

Friends of NNWR
Board Meeting
March 13, 2010

Bd Members Present: Dianne Schmidt, Mary Jane Bean, Donna Amedro, Ron Boettcher, Dick Roellig, Jan Crosby
Staff: Katie Goodwin
Guests: Carole Bradley, Steve Norling, Henry Crosby

A quorum being present the meeting was brought to order at 10:40am.

The February minutes were presented by Dianne. Dick moved to approve. It was seconded and passed.

The Treasurers' report was presented by Ron (attached). Bills to pay: \$274.19 for website fees and software purchases, \$102.38 to MJ for Bear Trunk additions, \$129.61 for books. Dianne moved to accept the Treasurers' report and to pay bills. Dick seconded and it was passed.

Refuge Report: Katie Goodwin

105 birds in total population-59 males and 46 female. 30 are currently in migration. Tate's position if filled, and Bill's position will be posted soon. YCC is open for applications now.

Jr. Duck contest is scheduled for March 26th starting at 8:30am at Ellen Allan Center.

2 Artists in residence have been chosen for this year- a poet and a watercolor artist from Florida.

Crane Fest will have separate events at the Refuge and at Lions Park. We will be staffing events during the day at the refuge at the same time other events are scheduled at Lions Park.

Regional Friends' conference in LaCrosse will be April 16-18

Larry W's retirement party is tomorrow at the Necedah VFW.

Earth Day activities are scheduled for April 21-22.

The Visitor center is on schedule with the framing going up the first week in April.

Boardwalks are 90% complete .

It was noted that anyone wanting their brick in place for the Grand Opening in the Spring of 2011 needs to get them to us by April 30th 2010.

Committee Reports

Fundraising: Donna

Menu for the Breakfast with the birds has been finalized for May 15th. Volunteers met and discussed the logistics for the pledging of species for this day.

Pepsi Refresh Project – We may do this with the Necedah Library and the after school program here at the refuge.

2 grant applications are going in by March 30th-1) Bookstore startup funds and 2) a birding opportunity grant (would like to start up a formal birding club here at the refuge-possibly with Audubon).

MJ looked into the purchase of the Rich King scopes, tripods and blinds for the crane nesting project. Eagle Optics offers 2 free set ups if we purchase 8 more. Can get them for half price- a total of \$1584. Dick motioned to buy these, it was seconded and passed. Gander MT will give us a 10% discount on the blinds-\$45 ea. We will further look into this.

Newsletter: Dick

We will continue to try to get the articles to Dick in time for printing. Dick will work with Katie on proofing articles from the staff. Deadline is March 22nd for next publication.

Bookstore Update: MJ

Vivian has been working with MJ on bookstore inventory etc. and will continue at least until Grand Opening.

Audrey works on Tuesdays putting databases into refuge computer and also helps with bookstore things.

Rae Lynn Beyers in Mauston will help evaluate our needs here at the refuge for bookstore cash register/software and will see if it can be set up ahead of time to allow for training.

MJ will meet again with the SCORE and JCEDC people to update them on our bookstore progress.

Glacial Lakes Project: Nothing new.

Wish List priorities will be reviewed at next meeting.

Get wish list into newsletter.

Possibility of using birdhouses set in businesses to raise money for specific project.

We are joining the Mauston Chamber for \$100/year we will participate in a one day tourism event at the Juneau County Fair on Thursday Aug 19th.

We need to renew our membership in Tomah Chamber at \$125/year. MJ will find out about the website link/password problem.

Rich asked if the Friends could manage a grant he received in order to pay 3 people who are helping him in the crane nesting project. We declined because we do not have insurance at this time and we do not want to jeopardize our private non profit status by using public grant money to pay for services.

It was moved by Jan and seconded by Donna to pay \$100 to Regional Office for luncheon served to regional Jr. Duck Stamp judges meeting.

Our next meeting will be at 7:30am at the Radisson Hotel prior to Regional Friends Conference. The May meeting will be May 14 at 10:30am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dianne Schmidt, Secretary
Friends of NNWR