

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board  
Williamsburg Bird Club  
Room 113, Human Services Bldg.  
5249 Olde Towne Road, Williamsburg, VA  
Monday, December 13, 2010

Board Member Attendees: Fred Blystone, Shirley Devan, Alice Kopinitz, Chuck Litterst, Jeanette Navia, Joe Piotrowski,

Chair Attendees: John Fennell, Jeanette Navia

Board Members Absent: Bob Long, Chuck Rend

Member Attendees: Jennifer Boag, Ann Carpenter, Mary Anne Fennell

The meeting was called to order at 7:00. Shirley welcomed members Mary Anne Fennel, Jennifer Boag and Ann Carpenter. Jennifer and Ann will be joining the Bird Club Board effective January 1, 2011.

1. Secretary's Report: Fred questioned if Child Development Resources is receiving birdseed on a monthly basis as indicated in the minutes. Shirley will speak to Sara Lewis to confirm this is ongoing. The minutes were approved.
2. Treasurer's Report: submitted by Chuck Rend via email just prior to the meeting: "Our financial situation is fine. Our two CDs are in effect. The latest renewal (12-6-10) pays only 0.65% however. Full annual report will be in January."
3. Committee Reports:
  - a. Programs: Joe reported the following programs:
    - i. Jan. 19 Mike Wilson on the red cockaded woodpecker
    - ii. Feb. 16 Bryan Watts
    - iii. Mar 16 Graduate Student
    - iv. Apr20 Sergio Harding
    - v. May 18`` Graduate Student

It was pointed out that Bob Ake, from Norfolk, is completing his big bird year. He is currently number 2 on the ABA species bird list with 729. Joe will try to make contact with him for a program in the fall. In the meantime, Shirley will send a link to Bob Ake's blog.

- b. Field Trips: Geoff Giles will be heading the committee for 2011. Information about the January field trip will be in the January newsletter.
- c. Membership: Jeanette reported no new members. Updated lists were provided to the President, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor.
- d. Newsletter: Fred is always interested in more articles and pictures from more members. He noted that the number of bird sightings per issue has become fewer.

- e. Records and Bird Counts: A reminder that the Christmas Bird Count will be held, Sunday December 19 with a Tally Count at the Carrot Tree. Refreshments will be provided.
- f. Refreshments: Shirley will check to see if Barb Streb will continue for 2011.
- g. Library Liaison: Shirley will check to see if Lee Schuster will continue for 2011.
- h. Historian: Position is still open. Any materials that would come under the Historian will be forwarded to the Secretary to be included in the notebooks of record.
- i. Adopt-a-Highway: John reported the Highway Department is pleased with our efforts. And extended our "contract" to November 2013. John also received new safety vests. In early November, John and Mary Anne picked up 12 bogs of trash from our 2-mile stretch of Croaker Road. John plans to schedule the next pick-up in March or April. He will send out information accordingly.
- j.

## **Old Business**

1. Audubon Important Bird Area: Shirley has tried to contact the Hampton Road Bird Club about cooperating in adopting the Western Shore Marshes IBA. She also mentioned this at our meeting to see if there was anyone who was extremely interested in pursuing this project. Neither the Hampton Roads Bird Club nor any members have responded in a positive manner. Given the location of this IBA (Matthews and Gloucester Counties), Shirley recommends that this item be taken off the agenda for the present. If we hear from Hampton Roads Bird Club that they have an interest in this project, we can discuss it further.

2. Nature Camp Scholarships: Applications have been sent to local teachers. Information has appeared in the local newspapers. The selection process will be the same as last year with a deadline of January 15 for application and selection by February 1. Chuck Rend facilitates getting the applications to the selection committee. Mary Anne Fennell will send the processing criteria to members of the committee. The following members will compose the selection committee pending their willingness to serve: Gary Carpenter, Mary Anne Fennell, Jeanette Navia, Alex Minarik, and Lee Schuster.

3. The following Board was elected at the November 17 Club meeting:
- President, Shirley Devan
  - Vice President, Programs, Joe Piotrowski
  - Vice President, *The Flyer*, Fred Blystone
  - Treasurer, Charles Rend
  - Secretary, Jennifer Boag
  - Member at Large, Jeanette Navia
  - Member at Large, Ann Carpenter

## **New Business**

1. Parking at the College: Parking at the College is restricted from 7:30am Monday through 5:00pm Friday. This has been the policy for some time, but has only recently been more strictly enforced. Dan Cristol has provided parking permits for Bird Club meetings through May. These permits will be available through the newsletter and website. Joe offered to be in the parking lot at the January meeting to provide permits as needed. Are parking meters coming? Presently, the Millington 150 meeting place is reserved through May 2011. With the uncertainty of future parking problems, Shirley suggested possible future meeting locations be considered. Some things to keep in mind when considering a new location:
  - i. capacity for 40-60 people;
  - ii. food is allowed,
  - iii. audio-visual equipment (can possibly share equipment with other area clubs),
  - iv. adequate parking.

The Bird Club has a long history with the College dating from 1977. Millington Hall provides plenty of seating and audio-visual equipment that works well. The Bird Club has provided both research grants and scholarships to students over the years.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm by the president, Shirley Devan.

Respectfully Submitted  
Alice Kopinitz, Secretary  
Williamsburg Bird Club