

Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Fall Board Meeting
 Hyatt Regency Hotel, Miami, Florida
 9 October 2007
 FINAL

Attendees: Jay Exum, Dale Gawlik, Erin Myers, Blair Hayman,, Larry Perrin, Steve Rockwood, Arnold Brunell, Steve Stiegler, Brian Scheick, Rainer Shaw, Maria Zondervan, Clair Sunquist, various members

Absent: Stefanie Nagid, George Tanner

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call to Order	President Jay Exum called the meeting to order at 13:07 pm.	
Reading of the Spring 2007 Board Minutes	Motion to approve with editorial revisions.	Approved
Report of Treasurer	<p>M. Zondervan still awaiting final report from S. Stiegler. Stiegler still looking for some receipts (including spring conference statement), he knows final balance, but not specifics.</p> <p>Checking still with Riverside Bank, signatories include Exum, Zondervan, E. Myers. Exum wants to add D. Gawlik (VP) to list—Zondervan will add Gawlik when Chapter makes final bank change</p> <p>Stiegler mentioned that Riverside Bank recommended only secretary as signatory so there is “check and balance” with treasurer. Board to make final decision whether all signatories remain on list—decided to keep all four signatories</p> <p>Zondervan discussed use of a debit card to decrease use of checks and reimbursements; all transactions reflected on single statement. Discussion regarding credit vs. debit card security. Board to make this decision at Winter meeting.</p> <p>Zondervan recommended one checkbook, Exum agreed-send checks where needed.</p>	<p>➤ S. Stiegler give receipts and final breakdown to Zondervan</p> <p>➤ Board decide whether credit or debit card</p> <p>➤ M. Zondervan find out about card securities</p> <p>➤ M. Zondervan to add D. Gawlik to check signatory list</p>
Report of Committees		
<i>Audit</i>	<p>S. Stiegler discussed audit with S. Rockwood and J. Exum. S. Rockwood mentioned that the Florida State Employees Charitable Campaign denied the Chapter’s contributions b/c we did not have an independent audit. Discussion ensued regarding cost vs. benefits of an independent audit. The Nat’l TWS is on a Nat’l Charitable list, determine their opinion. B. Giuliano FWF also on Nat’l list.</p> <p>J. Exum may support independent audit. Stiegler recommends that A. Alshouse and committee undergo internal audit before the independent audit</p> <p>Motion to approve committee report with caveat to trade information.</p>	<p>➤ S. Rockwood find out about Nat’l Charitable list</p> <p>➤ A. Alshouse complete internal audit before independ. Audit</p> <p>➤ Motion approved</p>
<i>Awards</i>	No report.	
<i>Budget</i>	S. Stiegler reported \$31,586.68 current balance, and this includes Spring conference 2007 expenditures. No update on specific Spring Conference	S. Stiegler to complete the

	expenditures and income.	report, and transfer to Maria
<i>Certification</i>	B. Giulinao mentioned 5 people have contacted him regarding certification. There is current discussion within Nat'l whether certification is worth obtaining, a survey has been conducted.	
<i>Conservation</i>	J. Exum reporting for B. Bolt (who was unaware of this meeting). The Gopher tortoise will be uplisted Nov 8, 2007, there will be a discussion of the GT restoration and Management Plan by the GT issue team (which is comprised of FWC and outside stakeholders). A. Brunell discussed the "Wildlife Friendly Development Committee" (Chris Wynn is a member) which is planning to provide incentives to developers to provide wildlife friendly communities when planning developments, this will be combined with the Wildlife Legacy Initiative. B. Giuliano mentioned Mark Hostetler now has certification for "green developments", he looks at water quality issues and provides a self check list to developers. A. Brunell mentioned that the Chapter should be (if we aren't already) involved with development of this criteria. C. Sekerak mentioned GT2 (GT relocation areas) and that this should tie into this project. S. Rousso mentioned that the GT Mgmt plan is discussed by the Legacy Committee when reviewing sites. Exum agrees we should be involved with this "Wildlife Friendly Development Committee", provide support, become engaged and assist with the criteria development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ J. Exum to make sure B. Bolt is informed of upcoming Board meetings ➤ J. Exum discuss Chapter's involvement with the "Wildlife Friendly Development Committee" with C. Wynn
<i>Education</i>	B. Giuliano reported that UF is working with FFWCC to develop a new curriculum which includes FWC personnel cooperatively teaching at UF. B. Giuliano has met with Ken Haddad and senior Leadership and is looking for an NGO to bring to the table. Discussion regarding the mentor program: Giuliano do we revise list and promote it, or let the issue die? If we decide to continue using list then it needs to be updated and other schools should be involved. M. Zondervan agreed that interns are useful, but need access to students who are closer to her area. A. Brunell suggested a dedicated web page on the Chapter site where students can sign up and look at what is available. J. Exum asked students if they would be willing to help get the word out about the mentor list. R. Shaw said the professional contacts would be good to have, C. Sunquist agreed and the website would be helpful—the student Chapter can link to it and the website link can be directly passed to other interested institutions. M. Zondervan is aware of four other universities with similar programs. A. Brunell : this should be student driven, J. Exum asked C. Sunquist to lead the program. C. Sekerak include the membership committee. B. Giuliano discussed the need for a real "mixer" at the Spring Conference. J. Humphrey discussed A. Wilcox's ideas from the National Conference. The difficulty is getting enough mentor's to attend and how to keep them engaged with the students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ J. Exum needs to appoint someone to develop an updated mentor list ➤ C. Sunquist to head up the mentor program link on the Chapter's website and info. dissemination , include B. Scheick
<i>Information</i>	S. Stiegler discussed the state of the Chapter's website. The current content management system was selected years ago to allow for multiple people to manage the site. Recently the software destroyed itself during an upload and the system failed. Now the "Web Trio" (S. Stiegler , R. Vanderhoof and H. Dutton) has offered three options for new system: 1) rebuild from MDPro, 2) Use standard .html website (<u>pros</u> : slick website; <u>cons</u> : minimum number of managers—more burden on a select few); 3) Sharepoint site (<u>pros</u> : Chapter currently has a sharepoint site, has multiple mangers, photo archives, document storage; <u>cons</u> this is an intranet site and requires a "sign in" to use, not very glamorous). J. Exum commented on using the Nat'l site as fourth option. C. Sekerak commented that other chapters use this route and it is not very informative or attractive—if FL to go this route, we need to maintain our identity and maintain the information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ J. Exum to discuss with Nat'l: what they can provide for website and what about ecommerce

	<p>S. Stiegler discussed web host sites, currently use one for site and for ecommerce, and another for the sharepoint site. The Trio decided to drop the website and just maintain the sharepoint with an ecommerce. If the Chapter decides to use Nat'l as host site, then we still need the ecommerce. D. Gawlik can we get this done soon? What does the Trio need from the Chapter? M. Zondervan suggested hiring a company to assist with setup—how much will it cost? J. Exum: Initial construction inexpensive, but maintenance costly. L. Perrin asked about the Trios involvement—wanting to decrease their time? S. Stiegler commented that the most time consuming was initial setup, maintenance not that problematic. J. Exum to discuss with Nat'l: what they can provide, what about ecommerce. Let Trio make final decision once determine what Nat'l can provide. C. Sekerak reminded that the membership list needs to remain current which plays a role in SharePoint vs. .html.</p>	
<i>Membership</i>	<p>M. Zondervan reported for B. Scheick requesting feedback from membership as to what contact information should be available on the Chapter website. Discussion results were that if more than work phone number and name are made available, it should only be accessible through member login (which now has a quicker turnaround time than previously). D. Gawlik and C. Sekerak want work email included for public use to maintain the “professional network. Per J. Exum, we will ask future conference registrants and membership to include work email and phone number for use on website</p> <p>J. Exum reported that B. Scheick having difficulty with member list; M. Zondervan processes new members in batches then send s to B. Scheick and he uploads to site—this includes a lot of re-typing between people. C. Sekerak suggested B. Scheick work with Web Trio to implement his needs for maintaining member list.</p>	<p>➤ B. Scheick to use professional phone number and email on Chapter website</p> <p>➤ B. Scheick to work with web Trio to include his needs for member list maintenance</p>
<i>Nominating and elections</i>	<p>S. Rockwood taking nominations for president-elect. Membership can nominate with signature support.</p>	➤
<i>Program</i>	<p>D. Gawlik Spring 2008 Conference discussed under new business</p>	
<i>Scholarship</i>	<p>M. Zondervan will send out email announcement with new deadline. If interested, email her; students are already receiving information.</p>	<p>➤ M. Zondervan send out new deadline information to interested members</p>
<i>Student Chapter Report</i>	<p>B. Giuliano reported that Florida is unable to get more than the UF student chapter due lack of minimum participation at other Universities in state. Nat'l has a 12 member minimum for a student chapter to be recognized. J. Exum mentioned that UCF (Les Dillard) is the most promising, but they are unable to obtain the minimum numbers. C. Sekerak mentioned that we should include ,marine biology students, but B. Giuliano said Nat'l does not recognize marine fisheries, just marine mammals.</p> <p>R. Shaw and C. Sunquist reported that the Student Chapter finished the Project Wild Workshop with success: 30 UF students involved and certified. Preparing for Fall cleanups and Planning Beast Feast March 1.</p>	
OLD BUSINESS		
2008 National Conference	<p>In depth discussions postponed until meeting with National on October 10th. Discussed committee needs for tomorrow. Discussed what the Chapter wants to have in the Nat'l Conference (Friends and Family receptions, kid camps, etc...). Chapter needs to have everything concrete by Feb., including donated items: food drinks, Money, people—these have to be signed sealed and delivered by Feb.</p>	

	<p>Discussion of the plenary session and involving a guest like Carl Hiassen. B. Giuliano suggested a Florida/Caribbean symposia who includes Hiassen, so don't have to go through the plenary committee. J. Humphrey discussed the proposed Invasive Species Symposia—full day, B. Giuliano said needs to be half-days.</p>	➤
Update on Funding Task Force and Investment Strategies	<p>J. Exum summarized investment information presented at the Spring 2007 Conference (refer to Spring minutes). Exum then summarized the Board's discussion and decision following the Summer 2007 Board meeting (refer to Summer minutes). S. Rockwood further discussed the three investment firms he researched (Morgan Stanley, ING and Merrill Lynch). The Board chose Morgan Stanley (MS) and our contact with the firm developed a portfolio with the different investment options. The investment options will be posted for 30 days for membership review. Board will make final investment decision following the 30 day review period.</p> <p>Discussion regarding MS: credit or debit cards, e-checking, deposits and endowment withdraws. Who has authority to use e-checking? <i>There will be a specific list of people authorized to use e-checking.</i> Is M. Zondervan the only one allowed to make deposits? <i>MS will supply deposits slips for those authorized, to use at specific bank.</i> S. Stiegler: is there only one bank branch available to make deposits, or are all branches able to accept deposits? S. Rockwood unsure and will look into.</p> <p>J. Exum asked M. Zondervan to determine the best way to manage money. M. Zondervan wants to work from one source, but will research options. A. Brunell commented on removing money from endowment fund—needing to maintain specific amount which will later be used for executive director salary. L. Perrin commented about relationship between endowment fund and the strategic plan—only remove money when needed, but allow to collect interest and use for future director. S. Rockwood will set up connection between MS representative and M. Zondervan to discuss money movement between funds.</p>	<p>➤ Post the Morgan Stanley Investment options for 30 day review period</p> <p>➤ S. Rockwood to find out where can deposits be made?</p> <p>➤ M. Zondervan to research best way to manage money—one source?</p> <p>➤ S. Rockwood set up meeting between MS representative and M. Zondervan</p>
Spring 2008 Conference	<p>D. Gawlik summarized the four options discussed at the Summer 2007 Board meeting (see Summer Board Minutes). The Board decided on option 2: Meeting in Spring would be primarily a planning meeting for the Miami conference, it will be a “spring membership and planning meeting” centrally located and inexpensive. This allows for more sponsorship options for the Miami Conf., and more time for planning. A. Brunell commented that missing two Spring Conferences (2008 and 2009) might hurt Chapter. J. Exum has approached GA regarding a joint meeting in 2009. Other options regarding the 2009 meeting will be discussed later. Final format for the 2008 Spring planning meeting yet to be determined, D. Gawlik will keep members informed.</p>	➤ D. Gawlik determine the 2008 Spring planning conference specifics and let membership know
Florida Wildlife Legacy Initiative Committee	<p>J. Exum discussed strategic plan priorities are currently suppressed due to the importance of the 2008 Miami Conference. However, the Legacy Initiative is important and needs to be prioritized and pursued. Rockwood offered: 1) the Chapter should assist with the review of their strategic plan; 2) prioritize habitat types; 3) team up with project implementation and ideas. Look to members Chris Wynn, Kevin Kemp and Beth Stys, who are on the Initiative Committee, for direction that the Chapter should follow. J. Exum will discuss issues with FWC Thomas Eason; Rockwood will discuss with FWC Doug Parsons (new Legacy</p>	➤ J. Exum contact Thomas Eason regarding Chapter involvement with the

	Coordinator). S. Rockwood discussed possibility of the Chapter hosting a “priority habitat based conference” like Scrub, or hosting a symposium at the Miami conference.	Initiative ➤ S. Rockwood contact Doug Parsons regarding Chapter assistance with the Initiative
NEW BUSINESS		
2007 National Conference in Tucson	Discussion at Oct 10 planning meeting.	
Chapter Website	Discussed under “Information”	➤
TWS Fire Course	S. Rockwood reported that the Chapter received \$2,000-3,000 for assisting with course implementation. Exum reviewed current course agenda.	➤
Chapter Member Survey	J. Exum reported that only 27% member response from previous survey, he reviewed responses. Board decided to expand survey to receive more responses.	➤ B. Scheick expand and re-issue member survey
Florida Wildlife Federation	J. Exum reported that the Chapter is an affiliate member; G. Tanner is the Chapter’s representative. M. Fuller contacted Exum regarding the \$100K endowment at UF. Discussed Panther Crossing issues and panther deaths, the Federation is looking to the Chapter for our support.	➤
Meeting adjourned	Meeting was adjourned at 16:56.	