bruederlin sent regrets.

The group has been working on geo referencing all the lines. Project is going well. To date 33 lines have been georeferenced.

As time goes on will need to meet with Membership/Carole Sangster, Data/Linda Pearn to determine who has lines and where the lines are to geo reference.

Herb Goulden commented on the support from the staff with Manitoba Habitat Conservancy (MHC) who have helped Herb, Dan, Bruno, Ian and Phil with geo reference data and operation of equipment.

MOTION: To approve all reports as presented.

Moved by Ken Barclay/Seconded by Donna Gamache.....Carried

OTHER BUSINESS:

FOTB 50th Anniversary in 2025

George Michniewicz has volunteered to lead the FOTB 50th Anniversary planning committee.

Volunteers to work on the committee are Kathy Peters and Dan Chranowski. George is looking for ideas and what members would like to do.

Phil Weiss conducted door prize draws for various items that had been donated over the last year.

NEXT MEETING:

Third week in April, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT:

Barry Danard adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.