



Midwest Bat Working Group

11th Annual Meeting

Meeting Notes (Maria Monarchino)

Chicago, Illinois

4th and 5th of April 2019

Joe Kath, President – Welcome and Introduction to MWBWG

Opening Comments:

- Board will be making slight change in the bylaws that membership body will vote on 4/5/19 during the business meeting.
- Itemized receipts can be printed by contacting Brianne (Brianne.Walters@indstate.edu).
- Chair stressed need to pick up and pay for preordered t-shirts.
- Posters for the poster session can be set up between 3:15-3:45 PM and 5:00-5:30 PM.
- Judges for student talks see Lisa for forms and then turn in forms by the end of the day 4/4/19.
- Chair asked the general body to consider being a host for a meeting next year and 2-3 years out.

Summary of Invited Speakers

Keynote Speakers: Liza Lehrer and Seth Magle, Lincoln Park Zoo – Urban Wildlife Institute.
Research of the Urban Wildlife Institute: Coordinated Monitoring and Public Outreach to Make Cities More Wildlife Friendly.

Meeting Summary

Day One:

There were six oral presentations in the first section of the day followed by lunch sponsored at Aurelio's Pizza or on your own. Groups A/B completed their collections tours during the first and second half of lunch. There were three oral presentations immediately after lunch followed by a short break. There were four oral presentations that afternoon followed by a group picture and the Wildlife Acoustics Workshop. The poster session, evening social, and silent auction were held simultaneously in the Founders room in the evening.

Day Two:

State reports were first to present in the morning followed by two oral presentations. After a short break there were three more oral presentations with the business meeting starting promptly after the last presentation. Boxed lunches were served, and groups C/D completed their collections tours during the first and second half of lunch. After lunch, an additional four



presenters gave oral presentations followed by awards, announcements, and closing statements. Members had access to tour the field museum that evening.

Awards and Announcements

Dave Redell Lifetime Achievement Award

Established in honor of our friend and colleague, Dave Redell, who passed away in 2012 to honor those who, like Dave, have demonstrated an exemplary, long-term commitment to promoting and preserving bats in the Midwest through research, conservation, education, or other creative projects.

**DR. ALLEN KURTA IS THE 2019 RECIPIENT OF THE
DAVE REDELL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Best Student Oral Presentation: GIORGIA AUTERI, GOOD GENES OR GOOD LUCK? LITTLE BROWN BAT SHOW SIGNS OF EVOLUTIONARY ADAPTATION TO WHITE-NOSE SYNDROME

Poster Presentation: FRANCES TILLMAN, BAT BOX DESIGN AFFECTS MICROCLIMATE AND SUITABILITY AS BAT HABITAT

Student Travel Award (graduate): MOLLY SIMONIS, WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

Student Travel Award (undergraduate): KATY GOODWIN, DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Annual Meeting

2020 Host: Minnesota Department of Conservation

2021 Host: Joint Meeting Location Unconfirmed

Membership Questions or Comments

In the business meeting members asked about the new bylaw changes. They wondered how the new board voting rules would ensure that members were not voting more than once (Answer: The online anonymous voting would be through a program that allows only one vote per person and only by invitation. The program would prevent double voting). In addition, the membership had questions regarding when the new officers would start their duties (Answer: positions start immediately once announced. In the best-case scenario, they would overlap with the outgoing board members at the board meeting).



Midwest Bat Working Group
11th Annual Business Meeting Minutes
Chicago, Illinois
5 April 2019

Called to order at (11:33 AM) CST by Joe Kath, President.

Committee and Bylaw Updates

Chair opened the meeting with encouraging the membership to participate in elections.

Bylaw Update:

New language reads:

The Nominations and Elections Committee should solicit input from the membership and then submit a list of nominees for each position to the full membership by email at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting. Voting shall be open to the entire paid membership and shall be completed by one, or combination, of the following: email, web-based voting platform or service, and in-person paper ballot. Voting instructions and deadlines shall accompany the announcement of nominees. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes up to the number of Directors to be elected shall be elected. Votes will be tallied by the Nominations and Elections Committee on or by the first day of the annual meeting and presented to the current Board of Directors. Newly elected Officers and Directors shall join the incumbent Directors at the Board of Directors meeting and shall assume their duties for their 2-year term at that time.

Comments/Questions from the membership about the new language:

- How do you make sure that someone doesn't vote twice through an anonymous system?
 - Answer: The online anonymous voting would be through a program that allows only one vote per person and only by invitation. The program would prevent double voting.
- Another member asked when new board members' positions start.
 - Answer: positions start immediately once announced. In the best-case scenario, they would overlap with the outgoing board members at the board meeting.

Membership voted in favor of the bylaw change

- 60 in favor, 0 against, and 0 abstained

Board of Directors Updates

Membership Update:

We have 98 paid members with 17 of those being students

Treasurer Report:

We are officially a non-profit with our own PNC bank account.



Committee Updates:

Website Committee:

The website committee has been working to update our website and has successfully completed most of the needed updates. Our website now accepts credit cards.

Awards Committee:

The board of directors announced that the student travel award will be named the “John O. Whitaker, Jr. Student Travel Award”.

Annual Meeting Committee:

Chair requested that membership consider hosting the 2020 and 2021 annual meetings. He requested that those interested should confirm within a short time period.

*NOTE: After the business meeting Minnesota Department of Conservation volunteered to host the 2020 annual meeting.

Meeting concluded @ 11:50 am CST by Joe Kath, President.