

Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Waterbird Society

02 November 2007, Barcelona, Spain

1. The meeting was called to order by the President at 1813. President Francie Cuthbert welcomed attendees, introduced her council, and reviewed the agenda.
2. Secretary's Report – provided by Francie Cuthbert and included highlights of the 2007 Executive Council meeting as follows:
 - a. Successful election in which Chip Weseloh was elected President and John Coulson, Linda Wires, and Becky Harris were elected councilors.
 - b. Editor Report included approval of increasing number of pages for journal, approximately 4-5 additional manuscripts per issue. Journal is experiencing about 50% rejection rate and continues to get submissions from around the globe.
 - c. Membership committee reports stable at ~700 members of which 17% are students.
 - d. Student Awards committee gave 10 travel awards to students and will judge/present best paper/poster awards.
 - e. Future meetings are planned for South Padre Island, Texas (2008). Francie Cuthbert discussed several future meetings, World Seabird Conference (2010) and North American Ornithological Congress (2012), both scheduled to be held in Vancouver, British Columbia. Straw Poll was taken by Francie Cuthbert indicating that 9 members would attend World Seabird Conference in 2010 and 16 would attend NAOC in 2012. Michael Gochfeld made a motion that the WbS attend both meetings in British Columbia as its official annual meeting (2010 and 2012), David Shealer seconded the motion. VOTE: 7 yeas, 14 nays, Motion denied. Second Straw Poll was taken by Francie Cuthbert to see if members preferred World Seabird Conf or NAOC as official WbS annual meeting. Six members in favor of World Seabird and twelve members in favor of NAOC. ACTION ITEM: Investigate nature of Seabird Conference to see if we can (or cannot) present non-seabird talks at meeting. David Shealer indicated he is in discussions with Peter Becker about Netherlands as future meeting site.
3. Treasurer's Report – Chris Custer reported that the operating budget is in the black by ~\$10-15,000 with overall anticipated revenue of \$82,300 and overall expenses of \$67,500.
4. Jeff Spendelow made a motion to accept the 2006 business meeting minutes, Mike Gochfeld seconded. Membership voted unanimously to accept the meeting minutes.
5. Membership voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 18:58.