

The Wildlife Society New Jersey Chapter

Spring Virtual Meeting 2021

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Attached: Agenda

- 29 people in attendance

Business meeting minutes: Begin business meeting at 2:00 pm.

Presidents Report – Beth Freiday

- Introduction to the business meeting.
- Thanks to NJ Audubon and Lindsey to set up the zoom meeting and to Brittany Dobrzynski to organizing this meeting.
- We are recording this meeting so we can post for folks who missed the meeting, which can be found at: [The New Jersey Chapter of The Wildlife Society Spring Meeting April 14 2021 - YouTube](#)
- Election- 2 year terms. Anyone interested in running for VP or Secretary? Reach out to Meghan Kolk for nominations. Beth Freiday has exceeded her term by 1 year due to the pandemic. Brian Kirkpatrick will become President and Beth will become Past President. We need a Vice President who may become President later. Beth nominated Jennifer Rogers for VP. Please step forward soon as we are looking for nominations to induct during the fall meeting.
  - Brittany posted the election through the Zoom meeting for paid members. First vote was to elect Brian Kirkpatrick as TWS Chapter President. Brian was voted in 100% by 29 members.
  - Heidi Hanlon has served as Secretary for the past 2 years. Taking nominations, none came forward. Brittany posted the election through the Zoom meeting. Heidi was voted in 100% by 29 members.

Treasurers Report – Mim Dunne

- Checking account balance was \$895.68 after awarding 2 professional development awards
  - Marilyn Kitchell and Michele Stantial
- Vanguard money market fund gained ~\$1000 between January and March.
  - Would like to cash out \$1,000 from Vanguard and move it into the checking account to capture these gains. Motion to move from Vanguard to checking made by Brittany Dobrzynski and seconded by Eric Shrading. Any opposed? None heard.
- Paypal account is running to accept NJ Chapter Dues (\$10), rolling memberships throughout the year. Our opportunity is to get caught up during the Spring meeting. Dues paying members get the meeting agendas and notes by email. Link to pay NJ Chapter dues: [https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.paypal.com%2Fcgi-bin%2Fwebscr%3Fcmd%3D\\_s-xclick%26hosted\\_button\\_id%3Dnvcvls3lctbg4%26fbclid%3DIwAR1XTy\\_MLXkPjZqNOTUgQGA\\_AK0yKuve\\_m\\_FKI-8gg2Pm7epovaJ1dqBZuRE&h=AT1auzMyahIbK\\_VO\\_dMaiMv-](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.paypal.com%2Fcgi-bin%2Fwebscr%3Fcmd%3D_s-xclick%26hosted_button_id%3Dnvcvls3lctbg4%26fbclid%3DIwAR1XTy_MLXkPjZqNOTUgQGA_AK0yKuve_m_FKI-8gg2Pm7epovaJ1dqBZuRE&h=AT1auzMyahIbK_VO_dMaiMv-)

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Program Chair – Brittany Dobrzynski

- Professional Development Award: Submit cover letter and what you want to spend your funds on, application available online. Link to apply: [https://wildlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/ScholarshipApplicationInstrucions\\_RevisedNov2020.pdf](https://wildlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/ScholarshipApplicationInstrucions_RevisedNov2020.pdf)  
We accept one in the fall and one in the spring. November 1 and March 1 deadlines.

#### [New Jersey Chapter of The Wildlife Society Professional Development Award Application](#)

New Jersey Chapter of The Wildlife Society Professional Development Award Application This Professional Development Award opportunity is made possible by the NJ Chapter of The Wildlife Society.

wildlife.org



- Michelle Stantal- to use the funds to publish her dissertation in an open access journal- Factors limiting abundance and reproductive success of piping plover in NJ.
- Marilyn Kitchell- Public affairs specialist with USFWS to provide direction for White Nose Syndrome. To use the funds to offset costs for her continuing education in area of new media communications for conservation and conservation crisis communication.
- Folks usually run unopposed, please apply.
- Cookingham Scholarships also available as well, open until April 1. Did not grant one applicant this year as this person was a Junior, however was encouraged to apply next year. Link to apply: <https://www.njfishandwildlife.com/cookhmschol.htm>

#### [NJDEP Division of Fish & Wildlife - Russell A. Cookingham Scholarship](#)

This scholarship is made possible by an endowment from Russell A. Cookingham, former Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife. It is intended to assist qualified undergraduates in the wildlife/fisheries or conservation education/communication field with college and related expenses.

[www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com)

Membership- Kendall Simon

- 80 active members currently, which is low, we usually have around 100. We are hoping to get new memberships around this meeting. It is easier for members to renew through national page rather than State page. If your email has changed or not receiving emails, please let Kendall know so she can change it.

#### NE Section Report-Eric Schrading

- Challenge to everyone is to reach out to someone not a member currently and ask them if they would be interested in joining and in conservation work.
- NE Section: Newsletter came out- finished elections for Treasurer and Member at Large.
- Request by NEAFWA for Section funds to support the conference, mixed reaction, results forthcoming.
- Conclave is at Keystone College this year. Field course cancelled this year and last year due to pandemic. Will continue safely in 2022.
- Searching for newsletter editor. If interested let Eric know so he can get your name to NE Section.
- Section awards open March 8, check website for awards.
- Chapter section meeting May 5 from 2-4 getting NE and Chapter representatives together for one meeting. Request for spring and fall meeting this year. Eric and Beth/Brian to attend. If anything we should raise, please let Eric know.

John Park: Quail Study paper published- bobwhite quail translocation project with NJDFW, Tall Timbers Restoration and Fire Ecology Group, after 5 years of study, paper published in Wildlife Journey Landscape Connectivity. Second manuscript being reviewed for publication soon.

#### -Conservation Affairs Committee: Lisa Clark

- Draft letter in the works Bill S2460 that would require protection for a feral monk parakeet, want DEP to protect this species just as other species are protected in the Conservation Act. Brian provided comments so far. Economic damages and costs from this bird has occurred and discussing it being invasive. There is a National Position statement that we can send along. We welcome comments and concerns that we can pass along. Monk parakeets are present in our urban areas, are an introduced species, build massive nests around transformers, are extending their range, and are dependent on people feeding them. NJ and other states are also considering this bill.

#### -Student Chapter updates: Kelly Faller

- Kelly announced that she has graduated and will let us know who the new president is.

#### Presentations: Introductions made by Brittany Dobrynski

- Forest Management: Sharon Petzinger, NJDFW
- NJ State Forest Action Plan (SFAP): Lauren Gazerwitz and Courtney Compton (NJDEP)

#### Meeting Updates: Brittany Dobrynski

- Fall 2021 or Spring of 2022 next meeting.
- Thank you to presenters. Spread word about TWS!