

GNAS Board Meeting

SCF Library, 13 May 2014

Kathy, Paul, Mike, Caitlyn, Michelle, Brian, Cindy

Local Membership and Membership Forms Discussion

We discussed fees and what is reasonable, affordable, and gives options.

Kaitlyn separated Local from National, borrowed some info from Crex, ran some proportions to figure out how much to charge per year, 2 year, 5 year and tier (individual, family). We did some word-smithing and some editing of the membership form.

Gaylord Nelson logo added on the left...

Gaylord Nelson Audubon contact Info on THEIR copy instead of ours (move, flip).

Strike the word "Donation" until we are a 501c3.

Add our email address...

Message: "Your email will not be shared with other people or organizations" This will require all active email participants to use Blind Carbon Copy (bcc) protocol.

Do we want more room for email?

Once we are a 501c3, we will upgrade our Membership form to also include donations. Donations are more effective if you have places to put it: Education fund, research fun, land fun, improvements fun, projects fund, etc...

We also discussed charitable donations and minor legalities associated with the 501c3, etc, especially as it relates to signatures for our receipts for charitable donations.

Also, the Receipt for Charitable Donation could be placed on a high-grade business stock paper.

We discussed the "better deal" of a 12 month membership. Using the DATA sort function on Excel will allow us to easily manage memberships once per month.

Data:

Member / Information / Fee Paid / Date Started / Date Expired

Mike moved to ratify the membership tiers and amounts. Michelle and Brian seconded the motion.

We discussed with Steve his participation in sending out general emails to all Gaylord Nelson Audubon participants (event notices, etc.). Kaitlin will work with him one-on-one to establish a smooth transition. Kaitlin and Steve discussed some of the different types of emails and things to look out for when

managing the Gaylord Nelson Audubon emails and website. Currently, methods are in place to prevent the gmail account from becoming a SPAM target.

Annexation Discussion:

Kathy and Michelle discussed the annexation process and the intricate details of taking on the upper Hiawatha zip codes near River Falls compared to the annexation of new zip codes in the Eau Claire area.

Cindy discussed her process for picking up mail, dropping off checks, and logging data to Kaitlin. Michelle united Cindy with the postal key.

Discussion of 501c3:

Kathy reported that she sent the application on April 25, complete with Board member names. Kathy received a Non-stock Corporation renewal form (\$10 fee). **It will need to be delivered by the end of June with the \$10 Check.**

Wisconsin Audubon Council will be here in October!

Brian will lead a birding trip.

We need to provide a place to hold the meeting.

We need to provide some food for breakfast and lunch.

We will want to have an information packet that includes some options for Crex, boat tours, the Saint Croix River, the Red Cedar and Chippewa Rivers, etc. We will want this packet to get to the WAC well in advance of their arrival so they will have the plan and incentive to STAY with us and take some trips! We want to showcase what we have going on here. Questionnaire...

Are you a Vegan?

Do you plan on going Birding?

Want to go to CREX?

If Autumnfest is happening, it will be quite busy around here.

This will certainly be a committee project if we have a strong response for people wanting to recreate...

We will need to put together informational material by the end of July or early August to allow time for WAC people to make plans to stay and play.

Revisiting Google Docs for Speakers and Presenters....

When we need to share spreadsheets, we can use Google Docs to update in real time and keep the

This spreadsheet would allow us to keep steady track of presentations, human volunteer units, and human participation units. The Google Doc is a common communication piece.

Brian will also key in a formal document form for scheduling and paying of program speakers, presenters, etc.

Last month, we discussed the "Fast Track" option for proven presenters, especially when free or volunteering.

All presenters will still need to complete the documentation form so that we can plug the volunteer info into the spreadsheet, even if fast-tracked.

Requests for funding require the complete review.

Business Over the Long Distance:

Steve Betchkal, Bill Hogseth, Terry Balding, Christie Sazama, Rachel Hart-Brinson should be continuously added to Board Communication, and Steve will email their addresses to us. In mid to late summer we will have a meeting in the Baldwin area to have some face-to-face time and enjoy some time together, to plan the WAC date in October, etc.

Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee will need to be established well before September to solicit candidates for Treasurer and President, and perhaps Secretary if it doesn't violate bi-laws. Since we are not yet 501c3, we may just shoot for Treasurer and President. Vice President and Secretary will stay the same. Steve Betchkal would be interested in the working the nominating committee to see what shakes out.

Brian will see if Robin Maercklein will serve on the nominating committee.

An Opportunity to Collaborate!

Kathy talked about the Grassland Action Partnership (Conservation Action Partnership) and the opportunities to collaborate between Gaylord Nelson Audubon and a variety of other organizations working nearby to put grasslands

In the Eau Claire, Durand, Nelson Area:

Wednesday, Welcome Back Bird Day in Eau Claire

All Day Saturday: Wisconsin Bird-a-thon

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM... into a giant swarm of migrating warblers! Outside the library we had: Nashville, Yellow, Wilson's, Black-throated Green, Black-and-white, Yellow-rumped, American Redstart; House Wren, Gray Catbird, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Cardinal, Turkey Vulture, White-throated Sparrow, Baltimore Oriole

25 June 2014; Gaylord Nelson Audubon Society Minutes, Saint Croix Falls Public Library

In Attendance:

Agenda and Topics:

August Meeting:

Tuesday. August 26, 6:30 PM, Baldwin Public Library

WAC on Oct 4^t

- send info before Aug 1st next WAC meeting—Paul is doing this
- Breakfast & lunch—total cost ~\$7-8.00 per person (including paper plates+)
- St. Croix Falls Library—large meeting room is reserved. We need someone to pick up the library key the evening before.

WAC will be meeting in Saint Croix Falls. Paul already sent out information on local attractions, and Kathy has reserved the large meeting room.

On October 3rd, Cindy will pick up the key. Brian will lead a short, local bird hike at a time to be determined. We will need to plan to bring food, and WAC will reimburse us. We could inquire about the possibility of home-cooked food (baked by Irene, perhaps?)

We will also need to get a list of supplies needed by WAC, including multimedia.

Nominating Committee

- Committee by Sept 1st for next election
Steve will participate on the nominating committee and may have a good lead on our next Treasurer.

Local membership form

Annexation of additional zip codes

- End of May total = 980 members according to Chapter Services, Membership reports (only 56 emails)—how do we get more emails of members?
- Addition of zip codes: Cornell to Eau Claire to Osseo, as far east as Stanley.

501c3

- Notice was received by mail on 5/17/2014 acknowledging receipt of application. Applications for exemption are separated into 2 groups:
 - Those that can be processed based on information submitted—should receive notice within 90 days of notice ~08/17/2014.
 - Those that require additional information to be processed—expect contact within 180 days of notice ~11/17/2014.

Chapter Branding

- Our chapter's brand lets the public know who we are and what we are all about (our vision). We should discuss some practical and economical ways of marketing our organization.

Steve—offered to be At-Large Member of the Board

Brian Collins made a motion to bring Steve on board as an at large member. Cindy seconded the motion, and all present board members unanimously approved the motion. Steve Betchkal is now an at-large board member of Gaylord Nelson Audubon Society.

Next Meeting at Baldwin Public Library 400 Cedar Street Baldwin WI

- Plan late August/early September on Tuesday/Thursday (open till 8:00 PM those days):
suggested dates: Tuesdays: August 26, Sept 2, Sept 9,
Thursdays: August 21, Sept 4
- What time to start the meeting? 6:00PM? 6:30 PM?

From Steve B on 06/14/2014 to group:

Here are some items I would like to include on the agenda, if possible:

1. New webpage productions
2. MartinMart
3. Using emailing to disperse information or collect information
4. Illuminatura
5. Annual themes
6. Blue Ribbon Stewards