

Meeting was called to order at: 7:02pm

Members present: Nikhil, Doug, Amanda, Lisa, Jessica, Fred, Kelly, and Stacy

Absent: Jeff, Tami, Susan

President: Stacy welcomed Susan to the board; we look forward to meeting her.

Doug approve minutes of the December meeting, and Nikhil Seconded, the motion passed

Treasure:

-MCA has lots of money so we should look into putting some of it in an interest bearing account.

Doug-move to investigate moving money to interest bearing account, Fred Seconded

-Donations continue at an average of -\$26/member, MCA received \$100 in donations through Facebook,

-MCA does not owe money to MCC to our knowledge

Doug move to approve treasure report as written by Jeff, seconded- Lisa, the motion passed

Membership:

-IAS membership column is a new addition so it is not up to date yet,

*board should be members of IAS

- there will be a final notice sent with the next InFlight newsletter and Members who have not paid will be purged from email and newsletter lists

-about 125 members,

Correspondences: none

Public Participation:none

Committee Reports

IAS- annual report due at the end of the month (Stacy will do),

Spring Fling (17-19 May) no one to represent us (no table), talked about encouraging our Members to go

Conservation/BCN- Lisa- BCN annual meeting was mostly about their bylaws

-Conservation Congress- end of Feb, Citizens Conservation Bill of Rights (CCBR)

*A motion to Support McHenry County CCBR was made by Kelly and seconded by Doug, motion passed, bill is attached

Programs

-Wild Things-120 sessions so lots of ideas for who Lisa can get for speakers

-What do we mean by **High Caliber**? (if speaker wants more than \$200, the speaker must be approved by the board),

-Kane Co Audubon- this is a good idea, share travel expenses and to coordinate speakers with Bob from Kane Co to get "higher caliber" speakers

*cost sharing/coordinating might be tricky

*are we willing to have special meetings on a different day in order to cost share with Kane Co? It was decided that we are flexible and open to working this out, Lisa will coordinate with the appropriate people

-Cool speaker that dresses up (John Audubon?) – more sense to bring in Birds in Classroom grants or Birds in my Neighborhood to help finance

-Skype speakers for member meetings would be cool to try

Hospitality

-We are allowed to store stuff in a cupboard at the Dorr Township building,

-talk about the lights in the parking lot, they didn't come on when we get here but on when we left

Field Trips

-Amanda planning Horicon,

- Lisa article for Cottage trip in May,

-Lisa- cottage trip in Late Summer possibly July for birds, plants, butterflies and other rare stuff

Newsletter

- thank you to Tami for all the hard work and time that you put in

-photo contest – professionals are welcome too,

-keep sending stuff to Lisa

Web

-Stacy can update easily, so let her know if something needs to change;

-Stacy's ideas on what include on the website

*board meeting minutes

*historical newsletters (from historical archive)

Social Media

-Lisa will put bird walks on Facebook (as time allows)

Birds in the classroom

- 2 schools will be applying for birds in neighborhood grants

Christmas count

– do we send consistent data or correct data/protocol? Ask Mathew Servitis (?) or anyone else, check with Cornell. Doug will contact either Matt or Cornell and get back to us with the answer

**Must be entirely within 15 mi circle, any exceptions must be discussed with the director of the Christmas Bird Count, birds seen outside the circle by people inside the circle don't count.

*Area G- All of Glacial Park is done with 8 people, technically only south of Harts Rd is in the circle, we can move people from there to other areas that aren't as well covered,

-should we shift circle?

*we don't want to, and we think that it is against the rules for the Christmas Count as mandated by Cornell

Spring bird count

-Need lots of people,

*Nikhil will not be here so he needs lots of people (he will coordinate remotely)

-would like to see Rob put together a table so people can see who needs help (google doc?),

* split up list of members and email them for help or for volunteering

* Stacy will reach out to ask what his (Rob's) needs are

Cooperative outreach

-Live Raptor Show- was sold out, over 100 people,

-Library

* 7 more libraries in the county that need binoculars, need to reach out and get them setup

a lot

+ see if any of the current libraries need a 2nd pair if getting checked out

at their assigned

+send out an email reminder to our library reps to check on the binocs library

-Birds in My Neighborhood

* about 40 volunteers, need more field trip volunteers (walk is on weekdays)

-Garden Fest at MCCD April 6

+ they start really early, if there is a fee should be nominal (no board approval to set up a table)

+will need volunteers

County Fair (July 31-August 4)-need volunteers

Ad Hoc:

-Conservation Awards- really worked out

* need to honor John, will do at a regular meeting when he is attending

* Chicago Audubon Society,

+ does not award within their Club, they award non-members

+would be a useful to bring people in from outside and get better awareness of

MCA

* will appoint an award committee

Old Business:

Printing- in progress

Common bird handout-in progress

How to spend \$- Stacy asked people to think of Ideas

Ideas for money that was donated in the Fiske's name

* Observation tower/blind-pay for and plaque it

*Viewing platform/shelter at new MCCD property

*plaque with Ken and Darlene Fiske name on it – permanent

+ Favorite spot to put a marker

+is MCCD doing anything to memorialize the Fiske's?, Ken was founder

-we could pool money with them

Holidays Hills-

* moving forward with purchasing land, agreed on price with Fox Waterways, negotiations on how to pay

*6-7 acres, all flood plains – no buildings,

*plan is to put in trails and benches, area is not really usable all year because it will be underwater for part of the year, dawn to dusk park,

* want grant money to set up trails if everything goes well, not only reach out to us,

New Business

Move annual meeting-

-move to September or November and have elections effective in January

*live bird "shows" are starting to get busy in September so January is a lull time

*Weather is a factor in having low turnout, either bad or good

*Decided not to move the date

Naming new MMCD site

- Lobby for Fiske's Fen (?)

For the good of the organization

Wild Things- already discussed

Everyday Heroes Northwest Herald

- Nancy was honored, get permission to reprint article on facebook page and/or newsletter,

Next Board meeting April 22nd, 2019

Adjourned 8:41pm

Kelly moved to adjourn the meeting, Nikhil seconded

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda