



Maine Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Fall 2016 Meeting Minutes
Thursday October 20th, 2016, 12 PM to 5:30 PM
at Gilsland Farm Audubon Center
20 Gilsland Farm Road, Falmouth Maine



Executive Board Members

President – Kara Moody
President Elect – Katelin Craven
Past President – Mao Lin
Secretary/Treasurer – Laura Berube
Board Member at Large – Steve Pelletier
University of Maine Student Representative – Valerie Watson

To be added to Executive Board when Bylaws are updated

2nd Board Member at Large – Sarah Boyden
Conservation Affairs Chair – Rodney Kelshaw
Unity College Student Representative – Madison Crane

Program:

- Endangered Species on Maine Beaches (Laura Zitske, Audubon)
- Current MDFIW Projects Involving State Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern Reptiles (Derek Yorks, MDIFW)
- New England Cottontail in Maine: Status of habitat, restoration and survey efforts (Sean Campbell, USFWS)
- Maine's Rare and Endangered Invertebrates: Conserving the Little Things that Matter (Phillip deMaynadier, MDIFW)

Business meeting:

- President Kara Moody introduced the agenda.
- Secretary/Treasurer Laura Berube explained that Adam Vashon had provided helpful comments to the 2016 Spring Annual Meeting minutes. These comments included the need to update our Bylaws and have them approved by National before new positions (listed at top of page) could technically be added to the Executive board. Motion to approve the minutes was seconded and approved by majority.
- Kara Moody provided the Presidents report. Kara explained that membership recruitment letters had been drafted and sent to: contacts at various agencies such as USFWS, MDIFW, NPS (Acadia), Maine Forest Service, and UMaine. No big responses to the letters yet. Kara thanked Sarah Boyden for her help with the summer Newsletter and explained we would have another Newsletter coming out in December. Asked for a deadline for submissions by late November as Editor Don Katnik was able to turn the previous Newsletter around within a couple weeks of receiving materials. Kara explained that MaryEllen Rainey Wickett (METWS Webmaster) has added the link to our public google drive folder (where anyone can look at our Bylaws, Meeting Minutes, etc.) to the METWS website.
- Laura Berube gave the Treasurer's report. Laura announced that the Chapter donated \$250 to the National Student Travel Grant to attend the 23rd Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society in Raleigh, North Carolina, October 15-19, 2016. This grant was received by Sabrina Morano at UMaine. The report was moved to be approved and the motion was seconded and approved by majority.

- Kara Moody provided the Audit Committee report as both members of the committee (Wende Mahoney and Henning Stabins) were not able to attend the meeting. No discrepancies were found during the 2016 audit.. Laura Berube provided a summary of a request made by the audit Committee. The request is that the audit be changed to a calendar year basis, opposed to auditing accounts from June 1 to May 31. Our Bylaws state only that “funds will be periodically examined by the Audit Committee” so we could make this change without updating the Bylaws. Jerry Longcore mentioned that part of the reason we do the audit in the middle of the year may be because were a new Treasurer to be instated following the Annual meeting (normally held in April) then the books and audit will all be in order before the new Treasurer takes office. In subsequent thought, if we moved the audit so that it occurs in January and covered finances from Jan 1 to Dec 31, then the audit will be in order before the new Treasurer takes office. The new Treasurer would then be responsible for approximately 4 months of finances for when they were not in office, opposed to nearly the full 12 months of finances from when the previous Treasurer was in office. The Board will revisit this topic with the Audit Committee.
- Awards Committee chair Cathy Elliot provided the Awards Committee report. The Award of Professional Achievement was not awarded this year. There were no nominations for the Award of Student Recognition this year. Cathy presented the Award of Meritorious Service to the very deserving Maryellen Rainey Wickett for her outstanding work as a wildlife professional. Cathy explained that the Award of Recognition was presented to the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4H Camp and Learning Centers: Tanglewood, Blueberry Cove, and Bryant Pond at the 4H’s meeting earlier this year. Cathy explained that the Student Support Fund had been awarded to the University of Maine Student Chapter for \$1,000 to attend the NE Wildlife Student Conclave. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Mao Lin who was President at the time this Certificate was created, Lauren Gilpatrick who was Past President when this Certificate was created, Kara Moody who was President-Elect when this Certificate was created, Laura Berube as Secretary/Treasurer, Steve Pelletier as Board Member, Caitlin Gunn who was the UMO Student Rep. at the time this Certificate was created, Maddie Crane as Unity College Student Rep., Sarah Boyden, Stephanie Martin for her work on the Awards Committee, Don Katnik as Newsletter Editor, and MaryEllen Rainey Wickett as METWS Webmaster.



- Justin Sweitzer the Program Committee Chair asked Steve Pelletier to give us an update on the planning of the 2017 Annual Meeting. Steve updated us that our meeting will be in combination

with the New England Society of American Forester's (Maine Division) and Northeast Forest Pest Council meeting in Bangor from March 6-8, 2017. The first 2 days will be made up by 6 panels and the third day will be for workshops and field trips. The theme of the meeting is "Adapt. Adopt. Advance: Resiliency in forestry".

- Membership Committee chair Sarah Spencer provided the Membership report. She explained we have approximate 110 members (in a later emailed she notified us that we have closer to 121!), similar to the spring and a little bit up from last year. She explained that there are 12 members of the National chapter that aren't part of the Maine chapter. Jerry Longcore volunteered to reach out to these members. Sarah also mentioned that we have 34 METWS members that aren't National Members. Sarah asked that anyone working in a state or federal agency reach out to their colleagues and invite them to join since we are a little underrepresented in that category.
- On behalf of Conservation Affairs Committee Chair Rod Kelshaw, Kara Moody noted that there have not been any new developments for the Committee and thus no report was provided.
- On behalf of University of Maine Student Representative Valerie Watson, Kara Moody provided a report on their chapter's recent endeavors. They have a good number of active members, 5 of which were attending the TWS National conference at the time of this meeting.
- On behalf of Unity College Student Representative Madison Crane, Kara Moody provided a report on their chapter's recent endeavors. Nine of their members were attending the TWS National conference at the time of this meeting.
- For old business we discussed the current state of the Chapter's bylaws. Mao is currently updating the bylaws with the changes that were previously voted on and approved. These include adding the 2nd Board Member, Conservation Committee Chair and the Unity College Student Representative to the Executive Board and the removal of irrelevant Committees. Kara and Mao will be reviewing the Strategic Plan by the end of November to decide if it should be updated, continued to be used, or no longer used.
- We discussed the new proposal from the Northeast Section that each member pay \$20 to be a member of both the State Chapter and the NE Section (opposed to the \$11 they had previously proposed and that we had voted yes on). \$12 of the \$20 would remain with the Maine Chapter and \$8 would go the NE Section. At this time, we believe we would lose members if they had to pay \$20 instead of \$10 and we don't see enough of a benefit of being automatically apart of the NE Section at this time (currently, anyone can become a member of either individually which seems to work for most people).
- Kara reminded folks that the Maine Bat Working Group (subgroup to the METWS) will be having a meeting on November 17th of this year in Hallowell.
- Meeting adjourned.