

TWS WTWG Executive Board Meeting Agenda March 19, 2015 – 3 pm EST

Participants:

Stephanie Baker
Andrea Erichsen
Brian Hiller
Katrina Leigh
Carrie Marr
Louise Venne

Agenda items in order:

Pb position statement and discussion of LPC comments (Brian)
WTWG website updates (Andrea/Carrie)
Treasurer's report (Stephanie)
Social media update (Stephanie)
Twitter update (Brian)
SD seminar (Brian)
Member contact (Katrina/Carrie)
Elections (Louise/Kristin)
New business? (all)
Next meeting (all)

Minutes below in order of discussion. **Action items are noted in bold.**

1) Old Business

- a) Lead Position Statement Status Update (Brian)
Brian has been compiling comments into new and improved format and reviewing comments. Discussion today – comments from the Loon Preservation Committee (LPC). Brian can easily address each comment, however item 3 merits discussion because it seems LPC is looking for something more forceful in terms of the statement recommending regulation in addition to education.
Brian's question: Are we in a position to make a statement about need for legislation to make real change? Louise: We can forward to Council for discussion and guidance. **Brian will add in language about possible legislation and get off desk. By end of weekend, he will send an updated draft to the Exec. Board for review.**
- b) Website (Andrea/Carrie)
 - i) The meeting minutes from January and video were posted to the website in February. Andrea has transitioned into the secretary role...ready to roll!
- c) Treasurer's report (Stephanie)

TWS WTWG Executive Board Meeting Notes

March 19, 2015

- i) To date, the account balance is \$2,145.38. In 2015, we received \$144 in dues so far. Our account has approximately \$200 more than last year this time, including the donation to the Minnesota Chapter.
 - d) Social Media Update (Stephanie and Brian)
 - i) The FB page has approximately 55 Likes. Stephanie appreciates suggestions for expanding following and content.
 - ii) RE: Twitter. Brian reports new followers: at 5-6 now, possibly as a result of the South Dakota Chapter meeting.
 - e) South Dakota State Chapter of TWS (Brian)

It was a good opportunity to promote WTWG and connect with other sections/regions. Brian's talk provided a synthetic overview (past, present, future) which complemented the more detailed presentations, although the order of the presentations was unusual (comments useful for future). There were 100-120 attendees mostly wildlife program managers –not toxicologically experienced. Keynote Speaker Lisa Williams, Branch Chief for USFWS Toxicology. Great Plains and Mountain Sections and Nebraska chapter were also in attendance.
 - f) New/Past/Lapsed Members (Katrina and Carrie)
 - i) Progress was made in compiling lists and discussing strategies for outreach and engagement. More ideas are welcome. At this time, it seems there are far more lapsed than new members. **Next steps: drafting emails/letters and sending out to members on the list –lapsed and new.**
 - g) Elections (Louise)
 - i) Start thinking about nominations for elections so we can get biographies into summer newsletter –**Kristin to spearhead that. Louise will be in touch.**
 - h) Report was submitted to Council by Louise on February 14, 2015.
- 2) New Business
- a) Newsletter item solicitation is coming out soon. Items due at the end of March. Soliciting contributions/links/publication citations etc. particularly from various regions (Louise)
 - b) Louise posed the question of providing student grants for research and/or travel in 2015. Amount not determined. All agreed to keep the possibility as an option.
- 3) Next meeting – June 4, 2015 3 p.m. EST.