

Minutes from the Aug. 27, 2018, LNWC BOD Meeting

The **Lake Norman Wildlife Conservationists** Board of Directors met on Aug. 27, 2018, at the Mooresville Visual Arts Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:12 p.m. by President **Billy Wilson**. Also in attendance were **Gene Vaughan, Julie Higgie, Don Higgie, Pam Lewis, Sid Smith, Robin Shea, Ken Conrad, Volkmar Dirksen**, and **Kristen** and **Patrick Stark** via conference call.

President Billy Wilson

- Billy called for approval of the May 7, 2018, Minutes. They were approved unanimously.
- He updated the BOD on his status on the NCWF State BOD. He will be chairman of that board following the election to be held at the Governor's Awards Sept. 8.
- Regarding the idea for several Charlotte-area chapters to share the cost of a Ranger Rick mascot costume, the BOD discussed it and decided to table the subject following a request for more details from NCWF.
- Billy reported that a request for HEP funds to pay for a "Heron Cam" to be placed on Heron Island has been submitted, and we will know the result by October.
- Also, Billy reported that regarding the Aids to Navigation (ATON) markers, HEP funds have also been applied for in order to covert 12 of them on Lake Norman to Osprey platforms.

VP Jim Ray (and Webmaster)

- Jim reported that we're getting hits all the time on our website, probably 300-400 a month. Billy added that our Facebook main page will be at 5,000 members pretty soon.

Treasurer Don West (and Community Relations)

- Don was absent.

Secretary Julie Higgie

- Julie had no report.

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

- Gene reported that the annual Island Habitat Adopters Meeting will be held 7 p.m. Sept. 20 at the Lake Norman Volunteer Fire Dept. on Brawley School Road. He asked BOD members to be there by 6 p.m. if possible. There will be a Hydrilla education session given at the meeting. That nonnative plant is "taking over the lake," Gene said. It affects water intake for water treatment and the dam system, and also the health of birds and reptiles.
- Gene said the Osprey and Great Blue Heron platforms will be tended to later in the year.
- He is helping the town of Davidson with one of their lakes.

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

- John was absent.

Director at-large Ken Conrad (Fishing Tournaments)

- Ken reported that a fishing tournament will be held at Robbins Park on Nov. 3. Also, he reported that a representative from the Hummingbird Highway program wants to meet with our group.

Director at-large Volkmar Dirksen

- Volkmar had no report.

Director at-large Don Higgie (Membership Chair)

- Don had no report.

Director at-large Eric Peterson (Conservation)

- Eric had no report.

Director at-large Kristen Stark (Habitat Steward)

- Kristen had no report.

Director at-large Sid Smith (Robbins Park)

- Sid reported that the Butterfly Meadow is blooming and being irrigated, but it needs to be weeded. We'll get a group of volunteers together to help in that effort.
- Pam reported a concern about the lack of monarchs using milkweeds this year, because some other kind of insect seems to be taking them over. She will discuss the concern with Gene.

Education Committee (Pam Lewis and Robin Shea)

- Pam provided the board with a list of educational activities planned for the year. The one held in August went well, with 31 adults and 27 children, she reported. Robin is handling the announcements.
- Billy reported that the Sept. 13 program which focuses on our HOOF program will be held at the new Gander Outdoors store, in their meeting room. The store employees will help promote the program within the store. Billy is having posters made.
- Robin reported that she got approval from NCWF to apply for a grant from the TEGMA-WCNC Broadcast Network to help support the HOOF program.

Old, Misc. Tabled, or New Business

- The BOD discussed the slate of nominees for this year's elections, which focuses on President, Secretary, and 2 at-large positions. Julie, John and Gene stated they are willing to continue their positions, however Billy can no longer be president of LNWC because he will be president of the NCWF State BOD. Longtime LNWC volunteer Terry Marr has expressed a willingness to accept the nomination for President. Billy also proposed changing our by-laws by expanding the number of at-large directors. He submitted this motion: "To expand the LNWC BOD by creating an Immediate Past President position and adding three more at-large directors." This would bring the LNWC BOD to 16 members, with five executive committee members and 11 at-large. The BOD discussed the motion and it passed unanimously.
- As a result of the change in LNWC by-laws this day, the slate of nominees to be submitted to our membership includes: Terry Marr, president; Julie Higgie, secretary; and at-large directors John Crutchfield, Gene Vaughan, Robin Shea, Pam Lewis, and Patrick Stark. (Billy will be Immediate Past President by default.)
- The board will have to determine which of the newly appointed nominees (Robin, Pam and Pat) will initially serve a one-year, two-year or three-year term. That issue was tabled due to an over-lengthy meeting.

The Proposed Rewritten Bylaws are:

ARTICLE III Officers and Board of Directors

Section 1: Officers of LNWC shall include a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and an Immediate Past President (by default, started in 2018).

Section 3: Eleven, at-large, Board of Directors shall be elected by the general membership and will serve for staggered 3-year terms. Board of Directors at-large are expected to regularly attend meetings of the Board of Directors, provide input on behalf of the membership, and vote on issues requiring a vote of the Board of Directors.

Article V Elections

Section 4: Elected positions shall be for a term of three years. (Started in 2015.) Positions shall be staggered for elections every three years. Elections will be conducted in groupings as follows: President, Secretary and three of the at-large Board of Directors; Three of the at-large Board of Directors; Vice President, Treasurer and three at-large Board of Directors (groups of 3 at-large instead of 2 started in 2018).

Section 5: No person shall be eligible to serve more than three consecutive terms in the same office. (Started in 2015.)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Submitted by Julie Higgie, Secretary