Northeast Section of The Wildlife Society Executive Meeting

April 15, 2018
Start time: 1:11pm

Attendance: Emily Just, John McDonald, Mike Fishman, Tammy Colt

- President’s Report (Just)
- Year in Review (Accomplishments)
  - Hosted Fall Leadership Meeting (October) at Bald Eagle State Forest’s Nature Inn
    - Executive staff, student chapters, and members in attendance
    - Developed position statements for committees
      - Committee actions and objectives
      - Recruited new members
    - Discussed new dues structure
      - Automatically enrolled in Northeast Section
        - Boosted membership from 300 to 1200
          - $3.00 for each new member
  - New workshops at NEAFWA meeting (discussed later)
  - Newsletters
    - Four sent out last year (Sydney Spicer)
    - Looking for new editor
  - Bylaws update
    - Moved Northeast fiscal year to match National fiscal year
    - Small changes to bylaws
      - Added objectives
  - CAC
    - Several new position statements
      - Letters commenting on changes to national monuments and offshore drilling
  - Archives
    - Files have been offered to UMass students to file, scan, and store
      - Will be paid in increments = $500.00
    - Archive NEAFWA booklets?
    - Do we need an archivist?
      - Would need to be a long term position to maintain filed digitally and physically
        - Dropbox as well as location to store hard copies
      - *Needs follow up
- President Elect Report (Fishman)
  - Student activities for NEAFWA conference were held on Sunday afternoon
- Secretary Report (Just)
  - March 21st conference call
    - Reviewed election results
    - Discussed logo
• Advertisement for newsletter editor
  • One application submitted
• Discussed details from workshop committee
• NEAFWA conference
• Awards, certificates, plaques, and pictures for recipients
  • President will give awards Monday morning at NEAFWA
• Finalize food/drink for executive meeting and NE TWS meeting
  o Secretary report vote: Motioned, Approved (2:00pm)
• Treasurer Report (Colt)
  o Two documents attached
    • Green column is budget
  o Wells Fargo account was closed (Williams)
    • PNC account opened (Colt)
  o $10,000.00 moved to two rolling CD’s
    • $5,000.00 each
  o May need to look into new revenue stream after publication production ends
  o Next executive committee meeting will work on next fiscal budget (National fiscal year)
  o Treasurer report vote: Motioned, Approved (2:30pm)
• Policy Updates (Murphy)
  o Recovering America’s Wildlife Act
    • Introduced December 2017
      • $1.3 billion towards species identified in state wildlife action plans
      • 35 co-sponsors in the house
    • Subcommittee meeting February 15
    • Northeast Section wrote letter in support of legislation
      • Do we need social media guidance as a section?
        o For example: thanking co-sponsors, establishing relationships, reaching out to target offices, etc.
      • Reach out to student chapters: develop structure for policy engagement
        o How do we reach the students?
          ▪ Field course
          ▪ Templates for letters, calls, etc.
          ▪ Webinars or videos from TWS
    o Appropriations
      ▪ New program standards in agricultural appropriations
• Updates TWS Council/ Field Course/Rep Report (McDonald)
  o Field Course
    • 20+ students attending
      • 14 different colleges/universities
      • International attendance
    • May 13 start date
    • New Volunteers always welcome
      • Travel reimbursement for instructors: follow-up with Tammy
      • Looking for future instructor replacements in next 1-2 years
TWS Council

- Council meeting in Norfolk, VA
  - Movement in policy: Conservation advocacy
- Financing changes
  - Contracted accounting and payroll to accounting firm
    - New electronic accounting system
  - New audit from corporate auditor
  - Investment accounts in robust shape
  - Adjustments: financial policy document
    - ID funds more accurately
    - Asset allocation targets refined by fund objectives
  - Vote: Increase in member’s dues by consumer price index
    - Up $2.00 for regular members; $1.00 for other categories

Fall council meeting

- Discussed what information should be available online
- No proxy voting for Council members, but can participate remotely, needs bylaws fix
- Quorum for meeting is 5 members, proposed to change to 9 members
- Changing nomination deadlines
  - Mid-December changed to March 1st
- No e-mail votes for council
  - Must be voice (call or present)
- Drafted confidentiality agreement
  - Should this be distributed to chapters?
- Approved budget for next year for $2.7 million
- Conferences:
  - 2018: Cleveland
  - 2019: Reno joint conference with American Fisheries Society
  - 2020: Louisville, Kentucky
  - 2021: Seeking hosts now
- Approved certification handbook revisions

- Awards (Linske)
  - Went smoothly this year
    - Nominations for each category
  - Need to work on structure of student presentation awards at NEAFWA conference
- Bylaws etc.
  - Election Results:
    - President Elect: Scott Williams
    - Secretary: Megan Linske
  - Position Statement
    - Concern with biodiversity statement utilization of FSC standards
      - Did not include other forestry standards
        - Motion to review language, Approved (3:30pm)
- Student Affairs/Conclave
April 14-15
150 students from 14 schools
Handed out newsletter
Suggestion to create drop box for student chapters and advisors
  ▪ Presentation on levels of TWS (Laken)
  ▪ Conclave folder
University of Maine to host next conclave?

• Membership/Logo (Just)
  Jump to 1200 members (mentioned in previous section)
  Logo competition
    ▪ $100.00 award
    ▪ Deadline moved to end of April
    ▪ “Northeast Section” and “The Wildlife Society” must be included in logo

• Workshop (Linske)
  Two workshops held at NEAFWA conference this year
    ▪ Human Dimensions
    ▪ Drone applications for wildlife research and management
  Reduction in Delaney cost
  Budgeting
    ▪ Template for budget based on headcount (Colt)
      ▪ Determine when to drop workshop based on low enrollment
    ▪ Next year: need to know AV costs ASAP
  Survey to members and attendees
    ▪ Workshop ideas for next year
    ▪ Feedback on past workshops
      ▪ Relay info to instructors

• Newsletter
  Editor applicant: Tammy Cloutier
    ▪ Resume and Cover Letter
  Motion to vote: Amendment (Based on phone interview with Emily Just)
    ▪ Motion Passed (4:00pm)

• State Chapter Report
  PA
    ▪ 120 attendees at conference March 23-24
    ▪ 4 workshops
    ▪ Kirkland Award: Shane Hoachlander
    ▪ Professional Development Grant: Tammy Colt
  ME
    ▪ Annual meeting April 2\textsuperscript{nd}
      ▪ 80 attendees
      ▪ 3 awards and student support award
    ▪ Approximately 100 members
    ▪ Annual audit
    ▪ Strategic plan needs to be updated
- Biologists and Brews (engaging members)
- Working on conducting a certification workshop
  - New England
    - Two annual workshops and executive committee meeting
      - Fall workshop: raptor conservation and biology
      - Spring workshop: application of drones in research
    - Scholarships: 1-2 students for NE field course
      - Envirothon donations
    - One newsletter
  - NY
    - Two meetings a year
      - Fall field meeting
      - Spring meeting in Kingston, NY (70 attendees)
    - Award for Outstanding Professional
    - Revisiting by-laws to eliminate out of state members holding offices
- Student Chapter Reports (McDonald)
  - Dissolution of University of New Hampshire student chapter
  - New student chapter at Holyoke Community College
- New/Other Business
  - Communications
    - Adding Facebook editor to committee
    - Brochure for members
    - Under/grad counterparts at student levels for Northeast
      - Require position statements
- End of meeting (5:10pm)