

amended

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board
Williamsburg Bird Club
Williamsburg Regional Library
March 10, 2008**

Member Attendees: Joanne Andrews, Fred Blystone, Shirley Devan, Mary Anne Fennell, Bob Long, Alex Minarik, Chuck Rend

Chair Attendees: John Fennell, Jeanette Navia

Absent: Sara Lewis

1. Secretary's Report: Minutes from the January meeting were read and amended to include two additional sources of contact for new members: 4 from Wild Birds Unlimited and 1 from the Rec Center. The minutes were approved as amended.
2. Treasurers Report:
 1. Dues: Chuck reported that 110 people have paid dues: 103 renewals and 7 new members.
 2. Dropping members: Chuck has sent 2 notices to members who have not paid dues. They will be dropped from the list in April. He recommends that in the future, we enclose a renewal/dues form in the Dec. *Flyer*, send a reminder in Feb. and drop them in March. The board will revisit this suggestion later.
3. Committee Reports:
 1. Programs: Alex has 2 grad students to give programs, one in March and one in Sept. Ruth will give the April program.
 2. Newsletter: Fred reported that 40% of members [~40 people] who are able to receive the newsletter online have chosen to do so. He asks that articles be kept under 500 words and mentioned that he has added book reviews of books the WBC has donated to the WR Library.
 3. Field Trips: Tom sent his report in. March's field trip will be Greensprings Park led by Bill. April will be Dismal Swamp led by Alex. May is to be announced. June is picnic at the Becks. There will be a joint club picnic at NQP on March 30. We need to man a booth.
 4. Membership: no report
 5. Records and Counts: May 4th is the spring bird count.
 6. Refreshments: Barb Streb sent report that all months but one are covered.
 7. Library: no report
 8. Historian: no report

9. Adopt-A-Highway: John reported that the Highway Dept. has one site up for adoption: Croaker Rd from Garret's Store one mile toward the boat landing. It was moved, seconded and passed that the WBC adopt that site.

4. Old Business:

1. Nature Camp Scholarship: The committee reported that it received 9 applications. The winner was Joseph Voboril, and the alternate was Mitchel Dannon. Shirley will contact all respondents and set up a photo op with the winner for the paper. It was suggested that next year scholarships be limited to students who have not attended Nature Camp, and that the WBC consider awarding 2 partial scholarships in order to allow more students new to nature to attend. The club will revisit these ideas later.
2. Research Grants: March 15th is the deadline to apply. Dan Cristol is coordinating this with the college. Chuck entered into the record an analysis of sources of funds for grants and scholarships.

5. New Business:

1. Bird Count Data: it was decided to post Xmas and spring bird count data on the web site.
2. Survey of members who didn't renew: It was decided that Fred, Shirley, and Jeanette will compose a survey to mail to former members who did not renew, soliciting the reasons for their nonrenewal. This mailing will include a stamped envelope.
3. Survey of members: Fred, Shirley and Jeanette will also compose a survey of current members to be enclosed in the May *Flyer*, asking for input on club activities and suggestions for improving our offerings.
4. Weekend Birding Trip: We will put a suggestion for a weekend birding trip in the above survey.
5. Planning for meeting place when Millington Hall is no longer available: board members will canvas local meeting venues to see what is available.
6. Allowing Wild Birds Unlimited to advertising monthly in the *Flyer*: It was decided that we will make sure there is a picture in the paper once a year commending WBU for their donation to the WBC. No advertising will be allowed in the *Flyer*.
7. How to handle the updating of the Bird Species List: This item was deferred until Bill Williams can address it.
8. Next meeting will be May 15th.

Respectfully Submitted
Mary Anne Fennell, Secretary
Williamsburg Bird Club