

Chapter Business Meeting

Thursday, February 8th, 2013

5:00-7:00pm

Ivory Room

Sheraton Uptown

Albuquerque, NM

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions - Ken Boykin, President

Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

The Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) was a major focus this past year.

TWS transferred over to Google mail.

2. Additions to Agenda - Ken

There were no additions.

3. Reports

Treasurer Shawn Knox reported on the NM Chapter's finances- which were \$27,000 at the end of January 2013. There was a \$17,000 deposit made for the JAM after that date. Money that was made from the JAM must last until 2015.

4. Southwest Section and National TWS Report - Carol Chambers

Carol Chambers presented a powerpoint presentation on various activities of the Southwest Section.

- Meeting attendees were encouraged to: 1) register with the National and Southwest Section Chapters of The Wildlife Society, 2) either apply for, or encourage young professionals (< 5 years into their career) to apply for the TWS Leadership Institute, 3) nominate people for various TWS awards by February 15th and March 15th 2013.
- Previous attendees of the Leadership Institute attested that they learned good skills, pushed their boundaries, and did things (applied for jobs and positions within TWS) that they otherwise wouldn't have.
- The states in the southwest section were encouraged to donate \$1,500 to \$2,000 to support the Leadership Institute.
- NM Chapter in particular was encouraged to think about whether they want to host the National TWS meeting in 2017. If there is interest in that, the Chapter needs to decide that soon. It was pointed out that the first National meeting was hosted in Albuquerque, and that National TWS does a lot of the work involved in organizing the meeting; the Chapter is mostly responsible for planning local field trips.
- Information was presented on WOW- which is intended to encourage women in the wildlife profession.

5. Business Items

a. Board Elections - Ty Allen, Election Coordinator

The following people are the new officials/board members for the NM Chapter of TWS for 2013:

Bob Osborn- President

James Cain III- President Elect

Dan Collins- Treasurer

Ginny Seamster- Secretary

Quentin Hays- Board Member

Esther Nelson- Board Member

Pam Herrera-Olivas- Board Member

b. Thank You to 2012 Board Members - Ken

Certificates were handed out to 2012 Board Members and a picture was taken.

c. Thank You to Terri Thompson, Communications Coordinator

d. Acknowledgement of Past Presidents, Ken

Past presidents of the NM Chapter of TWS were given pins

e. Handing keys over to incoming President, Bob Osborn

Bob was given a framed certificate to hang in his office.

f. Liability Insurance for Directors and Officers discussion

- National TWS has obtained Liability Insurance for its Directors and Officers and has gotten quotes for rates for the state and section-level chapters.
- Each state needs to decide whether they want to pay for this insurance for their chapter board members and officers.
- It was mentioned that it makes sense to get the insurance if the NM Chapter intends to take a more active role and be more vocal about different issues, especially controversial issues.
- It was also mentioned that National is willing to step in and handle controversial issues as their PR department is covered by the insurance.
- The importance of doing thorough research on issues and presenting only factual information to the public was highlighted. This would mitigate the need for the insurance.

g. Request for Funding from Western Bat Working Group

This request was tabled until after the proceeds from the JAM can be tabulated.

6. Looking toward 2013

a. 2nd One-day Chapter meeting?

Support was expressed for the idea of having a second One-day meeting of the NM Chapter. It at least broke even and might have made some money for the Chapter and it was well received by members.

b. Website issues - Brian Hanson

Brian has been unable to make changes to the welcome page of the NM TWS website for a while. The problem has been reported to National IT support. National is moving the website to a new system, so it is possible that this will fix the problem. Please send Brian Hanson any recommendations for improvements to the website. It was mentioned that people found the website useful and that the NM Chapter website is one of the most actively updated of all the TWS state chapter websites.

c. How to request Chapter Action, such as letters of support

The procedure for these sorts of requests will be posted on the Chapter website. Requestors cannot count on 24 hour turn around on these requests. They need to give the Chapter a few weeks of lead time.

d. Announcements in 2013 - Leland Pierce, Citizen

- Leland has been compiling weekly updates which Terri Thompson has been sending out to NM Chapter membership. It is felt that these updates have helped to keep NM Chapter members interested and slowed attrition in

membership numbers. The task of compiling the weekly updates may be transferred to the NM Chapter Secretary.

- Leland also recommended contacting the Chamber of Commerce in Silver City, NM and trying to figure out if there is a way of having the 2015 JAM be there. There is only one potential venue and this venue is unable to host concurrent sessions. There is also an issue with attendees needing to stay in multiple hotels throughout the city. Having the meeting in Silver City would address the AZ Chapter's concerns about AZ Department of Game and Fish personnel having to get permission to travel >100 miles across the state border.

e. Old Papers - Leland

There are lots of old chapter papers which provide valuable historical information. Leland is going to contact Kathy Granillo to see if she can store these papers. It is recommended that the Chapter try to get money to scan these papers and, as relevant, post some of them on the Chapter website, or otherwise make them available.