

Friends of NNWR
Annual Meeting
November 6, 2010

Board Members Present: Dianne Schmidt, Mary Jane Bean, Donna Amedro, Dick Roellig, Jan Crosby
Board Members Absent: Ron Boettcher
Guests: Audrey Travor, Gaylon Jorgenson, Ray DeVoe, Paul & June Lewandowski, Steve Norling, Larry Schmidt,
Staff: Doug Staller

Having a quorum, meeting was brought to order at 4:05pm.

Secretary report from 2009 annual meeting was presented by Dianne. Jan moved to accept, Dick seconded and it was passed.

Treasurer's report was given by Mary Jane (prepared by Ron). Ron's letter of resignation was read to the membership. Gaylon made a motion to accept the report and the letter of resignation. Dianne seconded. Motion was passed.

Dianne presented the Membership report : 29 new (15 from bricks), 145 current paid memberships with a total of 208 on the books.

Dick gave his report of the newsletters(3) that were completed this year and the completed and published Jr. Duck calendars for 2011.

Donna gave the Fundraising Committee Annual report: 83 bricks sold, \$5000 received for startup Bookstore grant, Breakfast with the Birds brought in \$754, Crane fest silent auction raised \$722, class B Raffle license was granted and the Spagetti Dinner was being served this evening followed by the night hike.

Doug Staller gave the Refuge Report which updated the Visitor Center progress, the successful year in releasing the Whooping cranes both DAR birds and ultralight birds. He related that next year there would be no whooping cranes released in Necedah but we would still have the adult birds migrating back and plans were being made to encourage re-nesting of these birds to increase the number of chicks hatched here.

He also stated he came on board as the new Refuge Manager in March and had relocated from Alaska.

Because of the oil spills events in Michigan and the Gulf, 5 staff from Necedah were sent to help in clean-up operations.

The President's Report was given by Mary Jane.

It was a year filled with events and programs on the refuge. We as the Friends will be receiving Focus on Energy rebates from the energy- saving materials used on the Visitor Center. This amount may be up to \$70,000. We have narrowed our focus for this money to 5 priorities:

1. Scholarships to young people going into the field of Conservation/environmental education etc.
2. Bussing funds to schools to ensure that kids can visit the refuge.
3. Teacher-in-Residence program for local teachers to learn about outdoor curriculums, youth and mentoring programs.
4. Master Naturalist program start-up on the refuge

5. Creating and marketing local value for the refuge-media outreach, contacts with private land owners.

We continue to look for new board members and committee people. If you would like to help with any event, just let us know.

New Business: Confirmation requested from the members to keep the present officers/board members. Larry Schmidt made the motion to keep them all as is, it was seconded and passed.

As Audrey Travor wishes to be on the board as the Bookstore Manager, Dianne made the motion to accept her onto the board. Ray DeVoe seconded and it was passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm . Doug will be taking those who wish to see the new visitor center on a tour of the facility.