

Raptor Research Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
Duluth, Minnesota
October 5, 2011

Officers Present: Ruth Tingay (President), Ted Swem (Vice-President), Angela Matz (Treasurer), Greg George (Secretary)

Directors Present: Miguel Saggese, Clint Boal, Michael Collopy, Carol McIntyre, Torgeir Nygard, Michael Kochert, John Smallwood, Gary Santolo, (in-coming Director Rob Bierregaard present after lunch).

Absent Directors: Marc Ruddock, Fabrizio Sergio, Munir Virani, Laurie Goodrich

Editors and Committee Chairs Present: Cheryl Dykstra, Joan Morrison, Jessi Brown, Travis Booms (intermittently).

Meeting called to Order at 9:05

Welcome and opening remarks

Treasurer's Report:

- Statement Income:
 - \$10,000 profit is estimated for the Duluth Conference
 - 2010 was a year of increased membership dues
 - 2011 overall royalties up, largely due to revenue from BioOne
- Expenses:
 - \$10,000 loan to NAOC for 2012 conference expenses
 - RRF is expected to recoup this money
- Bank Accounts:
 - Well funded with potential to move some money into endowment
 - Currently looking into PayPal as a means to process credit card transactions.
 - Would be time saving as PayPal would deal with the processing of transaction as opposed to the RRF treasurer entering each individual sale
- Endowment:
 - Has recovered from 2008 low.
 - RRF risk level (a score from 1 to 5 with the most conservative level being '1') currently sets at '2'. This is a decrease in risk exposure from the 2008 score of '3'
 - Investment account management is restricted to conversations between our account manager, Lisa, and Angela (RRF Treasurer) Due to legal reasons associated with RRF having a responsibility for consistent decision making.
 - Overall, considering the fluid market situation, RRF is in good financial shape.
- ACTION ITEM

- RRF should consider selling merchandise. To reduce complexity RRF should avoid items with different sizes (who is leading on this?)

JRR Editor's Report

- Basic Information
 - Rejections are at ~38%
 - Turnaround time is ~12 months
 - Banding issue is pushed back due to scheduling issues with some key participants
 - Publication cost recovery
 - 80-100% of fees have been recovered over the last year depending on the issue
- Online submission and review option presented to Board
 - Most other professional societies are moving in this direction
 - Should reduce turnaround time while making the entire process easier
- Proofreader's compensation
 - Raise requested by the JRR proofreader, Joan Clark
 - Cheryl requested a raise from \$4000/yr to \$6000/yr
 - To be discussed during 2012 budget approval
- ACTION ITEM
 - Update the current advertisement we use for the 'Ad Exchange' program.

Awards Committee Report

- Report to be submitted by Clint Boal highlighting the awards and the associated recipients
- New Awards Committee Chair is Gary Santolo.
- Andersen Award:
 - Plaque awarded for future years?
 - Potential cost ~\$100.00
 - Would include an extended abstract
 - Would need to be on a realistic time schedule to get students involved
 - Awards committee will need to be included in modifying the time schedule
- ACTION ITEM
 - In an NAOC year how do we want to deal with awards?
 - We need to talk to James Dwyer (RRF Scientific Program Committee)
 - Banquet time will be limited
 - This will be an E-Agenda item in the coming weeks (Gary & Ruth)

Conservation Committee Report

- What happens when a professional society is called to review an issue?
 - In some cases agencies must pay for such a service
 - Previously the Board has voted to approve reviewers being paid

- Guidelines for such action need to be created
- Lead issue white paper was very successful.
- Middle Eastern Raptor Research Group
 - Contacts have been made with the group
 - Potential for expansion of research and RRF activities
- There is a proposal on the table for a white paper covering the issue of raptors and wind power.
- ACTION ITEM
 - Guidelines need to be created to layout the process for compensation for reviewers of outside documents (who is leading on this?)

Membership Committee Report

- Membership is up 5% in 2011 to 974 members
- Membership benefits such as discounts on merchandise
 - Might not work due to complications and previous contracts with other vendors
- Survey Monkey will be distributed within next few weeks to ascertain information on why individuals have left RRF
- Need: A way of keeping track of members that have passed away.
- Codify benefits for life members
 - Some confusion on registration fee for Life Members.
- ACTION ITEM
 - Life member benefits should be included as a future E-Agenda item (Ruth)

Appointment of New Conference Committee Chair

- Due to Libby Mojica stepping down, Kate Davis was accepted by the Board as the new Conference Committee Chair. Libby will continue to cover NAOC 2012 and Kate will lead on 2013 and beyond. Libby willing to stay on as a member of the Conference Committee.

JRR Page Changes Review (Ad-hoc Committee)

- Waivers clarified on how they are granted
 - Clarification beneficial in general and has sufficiently addressed the issue
- New instructions to authors being drafted
- Outcome: Current page fees are acceptable and there is no motion to change them at this time

Review Miscellaneous Items From 2010 Agenda

- Bylaws Committee
 - Edit and reorganization of bylaws has begun.
 - Mike Kochert will be soliciting comments and suggestions from the Board over next few months

Invitation to Join International Ornithologists Union

- More time is needed for Board to review the information provided.
- ACTION ITEM
 - This topic will be presented to the Board in an upcoming E-Agenda (Ruth)

Invitation to Join Society for Ornithology

- Mike Collopy- Move to reject (second by Gary Santolo)
 - All in favor: ALL
 - All opposed: none
 - Abstained: none
- ACTION ITEM
 - A Statement of Response will be composed (Mike C & John Smallwood)
 - Statement will be presented to the Board in near future as a DFV item (Ruth)

Raptor Research Techniques Manual- Legal Considerations

- Private discussion took place after reviewing historical documents and considering recent legal advice.
- ACTION ITEM:
 - Guidelines to be prepared for further dialogue (Ad-hoc committee – Ruth, Mike C, Gary, Angela, Ted).

Finalize and Approve Budget for 2012

- Discussion on raise for Joan Clark
 - Current pay is at \$4000/yr which is viewed as undervalued.
 - John Smallwood motioned to raise pay from \$4000 to \$6000 (second by Mike Collopy)
 - All in favor: ALL
 - All opposed: none
 - Abstained: none
 - Gary Santolo motioned for a one-time bonus of \$1000 to recognize, in-part, her service and dedication to RRF (second by Carol McIntyre)
 - All in favor: ALL
 - All opposed: none
 - Abstained: none
 - Budget line item for ECCR created
 - \$1000
 - Endowment was provided with an additional \$3000
 - Mike Collopy moved to approve the budget (Second from Clint Boal)
 - All in favor: All
 - All opposed: none
 - Abstained: none

Meeting was adjourned at 1720

Respectfully Submitted
Gregory George
RRF Secretary