



Midwest Bat Working Group

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes
Terre Haute, IN
3 April 2014

Attendees:

Rob Mies, President	Kari Kirschbaum
Scott Johnson, Vice President	Kevin Murray
Brianne Walters, Treasurer	Jennifer Norris
Katrina Schultes, Secretary	Marne Titchenell
Tim Carter	J. Paul White
Gerda Nordquist	Vanessa Rojas

2014 Action Items:

1. Website Committee: Update the committee member list on website. Done
2. Membership Committee: Create an electronic membership flyer, e-blast, and related website content and feed up to Website Committee for posting.
3. Paul suggested we create a short video to advertise why people should join our group.
4. Everyone should try to contribute to the Newsfeed on front webpage now. This should be meetings, bat fests, events, etc., and not job-related.
5. Kari will follow-up with state contacts during this meeting and pass on to Scott Johnson/Website Committee. Done
6. Website Committee: Ask Mike N. to get web stats for our website. Done
7. Rob & Annual Meeting Committee: For 2015 meeting: Sybill and Clarissa do not actively attend our SBDN or MWBWG meetings, so if we want certain things, we need to start getting that out there. For example – we usually film our meetings – can we do that? Can we publish abstracts? We need a check off for dues on registration. How is registration going to happen – probably will go through SBDN? We have to keep track of members who paid, etc. Meeting design: informative session comes first. We also discussed streaming this meeting.

Meeting called to order by: Rob Mies 8:10 AM

Discussion of Action Items from 2013 that were not completed:

1. Rob volunteered for OBC to create a tabletop awareness display for MWBWG. Membership Committee should be involved in development. [Discussion below.]
2. Membership Committee will create a membership flyer for distribution to student organizations and other professional organizations (see Tim and Rob for photos).
3. Katrina will coordinate with Kirsten Alvey from the Missouri Bat Census to take “official” photos at our annual meeting(s). [In lieu of Kirsten, Ben Hale took photos.]

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Voting Results

Welcome to new and re-elected board members – Kari Kirschbaum, Kevin Murray, Jennifer Norris, Marne Titchenell, J. Paul White, Vanessa Rojas.

Decision to leave the terms as is as 2 years for everyone, even though one person theoretically filled in behind Scott who moved into VP halfway through his board term.

Only 35 members voted.

Summary of committee members for 2014:

<u>Annual Meeting</u>	<u>Nominations & Elections</u>	<u>Awards</u>	<u>History/ Bylaws</u>	<u>Website</u>	<u>Membership</u>
Brianne Walters, Tim Carter, Rob Mies, Kevin Murray	Rob Mies, Scott Johnson	Gerda Nordquist, Kari Kirschbaum, Marne Titchenell	Katrina Schultes, Scott Johnson, Gerda Nordquist	Scott Johnson, Paul White, Scott Bergeson (ISU student)	Brianne Walters, Katrina Schultes, Gerda Nordquist, Jenny Norris, Kevin Murray

Treasurer's Report (Brianne Walters)

2 accounts:

Dues – \$7, 051.72

Registration – approximately \$2,482.83.

Sponsorships – record amount of \$3100

Attendance was 133 people! (134 registrations) This is great news – most attendees we've ever had. Attendance was up from 94 registrants at last year's meeting.

Treasurer job is really a joint effort between Brianne/ISU and Rob Mies/OBC who can accept our credit card transactions.

Membership Committee Report

Brianne – 94 members: 79 professional, 15 students

Added about 30 people from last year and doubled the number of students.

- Last year, we talked about a membership flyer and a table top display. Folks are not as interested in a tabletop display now. We could make a poster for meetings. We're tabling this discussion about a tabletop display for now.
 - We definitely want an electronic membership flyer, e-blast, and related website content. Brianne, Gerda, Katrina were on Membership Committee. Jenny and Kevin also volunteered. Paul suggested create a short video to advertise why you should join our group. Board likes this idea.

341 list-serv subscribers.

We are leaving a membership option on our website through OBC. Rob and Brianne will work out how to transfer those funds.

History Committee Report (Katrina Schultes)

On the website, fix the entry in history where Brook Hines is misspelled.

Katrina and Scott put together all the history information from John Whitaker and recent meeting updates into one document with photos. It is already posted on the website.

Award Committee Report

Gerda ended up working with Brianne to get it all together for this year. They redesigned the student award certificates.

There were no nominations for the Redell Lifetime Achievement award this year. That is ok; there doesn't have to be one each year. We have used a fancy plaque for the 2 years so far and intend to continue using the same type of one in the future.

- What other awards are other groups doing? SBDN has a Service Award (framed picture with a small plaque at bottom). Lifetime Achievement Award has a special glass trophy. Also give a lifetime membership to recipient.

Kari and Marne joined Gerda on the awards committee.

Website Committee Report

- The group's website was moved to a Drupal domain. We will pay about \$109 a year to maintain our domain and about \$100 to have Cranbook's webmaster, Mike Narlock, make updates for us. Mike just invoices Rob for his work, and he sends it to Brianne.
- Vanessa volunteered another student to join the website committee in lieu of herself: Scott Bergeson – ISU.
- There is a Newsfeed on front page now. This is very important to keep this up. This should not be job-related. Keep it more in-line with meetings and bat fests, etc.
- State Contacts hasn't been filled in yet. Still under development. Each state's non-game biologist is the obvious person – probably will be the person giving the state reports at the meeting. Kari will follow-up with state contacts during this meeting and pass on to Scott Johnson.
- Some drop-downs have been more developed than others.
- Paul asked can we get web stats for our website? Ask Mike N. to do that.
- Board members should visit the website and give Scott/Committee feedback. Submit info to Scott/Committee.

Annual Meeting Committee

2014 Updates

Need photos, especially of sponsors and posters.

Last minute change to meeting venue - Joe Kath was supposed to be meeting host. Unforeseen circumstances prevented him from hosting, so it was moved to ISU/Brianne Walters.

There are 11 sponsors and 130 people registered. The meeting costs \$7,600, but there will be money left over.

Folks from Wisconsin are filming the meeting again. We will reimburse mileage and whatever is needed for that. Send receipts to Rob.

2015 Planning for Joint Regional Meeting

The plan is for it to be a joint meeting in St. Louis at Crown Plaza on March 3-6. Sybill Amelon is lead with Clarissa Starbuck. Should be three of the 4 bat working groups: Midwest, Southeastern, and Western. Currently the Northeast is not participating, but we expect some of the folks to come.

This is not the same as NASBR; it is less research-oriented and more bat community- and conservation-oriented.

First joint meeting was in 2008 in Virginia. In 2011 it was in Louisville, KY and it worked out really great too (320 people). 2015 could be 500 people.

- Sybill and Clarissa don't actively attend our SBDN or MWBWG meetings, so if we want certain things, we need to get on the ball to start getting that out there. For example – we usually film our meetings – can we do that? Can we publish abstracts? Check off for dues on registration. How is registration going to happen – probably will go through SBDN. We have to keep track of members who paid, etc. Meeting design: informative session comes first. Also discussed streaming this meeting. Rob will be touching base with Sybill, but the annual meeting committee should also get involved.

2016 Planning

Ohio has offered to host the 2016 meeting.

NABCA

Rob explained to the board what the North American Bat Conservation Alliance is about. The group has been around for at least 10 years. The group is trying to organize people and other groups in North America.

- Mylea Bayless and Rob Mies have stepped up to get this going to bring together USA, Canada, and Mexico.
- They are starting with listing out common priorities and from there, it could be something like identifying key hibernacula on the continent.
- This helps lead to better decisions continent-wide. Latin America (RELCOM), Europe and Africa have already done this. They have identified priority species, habitats, regions, etc.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:37 AM by Rob.