

**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: 22<sup>nd</sup> 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