



TWS Board Meeting Minutes

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

6:30 – 8:30 PM on February 25, 2020

- Meeting called to order at by President, President-Elect taking Minutes

Attendees:

In-Person

Voting Members: Natalie R. (President), Rachel (President-Elect), Natalie G. (Past President), Ricka (Treasurer), Molly (Professional Development Chair), Patricia (Conservation Affairs Chair),

Non-voting Members: Leslie (Professional Development Co-Chair), Meghan (Media Director), Mary (Historian), Joe (Newsletter Editor)

Call-In

Voting Members: Halia (Student Affairs Chair)

Absent

Carli (Secretary), Kathleen (Western Section Rep), Laura (Public Outreach Chair)

Agenda:

Old Business

1. Introductions
 - Welcome new 2020 Board! Thank you Natalie G for your hard work as the 2019 President
2. Western Section Meeting Recap
 - SF Bay Chapter was well represented at the Western Section conference and the Chapter Members meeting went well

New Business

1. President Updates
 - 2020 Goals
 - i. Increase Outreach to people in all of the Bay Area

- ii. Setting Up a Diversity Committee to work closely with the Student Affairs Committee
 - iii. Continue workshops, field trips, mixers and continue the momentum from last year
 - iv. Wildlife Wednesdays
 - 1. Quarterly organized outings organized in the Four Bay Area Regions
 - a. North - Ricka/Patricia
 - b. South - Mary/Hailey
 - c. East - Halia/Rachel
 - d. Peninsula - Natalie R./Laura?
- Merchandise Manager
 - i. Merchandising to be part of the President Elect's duties and will be the main contact for ideas, budgeting, purchasing
 - ii. Board will pass a merchandise budget for the year at a future meeting and the President-Elect will decide what to order
 - New Board Members
 - i. Welcome Kathleen, Carli, Mary, and Hailey as new board members
 - Vasco Caves Field Trip - March 15
 - i. 25 people were accepted, Media Director will let the Board know if there are last-minute cancellations so that others may attend
 - ii. Facebook event should be deleted to protect the property
2. President-Elect Updates
- Field trips
 - i. Sonoma County Wildlife Refuge Tour scheduled for Saturday, June 13th from 10:00-noon
 - 1. Max of 20 people, proposed change of \$10 per person
 - Adopt-a-Creek
 - i. Support restoration work through cleanup days. Tri-Valley Adopt-A-Creek Spot Program is in the Livermore area and requires a 1-year commitment with at least 1 cleanup day
 - 1. President-Elect will reach out to inquire about this
 - Coastal Cleanup Day - Saturday, September 26th
 - i. Board is interested in participating, President-Elect will research how we can best participate
 - Canada de los Osos Ecological Reserve - October 24th
 - i. Many options, President-Elect will do additional research and return to the Board with more information
 - Proposed 2020 Merchandise Budget
 - i. Treasurer will take stock of current merchandise, President-Elect will create a budget and get board approval to order more
 - ii. New Merchandise Item - Reusable Lunch Kit

1. President-Elect will research item and will add to budget for Board Approval
3. Past-President Updates
 - Current Projects that are in Progress
 - i. Updating SF Bay Chapter Bylaws
 - ii. Creating a SF Bay Chapter Operating Manual
 - Results from Summer 2019 Member Survey
 - i. 50 respondents, unclear if all are members; with a total of > 800 people on the mailing list
 - ii. T/Th/S are the most convenient days for events, interested in more information about endangered species and in general more events
4. Treasurer Updates
 - 2020 Budget Approval
 - i. Motion to Vote: Natalie R.; Rachel seconds
 - ii. Aye: Natalie G., Molly, Patricia, Halia
 - iii. Abstain: Ricka
 - iv. Nay: None
 - v. **Motion Passes**
 - Board Member Appreciation
 - i. Exiting board members are given a gift, should the process be changed to be more personal?
 - ii. Tabled for now, will be brought back at later Board Meeting
 - Three Mixers on the calendar- Midyear, Winter, Conference
 - Reminder that all costs over \$25 need Board Approval
 - Clarification on Student Scholarships
 - i. Scholarship funds from Amimex are \$1000 should only be used for the winner, no guests or other costs will be approved
 - ii. Halia will update process and recipient instructions and add this criteria
 - iii. If in the future, there are extra funds the Board will assess how to provide more scholarships
 - iv. Required for the scholarship recipient to send a thank you letter and be included at the Chapter Meeting
 - Opening a CE
 - i. Suggested amount is \$10,000
 - ii. Will do additional research and vote on this separate from the budget at a future meeting
 - Tabling
 - i. Funds will be added to support Halia and Laura with tabling
5. Secretary Updates - **Absent**
6. Western Section Updates - **Absent**
7. Workshop Updates
 - Non-Profit Rate for Workshops

- i. Tabled
 - o SFBBO Bird Banding Workshop
 - i. There is interest in partnering with them but there are financial implications, Professional Development Chairs will further discuss this with SFBBO and will report back
 - o 2020 Workshop Updates
 - i. Butterfly Workshop
 - 1. Adding a reduced cost registration for a one-day portion
 - 2. 13 currently registered
 - ii. Advanced Camera Workshop
 - 1. 0 currently registered
 - 2. Interest in only attending the lecture portion at reduced cost
 - 3. Motion to Vote: 15 Slots for Lecture only Admission at \$135 - Ricka, Seconded by Natalie R.
 - a. Aye: Molly, Patricia, Halia, Rachel
 - b. Abstain: Natalie G.
 - c. Nay: None
 - d. **Motion Passes**
 - o Advertising for Chapter Workshops and other Events
 - i. Push to advertise Chapter events at local companies and within our personal and professional networks
- 8. Conservation Affairs Updates
 - o Patricia is planning to go to the fly-in in Washington D.C. in March and will keep Board abreast of updates there
 - o MBTA Comment Period
 - i. A formal letter is prepared and ready to be sent to Chapter members
 - o RAWA
 - i. signed on as a Chapter to this
 - o NEPA
 - i. TWS Headquarters is preparing a letter, Patricia will keep the Board informed of progress
 - o House Migratory Bird Protection Act
 - i. Patricia is looking for more people to help with this project, President will include this in next email blast
 - o Patricia will forward TWS Headquarters Conservation Affairs Committee monthly newsletter to Board
- 9. Student Affairs Updates
 - o Planning to have two student event activities this year and Halia is reaching out for support/resources from the Western Section
 - o Animex Scholarship will go onto an online search engine to reach more potential applicants

- Hailey and Halia will be working together on the Diversity Committee
10. Website Updates
- 2020 Board Bios are on the website
 - All workshop signups are done through the website now
11. Public Outreach Updates - **absent, digital update**
- Pints for Purpose - Preparing first event for April or May at Black-Hammer Brewing
 - i. Purpose to fundraise for Chapter and encourage members to interact
 - ii. They will \$1-2 of every pint of a featured beer will go to our chapter; with a \$1 match
 - iii. They can fit 100-150 people, all ages, food on site
 - iv. They will lead social media and promotion
 - v. They are also interested in doing a beer release with us - we would submit their logo and create artwork to promote the chapter with a TBD amount of the profit going to our chapter
 - 1. Tabled for now, will be discussed at later Board meeting
 - Field Trip Opportunities to local NWRs. Rachel will take over communication with an email introduction from Laura
 - Laura is pursuing a partnership with Blue Endeavors- a marine conservation group that could broaden our outreach to marine wildlife enthusiasts.
 - Plan to discuss potential outreach budget at next Board meeting
12. Historian Updates
- Board should add event photos to the drive
 - Mary is looking to connect with older Chapter members to interview or survey them
13. Newsletter Updates
- Board bios will go into the next Newsletter, to be distributed later in the spring
 - Newsletter will also include a message from the President, Vasco Cave recap, information about the Animex winner, Western Section conference recap, upcoming events, a bird ID challenge, and a Chapter Member Spotlight