

2013 Secretary's Report—Waterbird Society

Annual mailing. In 2013, the council voted to approve electronic voting as our primary means for voting from the general membership for our annual election. In July 2013, OSNA sent out the electronic ballots (officers, councilors, and Bylaw changes) to the membership and votes are due back by September 21, 2013. Members that did not have an active e-mail address or had their e-mail bounced back to OSNA were sent paper ballots.

Council Votes.

There were 9 motions put forth since the last Executive Council meeting in Vancouver. The following motions were voted upon (results included).

Motion 1. Motion to send the attached letter composed by the Conservation Committee to the President of Panama. Nine large development projects are currently being considered in the Juan Diaz and Tocumen areas of Panama. It has been requested that the Waterbird Society draft a letter to the President of Panama stating our concerns regarding the destruction of wetland and mangrove habitats important to waterbirds.

Date: 18 September 2012

Motion by Susan Elbin, Seconded by Chip Weseloh

Motion Passed 12 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 4 no response

Motion 2. Motion that starting with year 2013, WbS discontinues the practice of publishing an index for each volume of Waterbirds; the index appeared previously in No. 4 of each volume.

Date: 19 December 2012

Motion by Susan Elbin, Seconded by Clay Green

Motion Passed 10 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 6 no response

Motion 3. Motion that the WbS provides an additional \$1,000 to student travel for the September 2013 meeting in Germany for a total of \$3,400.

Date: 23 February 2013

Motion by Gail Fraser, Seconded by Felipe Chavez-Ramirez

Motion Passed 16 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 0 no response

Motion 4. Motion to confirm Mike Erwin's chairmanship of the WbS Recognition Awards Committee.

Date: 23 February 2013

Motion by Jonathan Cohen, Seconded by Nellie Tsipoura

Motion Passed 16 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 0 no response

Motion 5. Motion to approve the operating and financial reports of 2012 for WbS.

Date: 5 March 2013

Motion by Chris Custer, Seconded by Clay Green

Motion Passed 13 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 0 no response

Motion 6. Motion to approve the WbS 2013-2014 financial plan drafted by the Finance and Investment Committee.

Date: 21 April 2013

Motion by Kathy Parsons, Seconded by Jonathan Cohen

Motion Passed 15 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 1 no response

Motion 7. Motion that in an effort to encourage more retired long term WS members to maintain their memberships with the WS and to attend AGMs, that 1) we create a new membership category, "Emeritus Member", based on the member's age (65 or older) and prior relationship with the Society (at least 1 year as a regular member), and 2) this new membership category would have the same membership (journal) and conference fees as the current student membership category.

Date: 7 June 2013

Motion by Chip Weseloh, Seconded by Stephanie Jones

Motion Passed 11 yeas, 1 nay, 0 abstain, 4 no response

Motion 8. Motion that, beginning in 2013, the Waterbird Society uses an electronic ballot for voting of WS officers and council members by the general membership. Furthermore, I moved that we employ the services of Schneider Group for development and dissemination of the electronic ballot and tallying of the votes received from the general membership.

Date: 7 June 2013

Motion by Clay Green, Seconded by Kathy Parsons

Motion Passed 12 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 4 no response

Motion 9. Motion to accept the bylaws changes as indicated in yellow highlighting in the Proposed column and put the changes to a vote by the general membership.

Existing	Proposed	Rationale
<p>3c. The President shall preside at meetings of the Society and of the Executive Council, preserving order and overseeing parliamentary procedure. The President is responsible for coordinating communication within the Executive Council. The President shall appoint persons to chair committees. The President shall be responsible for activities not otherwise designated by these bylaws.</p> <p>5b. The composition of the standing committees will be determined by the chair of the committee in consultation with the President. The composition of standing committees may be changed at the discretion of the President. Additional standing committees may be established and dissolved with the approval of the Council.</p>	<p>3c. The President shall preside at meetings of the Society and of the Executive Council, preserving order and overseeing parliamentary procedure. The President is responsible for coordinating communication within the Executive Council. The President shall be responsible for activities not otherwise designated by these bylaws.</p> <p>5b. The composition of the standing committees will be determined by the chair of the committee in consultation with the President. The chairmanship of standing committees shall be approved by a vote of the Executive Council. Additional standing committees may be established and dissolved with the approval of the Council.</p>	<p>The Executive Council and General Membership voted to approve the Waterbird Society's strategic plan—Vision 2020 in 2011. A provision of the plan was to empower the Council to approve standing committee chairs.</p>
<p>4a. Classes of membership shall consist of student, regular, family, life, sustaining, patron, honorary, and institutional. Patrons and honorary members are not assessed annual dues.</p> <p>4g. Proposals of persons for honorary membership may be made by any member. The proposals must</p>	<p>4a. Classes of membership shall consist of student, regular, family, life, emeritus, sustaining, patron, honorary, and institutional. Patrons and honorary members are not assessed annual dues.</p> <p>4g. A current or former member who is 65</p>	<p>The Executive Council voted in 2013 to establish a new membership category to promote continued involvement of senior and retired members in the Waterbird Society.</p>

be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Council. Honorary members will be those who have made outstanding contributions to the understanding and/or conservation of waterbirds. Membership in another category shall not preclude proposal for honorary membership.

years of age or older is eligible for emeritus membership.

4h. Proposals of persons for honorary membership may be made by any member. The proposals must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Council. Honorary members will be those who have made outstanding contributions to the understanding and/or conservation of waterbirds. Membership in another category shall not preclude proposal for honorary membership.

Date: 26 June 2013

Motion by Chris Custer, Seconded by Kathy Parsons

Motion Passed 9 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain, 7 no response

Respectfully submitted,
M. Clay Green, Secretary
31 July 2013