

Please see the METWS Fall Meeting PowerPoint for more detail. 69 Attendees – See Attachment II

Maine Chapter of the Wildlife Society
Fall Meeting
Friday, 13 November 2015, Fields Pond Audubon Center, Holden ME

Executive Board Members:

President – Mao Lin

President Elect – Kara Moody

Past President – Lauren Gilpatrick

Secretary/Treasurer – Laura Berube

Board Member– Steve Pelletier

Conservation Affairs Committee Chair – Rod Kelshaw

Student Representative, Unity College – Maddie Crane

Student Representative, University Maine-Orono – Caitlin Gunn

Action Items:

- Laura Berube will email the meeting minutes, the attendees list, and a link to all the meeting PowerPoints to the membership.
- The Executive Board will discuss removing the “Program” and “Education and Information” committees from the bylaws or forming those committees. We also need to update the “Resolutions and Public Statements” committee in the bylaws to “Conservation Affairs.”
- Laura Berube will email the updated bylaws or the link to the updated bylaws to the membership for a vote.

Before the METWS meeting, The Maine Bat Working Group met to discuss the status of bats in Maine, particularly focusing on the recent federal (Threatened) listing of the northern long eared bat. A key topic item was the discussion of USFWS/MEDOT’s work to develop a bat database that, primarily, will function as a screening tool for projects but, secondarily, might lead to a modeling effort. The meeting was open to all members and was well attended.

Introduction – Lunch was served before the meeting. During lunch Mao Lin thanked Plum Creek for offering to pay for all student lunches, the Fields Pond Audubon Center for hosting the meeting free of charge, the speakers, and everyone for coming. After a discussion with some attendees, there was a motion to move the Program ahead of the Business Meeting. Sarah Boyden seconded. For discussion, Cathy Elliot asked that everyone stay for the Business Meeting and Joe Wiley explained that we usually have the Business Meeting first so that people don’t leave after the Program and miss it. The motion was passed.

Program –A program on the topic of Wildlife Disease was presented to the members. Presentation titles and presenters included:

- What is White Nose Syndrome? – Cory Mosby, MDIFW
- Statues of Rabies and Avian Influenza in Maine – Jesse Morris, USDA, APHIS

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- Feral Swine in Maine – Ross Gatcomb, USDA, APHIS
- Maine's Moose Survival Project - Lee Kantar, MDIFW

Minutes: Following the Program.

Business meeting.

- Mao Lin gave the President's report. He first asked those who are members of the Chapter to raise their hands. He explained that only those that are members of the Chapter (or National) can vote. He reminded people that we will be producing 2 Newsletters a year (each one approximately 1 month before the spring and fall meeting) and asked that people please contribute any interesting work they are doing to the Newsletters. Explained Lauren Gilpatrick will continue to work with Don Katnik to produce the Newsletters. Reminded folks that with the help of MaryEllen Wickett (webmaster) our Google Drive account is active and is where we store all documents related to the chapter including minutes. He announced that MaryEllen has done a terrific job with the website and chapter archives.
- Laura Berube gave the Secretary/Treasurer's report :
 - Checking: \$4,108.24 (\$3,823.26 at Spring 2015 meeting)
 - Savings: \$1,648.12 (\$1,646.47 at Spring 2015 meeting)
 - Cash: \$271.42 (\$351.42 at Spring 2015 meeting)
 - Vanguard: \$17,696.72* (\$ 19,053.10 at Spring 2015 meeting)
 - *\$1,000 was withdrawn towards to the 2015 Student Support Fund awards received by the UMaine Chapter and the Unity Chapter.
- Laura motioned to approve the Annual Spring Meeting minutes. Motioned was seconded and then passed.
- Laura gave the Audit Committee report on behalf of audit committee. Announced that we had forgotten to do the audit in July. Laura has passed the financial material (ledger, bank statements, receipts, etc. from June 2014 – June 2015) onto the audit committee who will have a report to the Executive Committee after Thanksgiving.
- Cathy Elliot gave the Awards Committee report. She gave an overview of the awards that were given out in the spring and explained that it is only during the Annual Spring meeting that we give out awards. She reminded folks that we are now presenting the Student Recognition award annually. She encouraged anyone interested to join the committee and advocated that people forward on suggestions to the committee for people they think deserve one of our various awards. Linda Welch has joined the committee. Adam Vashon has expressed interest in joining.
- Kara Moody gave a presentation on "Steps to becoming a Certified Wildlife Biologist (CWB)". Kara (a CWB herself) explained the rigorous process of becoming a CWB and encouraged anyone interested to keep a hold of their course descriptions from their education years and to also reach out to anyone they know who is a CWB to better get to know them and ask for guidance. She explained that being a CWB gives you a lot of credibility in the field of wildlife biology and explained that it looks great on a resume.
- Rodney Kelshaw provided the Conservation Affairs Committee update. He explained that the committee made go/no-go decisions throughout the year on legislative decisions regarding ones

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having to do with wildlife issues. For more information on legislative decisions that the committee worked on or passed on please see Rod's slides in the METWS Fall Meeting PowerPoint.

- Laura Berube provided a membership update on behalf of Sarah Spencer. Laura announced that the membership was doing well and is above 100 members (on later review, 118 to be exact). Laura asked if this was a good membership base compared to past years and Jerry Longcore said that the chapter is "trending upwards". A great deal of students attended the fall meeting, (Plum Creek Timber graciously offered to pay for the lunches of all students) so Laura explained the benefits of being a member of the chapter of METWS to all students who were currently not members.
- Caitlin Gunn (Student Representative) gave the University of Maine Student Chapter update. Over the past year the student chapter has built duck boxes at Hirundo Wildlife Refuge, built bat boxes during Bat Week, had many guest speakers, had a field skills workshop where they practiced telemetry and knot tying, as well as other activities. She announced that all representatives on the board of the University of Maine Student Chapter would be being replaced next year.
- Madison Crane (Student President) gave the Unity Student Chapter update. Over the past year their chapter has had many guest speakers, volunteered with the Endangered Species Coalition, built bat boxes during Bat Week, had an "Internship" night where students explained what they did during their internships, and will have owl monitoring coming up.
- For unfinished business items, Mao announced that we had previously voted for new additions to the bylaws and they have now been added by Mao. He explained that the bylaws include a Program Committee which currently does not exist. Mao suggests we discuss removing the committee from the bylaws or form the committee. We also need to update the bylaws so that they read "Conservation Affairs Committee" rather than "Resolutions and Public Statements" which we no longer call it. A future Board recruitment call was made, asking people to nominate themselves or a colleague.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.