

Minutes from the April 1, 2019, LNWC BOD Meeting

The **Lake Norman Wildlife Conservationists** Board of Directors met on April 1, 2019, at the Mooresville Visual Arts Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by President **Terry Marr**. Also in attendance were **Don Higgin, Ken Conrad, Gene Vaughan, Sid Smith, Patrick Stark, Billy Wilson, Angel Smith, Pam Lewis, Robin Shea, Don West, Jim Ray, Eric Peterson**, and NCWF CEO **Tim Gestwicki**.

President Terry Marr

- Terry called the meeting to order, then asked Jim for his report.

VP Jim Ray (and Webmaster)

- Jim reported on LNWC website improvements and changes. He addressed mailbox options, priced at \$482.37 for three years, and asked for BOD approval. An informal approval was given.

Treasurer Don West (and Community Relations)

- Don reported that he didn't have LNWC's bank numbers at hand, but he did bring copies of the 2018 and 2019 budgets so the BOD could look at them.

Secretary Julie Higgin

- Julie told the BOD that she reached out to Lake Norman State Park's new Friends group at their first annual meeting, and described their goals and achievements.

Immediate Past President Billy Wilson

- Billy told the BOD that after researching Oyster Fest dates, there is a choice of Sept. 21 or 28. The second Saturday in October is the Laketoberfest. After consulting with the BOD, he will check with Langtree and other entities to see which date would work best.
- Billy described the installation of a new Earth Cam on Heron Island, and said he doesn't foresee any problems with getting it online.
- Billy also reported that the Mooresville Arts Coalition has chosen LNWC as its fund-raising recipient during the month of June, with a wildlife-themed exhibit called "Art of the Wild". A reception will take place 6-8 p.m. June 14.
- Regarding NCWF updates, he said a NCWF quarterly meeting will be held at Queens Landing. He then handed NCWF reporting over to Tim. Tim thanked all who worked with the live osprey cam and the heron cam on Lake Norman, stating they are a valuable wildlife education and communication tool. He said LNWC's other projects, such as ATON replacements, is very helpful to the community. Tim described the new NCWF Wildlife Photography Contest. NCWF is also spending a lot of time on important state legislation regarding coastal wildlife issues, such as fishing and fisheries.

Director at-large Gene Vaughan (Island Habitat/Field Trips)

- Gene stated that the Island Habitat Program appears to be achieving goals in regard to trash pickup, but he is especially concerned about the large number of plastic cups in the water because when they wash up to shore, they hold water for mosquitoes to breed in.
- Regarding field trips, volunteers will be taken out onto the lake for a field trip on May 11 to thank them for their service.
- Regarding education programming, a "Live in the Water" program will be held Saturday, April 6, from 10 to noon at Robbins Park. The town of Cornelius is partnering with us for

this and several other education programs being headed by Pam. Tim advised planners to get waivers signed.

- Gene also reported that the Chimney Swift Towers are completed and one is up. Tim brought interpretive signs for the towers.

Director at-large John Crutchfield (Island Habitat Co-leader)

- John was absent.

Director at-large Ken Conrad (Fishing Tournaments)

- Ken gave more details on Cornelius Earth Day activities (April 27). Volunteers are needed. He is also working with the Yadkin Riverkeeper on water quality issues in the Rocky River.

Director at-large Volkmar Dirksen

- Volkmar was absent.

Director at-large Don Higgin (Membership Chair)

- Don reported that he has composed a special message to inform our database on the benefits of renewing their memberships, or signing up as members. The BOD discussed the timing of those messages. Tim advised adding a membership reminder to the bottom of all emails that go out to our database.

Director at-large Sid Smith (Robbins Park)

- Sid reported on the Pollinator Garden in Robbins Park. It needs more volunteer help to keep it in good shape. Pam said April 13 would be a good day to get volunteers out to pick weeds.
- Sid also reported that Robin's son donated 2 martin houses, so we need volunteer help to move one to Robbins Park and figure out where to install the second one. Terry recommended that Jim put a volunteer opportunity signup out via email.

Director at-large Pam Lewis (Education)

- Pam gave a further report on the April 27th Cornelius Earth Day event, called "Earth Jam". She said it will be a good opportunity to have a membership table. Fishing will be held from 2-4 p.m. and a nature walk will be held at 5 p.m. In July, LNWC will hold a Moth Walk. Also, the Pollinator Garden needs compost added so a "Dirt Slingers" event is planned.

Director at-large Patrick Stark (Habitat Steward)

- Pat reported that he has reached out to the Curtis Pond Neighborhood to spread the word about membership, and he wants to find out if his efforts were successful in that regard. He wants to hold an education program in the neighborhood club house and also work on a turtle-basking platform for the neighborhood pond.

Director at-large Eric Peterson (Conservation)

- Eric had some questions about safety concerns.

Director at-large Kristen Stark (Habitat Steward)

- Kristen was absent.

Director at-large Robin Shea (Education)

- Robin reported that we had 28 guests at our last library program, plus many board members, and the Education Committee will meet to plan for next year.

Old, Misc. Tabled, or New Business

- There was no new, old, or tabled business.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next BOD meeting will be held at 6 p.m. May 6, 2019.

Submitted by Julie Higgie, Secretary