VATWS Executive Committee – Meeting Minutes
Conference Call Meeting
November 12, 2015 @ 3:00PM – 4:00PM

In attendance: Lauren Billadeaux, Tamara Johnstone-Yellin, Scott Klopfer, Nelson Lafon, Karen Powers, Aaron Proctor, Keifer Titus
In absentia: Marcella Kelly, Todd Fredericksen

Meeting called to order at 3pm by President A. Proctor

1) 2016 Winter Meeting Theme Ideas (Proctor, Billodeaux)
   a) Importance of being part of the wildlife society as students and professionals and get support from national –
      i) Plenary and Panel – national, state, student speakers before lunch to launch into afternoon round table discussions
      ii) Round table discussions with concrete goals, prioritized lists and member surveys
      iii) State and national level
   iv) Topics to cover
      (1) How do we feel connected to the society (state, regional and national levels)?
      (2) What would we like to see in our membership?
      (3) Certification process - Is it important anymore? And if not, why not?
      (4) Continuing education
   v) Mentoring – students sign up to be paired with professionals to talk to over breakfast on Tuesday morning.

2) Meeting location – Fredericksburg (Proctor, Billodeaux)
   a) Fredericksburg Hospitality House Hotel and Conference Center
      i) Easier drive for national folks can come (UPDATE 11/20: Ed was confident they’d be able to send someone from National)
      ii) Eastern side of state folks won’t have as much of a drive
      iii) $160/professional 2 per room to $200/prof if 1 per room, $120/student if two per room. Food comparable to last year. Meeting room more expensive than last year.
      (1) Registration fees include awards, scholarships and social costs
      iv) Lauren will send spreadsheet of cost estimates
      v) Aaron will check with Ed Thompson re: online registration (UPDATE 11/20: Aaron is waiting to hear from Ed about online registration)
      vi) Call for papers and registration next month

3) Meeting dates
   a) SE Deer Study meeting 2/15/16
   b) 2 Monday/Tuesday is better for student travel rather than Tuesday/Wed
c) February 22, 23 confirmed (Update 11/20: 22nd unavailable, new dates 23, 24 confirmed)

4) 100 year anniversary of VDGIF (Klopfer)
   a) Invited speaker from the agency to give talk at Monday night dinner? (UPDATE 11/20: Aaron confirmed there will be a speaker and likely a video/pictorial presentation as well.)
   b) Lee Walker is in charge of celebrations. Aaron or Scott will reach out to him.

5) Longwood chapter involvement (Proctor, Titus)
   a) Have not heard from them.
   b) Aaron will contact faculty advisor on the phone and invite them to the meeting.

6) Conservation Review Committee discussion (Lafon, Proctor)
   a) No empty seats now on subcommittees
   b) 4 people plus Nelson on each subcommittee
   c) Subcommittees will be in charge of research, drafting emails, etc. then whole committee will review it before sending to VATWS excomm
   d) Proactive v. reactive
   e) Nelson is continuing to work on the logistics and mechanics of how these subcommittees will work.

7) Robinson Papers – will discuss steps forward at business meeting in February

8) Nominations for Ex-Comm. seats?
   a) Term limit: 2 consecutive terms in a given position
   b) Secretary and Member at Large up for election this Spring
   c) Virginia Tech’s turn to submit a name of a student representative.
   d) Aaron will send out a call for nominations. How to get at least 2 candidates per position.

9) Other business
   a) Member Survey – Aaron will update and add to the current survey, then Scott and Lauren to weigh in and Nelson to review.

Meeting adjourned at 4pm by President A. Proctor

Minutes submitted by Tamara Johnstone-Yellin, Secretary