

Raptor Research Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
Corpus Christi, TX
September 24, 2014

Officers Present: Clint Boal (President), Jessi Brown (Treasurer), Greg George (Secretary)

Absent Officer: Ted Swem (Vice-President)

Directors Present: Jim Bednarz, Rob Bierregaard, Miguel Ferrer (Morning session only)
Rick Harness, Lloyd Kiff, Gerald Niemi, Miguel Saggese

Absent Directors: Ara Monadiem, Torgeir Nygard, Jemima Parry-Jones, Fabrizio Sergio,
Munir Virani

Editors and Committee Chairs Present: Travis Booms (intermittently), Cheryl Dykstra,
Libby Mojica, Brian Washburn.

As per Section 5b of the Raptor Research Foundation Bylaws: "A quorum as such shall not be required at a Directors' Meeting, but unless otherwise prescribed herein, the affirmative vote of a majority of Directors present shall be required for action on any matter." Therefore, votes taken on issues at the Board Meeting are valid even though a majority of elected Board Members was not present during the afternoon session.

Meeting called to Order at 8:32

Welcome and opening remarks

Secretary's Report:

- Due to lack of managing authorization on the RRF Yahoo group we should consider moving to a new system
- Google Groups was suggested with positive comments from several board members
- ACTION ITEM- Pursue further (GREG)
- Election Results
 - President elect – Miguel Saggese
 - Vice-President – Libby Mojica
 - Director Eurasia – Fabrizio Sergio
 - Director North America #3 – Brian Washburn
 - Director at Large #3 - Rob Bierregaard
 - Director at Large #6 – Jennifer Coulson

Treasure's Report:

- Trend in membership receipts decreasing
- ACTION ITEM: Is the seed money correct for the Bariloche conference? (JESSI)
- We had an increase of accounting and legal funds
 - Business manager expenses
- Endowment fund

- Continues to grow
- Should we change LPL as endowment fund manager
 - Issue for finance committee (ROB offered to participate in the discussion)
- How to restructure the distribution of officer funds for travel. Specifically, we discussed the possibility of supporting travel by overseas Board members to attend the annual meeting.
 - There is a need to clarify and formalize the policy and procedure concerning travel support
 - ACTION ITEM: (GERRY) will chair subcommittee to address distribution of officer funds which includes board members.

Financial Committee Report:

No report

Awards Committee Report:

No Report

Membership Committee Report:

- Currently membership is at 879 individuals
- There is a need to stabilize or increase raptor research foundation membership
- Students might be the most logical group to target for this effort

Break 10:10-10:30

Early Career in Raptor Research Committee Report:

- The student outreach committee has performed well
- Overall lower conference participation has resulted in fewer students participating in the training workshops although in previous years workshops have been full
 - This could potentially be due to no University association with Corpus Christi Texas
- Part of the committee success can be attributed to instructors returning for multiple years and improving on previous course offerings
- Moving forward, the committee might be more successful if time and resources are dedicated towards more social events for students
- ACTION ITEM: (TRAVIS) will write a proposal to modify the current line item in the budget to expand the committee's role to include social opportunities for students.

Editor's Report: JRR

- Rates of journal article acceptance remain stable
- We are currently meeting our goal of 200 days to manuscript decision
- Publication dates are on target
- BioOne earnings for 2013
 - \$29,479

- This represents a substantial increase from 2012
 - Potentially due to several topics being picked up by major media outlets
- Open archiving mandates are a potential concern for future revenue although an analysis by bio one indicates that should not be an issue for the Raptor Research Foundation
- ACTION ITEM: RRF policy on self-publishing (distributing copies of their publication) will be made clear to authors (CHERYL)
- EBSCO recommended that RRF participate
 - ACTION ITEM: (CHERYL) Will pursue further
- Should we consider JSTOR?
 - ACTION ITEM: (CHERYL) Will pursue further
- \$300 will be needed to start EBSCO
- VOTE: Vote to add a line item of \$300 to start EBSCO (Bierregaard, 2nd Kiff)
 - 7/7 Directors approved the \$300 allocation to start EBSCO

Editors Report: Wingspan

We welcomed Brian Washburn as the new editor of Wingspan.

- Now includes a member profile to help the overall membership learn more about Foundation members
- September issue of Wingspan has been delayed to include conference content
- Regional board activity reports
 - It might be informative for board members to submit regional reports highlighting the raptor research and conservation efforts in different parts of the world
 - Board members will be encouraged to submit relevant information

Website Coordinator Report:

- Our largest hits continue to be on Feathers and Raptors of the World
- Additionally JRR in the conference page sees an increase in use as we get closer to dates associated to journal publication or current conferences
- Facebook: Conversation needs to take place regarding the goals of maintaining a raptor research foundation Facebook page.
 - It is currently unclear as to what content we want to provide on Facebook.

Lunch 11:46-1:00

Afternoon session did not have Miguel Ferrer in attendance,

Other Business:

- Bylaws ad hoc committee will provide a review draft for the December E-agenda
- Techniques manual update:
 - Ted will be reaching out to Hancock for approval of the motion voted on earlier this year

- The Board of Directors will deal with dissemination at a later date
- Education committee:
 - Has not been operational for sometime
 - What should be the charge for that committee?
 - ACTION ITEM: A specific committee charge needs to be developed
(WHO is leading this effort)
- Conservation committee: A new co-chair is needed to assist Joan Morrison
- Ornithological Council:
 - Request received to increase our contribution due to our contribution being small relative to other society activities
 - ACTION ITEM: (CLINT) Will follow up regarding rate of increase
 - ACTION ITEM: additionally, (CLINT) will follow up on Ornithological Council representatives for RRF
- List serve privacy:
 - Are there concerns regarding access to old e-mails when new members join a board
 - In this modern age of communication this issue appears unavoidable
 - There is little that can be done to address this therefore it is not a major issue

Other Vacancies:

- The Board of Directors need to officially vote on the Raptor Research Foundation secretary position.
 - This was an oversight on last year's elections
 - Greg George has been occupying the role that he held since 2010
 - VOTE: To allow Greg George to serve as secretary until the end of the current term
 - 6/6 Directors approved Greg George as secretary until the end of the current term

Recognition of service award:

- From the Board of Directors to former treasurer Angela Matz
- Suggested award: A plaque and lifetime membership
- VOTE: 6/6 Directors approved the Angela Matz service award

Raptor biology course in Chile:

- Can the course organizers use RRF logo as indication of our professional support?
- Course location: University of Tarapaca, Chile
- Dates: 17-20 November 2014
- Directors: Dr. Sergio Alvarado and Dr. Pablo Valladares
- This course is offered for free
- VOTE On one-time approval to use Raptor Research Foundation logo

- 6/6 Directors approved the use of the Raptor Research Foundation logo

Conference Committee Report:

- 170 -180 registrations
- Cover story on the conference is in the Corpus Christi local newspaper
- Next years conference will be in Sacramento, California
 - Week before Thanksgiving
- Conference location for 2016 has not been determined

Logo Resolution Issue:

- High-resolution logo is needed
- Graphic designer fees could be expensive
- ACTION ITEM: Quotes needed from vendors (LIBBY)

Funding allocation discussion associated to conference profits

- How should we use conference profits
- Increase travel money to students?
 - At current rates we are not receiving many applicants for the money already appropriated
- Decrease student registration fees?
- Caution is needed so that the mechanics do not become an administrative challenge for accounting
- Motion to allocate \$2500 to ECRR. ECRR and awards committee will submit proposal for use
 - VOTE: 6/6 Approved the \$2500 allocation.

Proposed budget for 2015

- Membership fees to OC still need to be incorporated
- Logo improvement could require a line item up to \$5000
- \$300 needs to be added for EBSCO
- Accounting and legal line item will see an increase of \$1000 for account review due to the transition to a new treasurer
- Jessi will modify the proposed 2015 budget and it will be voted on in the December E-agenda

Meeting was adjourned at 5:20

Summary of action items.

- Look into Google Groups as an appropriate listserv for RRF (GREG)
- Is the seed money correct for the Bariloche conference? (JESSI)

- Chair subcommittee to address distribution of officer funds which includes board members (GERRI)
- Write a proposal to modify the current line item in the budget to expand the committee's role to include social opportunities for students. (TRAVIS)
- RRF policy on self-publishing will be made clear to authors (CHERYL)
- Follow up on EBSCO and JSTOR possibilities (CHERYL)
- A specific Education Committee charge needs to be developed (WHO is leading this effort)
- Follow up regarding rate of RRF membership increase to OC and RRF representative activity (CLINT)
- Quotes needed from vendors regarding logo refresh (LIBBY)

Summary of votes.

- 7/7 Directors approved the \$300 addition, or move, to start EBSCO
- 6/6 Directors approved Greg George as secretary until the end of the current term
- 6/6 Directors approved the Angela Matz service award
- 6/6 Directors approved the use of the Raptor Research Foundation logo for the raptor biology course in Chile
- 6/6 Approved the \$2500 allocation for ECRR and Awards Committee use based on proposal approval.

Respectfully Submitted
Gregory George
RRF Secretary